Birch Communications of the Northeast, Inc. d/b/a Birch PSC No: 1 - Telephone Effective Date: March 3, 2017 Leaf 37 Revision: 0 Superseding Revision:

LOCAL AND INTEREXCHANGE TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES

SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT'D.)

- 2.5 Payment Arrangements (Cont'd.)
 - 2.5.6 Deposits (Cont'd.)
 - D. For Residential Customers (Cont'd.)
 - 2. Customers Exempt from Deposits

A new Customer or existing Customer who is 62 years of age or older shall be exempt from any deposit requirement unless such person's telephone service was terminated for nonpayment during the preceding six months. Proof of age will be required from any person claiming exemption from deposit requirements because of age. If the proof requested by the Company is not received within 30 days from the date service is connected, or 30 days from the date that verification of age is requested from an existing Customer, the Company may suspend or terminate service unless the Customer pays the required deposit. Any new Customer or existing Customer 62 years of age or older shall be permitted to pay a deposit in installments over a period not to exceed 12 months.

The Company shall not require any person it knows to be a recipient of public assistance, supplemental security income or additional state payments to post a deposit.