

**Birch Communications of the Northeast, Inc.**  
**d/b/a Birch**  
PSC No: 1 - Telephone  
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LOCAL AND INTEREXCHANGE TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES

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SECTION 4 - SERVICE CHARGES AND SURCHARGES (CONT'D.)

4.5 Public Telephone Surcharge

In order to recover Company expenses to comply with the FCC's pay telephone compensation plan effective on October 7, 1997 (FCC 97-371), an undiscountable per call charge is applicable to all intrastate calls that originate from any pay telephone used to access Company provided services. This surcharge, which is in addition to standard tariffed usage charges and any applicable service charges and surcharges associated with service, applies for the use of the instrument used to access Company provided service and is unrelated to the service accessed from the pay telephone.

Pay telephones include coin-operated and coinless phones owned by local telephone companies, independent companies and interexchange carriers. The Public Pay Telephone Surcharge applies to the initial completed call and any reoriginated call (e.g., using the “#” symbol). The Public Pay Telephone Surcharge does not apply to calls placed from pay telephones at which the Customer pays for service by inserting coins during the progress of the call.

Whenever possible, the Public Pay Telephone Surcharge will appear on the same invoice containing the usage charges for the surcharged call. In cases where proper pay telephone coding digits are not transmitted to the Company prior to completion of a call, the Public Pay Telephone Surcharge may be billed on a subsequent invoice after the Company has obtained information from a carrier that the originating station is an eligible pay telephone.

Minimum / Maximum Rate Per Call

	<u>Minimum</u>	<u>Maximum</u>
Maximum Rate Per Call:	\$0.25	\$1.00

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