

Birch Communications of the Northeast, Inc.
d/b/a Birch
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LOCAL AND INTEREXCHANGE TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES

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

2.18 Additional Provisions Applicable to Business Customers (CONT'D.)

2.18.2 Telephone Number Changes

When a business Customer requests a telephone number change, the referral period for the disconnected number is 180 days.

The Company reserves all rights to the telephone numbers assigned to any Customer.

When service in an existing location is continued for a new Customer, the existing telephone number may be retained by the new Customer only if the former Customer consents in writing, and if all charges against the account are paid or assumed by the new Customer.

Deposits will be returned to a business Customer upon cancellation of service or after one year, whichever event occurs first, unless the Customer is delinquent in payment, in which case the Company will continue to retain the deposit until the delinquency is satisfied. If a service is involuntarily discontinued, the deposit is applied against the final bill, and any balance is returned to the Customer.

2.18.3 Dishonored Checks

If a business Customer who has received a notice of discontinuance pays the bill with a check that is subsequently dishonored, the account remains unpaid and the Company is not required to issue any additional notice before disconnecting service.

2.18.4 Deposits

Deposits will be returned to a business Customer upon cancellation of service or after one year, whichever event occurs first, unless the customer is delinquent in payment, in which case the Company will continue to retain the deposit until the delinquency is satisfied. If a service is involuntarily discontinued, the deposit is applied against the final bill, and any balance is returned to the business Customer.

Issued By: Gordon P. Williams, Jr., Senior Vice President & General Counsel