

**Birch Communications of the Northeast, Inc.**  
**d/b/a Birch**  
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ACCESS SERVICES

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SECTION 3 - SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE (CONT'D)

3.6 Obligations of the Company (Cont'd.)

3.6.1 (Cont'd.)

B. Design and Traffic Routing of Switched Access Service

The Company shall design and determine the routing of Switched Access Service, including the selection of the first point of switching and the selection of facilities from the interface to any switching point and to the End Offices. The Company shall also decide if capacity is to be provided by originating only, terminating only, or two-way trunk groups. Finally, the Company will decide whether trunk side access will be provided through the use of two-wire or four-wire trunk terminating equipment.

Selection of facilities and equipment and traffic routing of the service are based on standard engineering methods, available facilities and equipment and the Company's traffic routing plans. If the Customer desires different routing or directionality than that determined by the Company, the Company will work cooperatively with the Customer in determining (1) whether the service is to be routed directly to an end office or through an access tandem switch and (2) the directionality of the service.

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