

Clear Rate Communications, LLC
PSC No. 1 - Telephone
Effective Date: May 20, 2022

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LOCAL AND INTEREXCHANGE TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES

*This Tariff, PSC No. 1, issued by Clear Rate Communications, LLC,
cancels and supersedes in its entirety
PSC NY No. 1 issued by Clear Rate Communications, Inc.*

CLEAR RATE COMMUNICATIONS, LLC

REGULATIONS AND SCHEDULE OF INTRASTATE CHARGES

APPLYING TO COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES WITHIN

THE STATE OF NEW YORK

Applicable in New York State

This tariff contains the descriptions, regulations, and rates applicable to the furnishing of service and facilities for local exchange and interexchange telecommunication services within the state of New York by Clear Rate Communications, LLC (Clear Rate). This tariff is on file with the New York Public Service Commission and copies may be inspected during normal business hours.

Clear Rate Communications, LLC
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EXPLANATION OF NOTES

- | | | |
|-----|---|-----|
| (C) | Indicates Changed Regulation | |
| (D) | Indicates Discontinued Rate or Regulation | |
| (I) | Indicates Rate Increase | |
| (M) | Indicates Move in Location of Text | |
| (N) | Indicates New Rate or Regulation | |
| (R) | Indicates Rate Reduction | |
| (T) | Indicates Change of Text Only | |
| (Z) | Indicates a Correction | (N) |

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TARIFF FORMAT

- A. Leaf Numbering – Leaf numbers appear in the left corner of the page. Leafs are numbered sequentially. However, new leafs are occasionally added to the tariff. When a new leaf is added between leafs already in effect, a decimal is added. For example, a new leaf added between leafs 13 and 14 would be 13.1.
- B. Leaf Revision Numbers – Leaf revision numbers also appear in the upper left corner of each leaf. These numbers are used to determine the most current leaf version on file with the Commission. Consult the check sheet for the leaf currently in effect.
- C. Paragraph Numbering Sequence – There are nine levels of paragraph coding. Each level of coding is subservient to its next higher level:
- 2
 - 2.1
 - 2.1.1
 - 2.1.1.A
 - 2.1.1A.1
 - 2.1.1.A.1.(a)
 - 2.1.1.A.1.(a).I
 - 2.1.1.A.1.(a).I.(i)
 - 2.1.1.A.1.(a).I.(i).(1)

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SECTION 1 - APPLICATION OF TARIFF

1.1 APPLICATION OF TARIFF

This Tariff sets forth the regulations and rates applicable to services provided by (company name), as follows:

The furnishing of intrastate communications services by virtue of one-way and/or two-way information transmission between points within the State of New York.

1.1.1 Service Territory

Clear Rate Communications, LLC will provide service in the areas currently served by the ILEC and intrastate toll service throughout the State of New York.

1.1.2 Availability

Service is available where facilities permit.

1.2 CONTACTING THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the case of a dispute between the Customer and the Company which cannot be resolved with mutual satisfaction, the Customer may file a complaint by contacting the New York State Department of Public Service by phone, online or by mail.

1. By Phone:

Helpline (for complaints/inquiries):
1-800-342-3377 for Continental United States or,
1-800-662-1220 for Hearing/Speech Impaired: TDD or,
518-472-8502 for fax

2. Online:

<http://www.dps.ny.gov/complaints.html> or,

3. By Mail:

NYS Department of Public Service
Office of Consumer Services
3 Empire State Plaza
Albany, NY 12223-1350

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SECTION 2 - GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS

2.1 USE OF FACILITIES AND SERVICE

2.1.1 Obligation of the Company

In furnishing facilities and service, the Company does not undertake to transmit messages, but furnishes the use of its facilities to its customers for communications.

The Company's obligation to furnish facilities and service is dependent upon its ability (a) to secure and retain, without unreasonable expense, suitable facilities and rights for the construction and maintenance of the necessary circuits and equipment; (b) to secure and retain, without unreasonable expense, suitable space for its plant and facilities in the building where service is or will be provided to the customer; or (c) to secure reimbursement of all costs where the owner or operator of a building demands relocation or rearrangement of plant and facilities used in providing service therein.

The Company shall not be required to furnish, or continue to furnish, facilities or service where the circumstances are such that the proposed use of the facilities or service would tend to adversely affect the Company's plant, property or service.

The Company reserves the right to refuse an application for service made by a present or former customer who is indebted to the Company for service previously rendered pursuant to this Tariff until the indebtedness is satisfied.

2.1.2 Limitations on Liability

- A. Except where the Commission, for good cause shown, determines otherwise, the Customer and any authorized or joint users, jointly and severally, shall indemnify, defend and hold harmless the Company and the Company shall not be liable for any claims, loss, damage or expenses (including attorneys' fees and court costs) involving:
1. Any act or omission of: (a) the Customer; (b) any other entity furnishing service, equipment or facilities for use in conjunction with the Service or facilities provided by the Company; or (c) common carriers, warehousemen or middle men;
 2. Any delay or failure of performance or equipment due to causes beyond the Company's control, including, but not limited to, acts of God, fires, floods, earthquakes, hurricanes, storms, or other natural catastrophes; pole hits; explosions; national emergencies, insurrections, riots, wars or other civil commotions; strikes, lockouts, work stoppages or other labor difficulties; criminal actions taken against the Company; unavailability, failure or malfunction of equipment or facilities provided by the Customer or third parties, including rights-of-way and materials; and any law, order, regulation, direct, request, or other action of any governing authority or agency thereof;

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SECTION 2 - GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS (Cont'd)

2.1 USE OF FACILITIES AND SERVICE (Cont'd)

2.1.2 Limitations on Liability (Cont'd)

A. (Cont'd)

3. Any unlawful or unauthorized use of the Company's facilities and Service or the use of the Company's facilities and/or Service in violation of this tariff;
4. Libel, slander, invasion of privacy or infringement of patents, trade secrets, or copyrights arising from or in connection with the transmission of communications or information by means of Company-provided facilities or Service, or by means of the combination of Company-provided facilities or Service with Customer-provided facilities or services;
5. Any infringement, breach or invasion of the right of privacy of any person or persons, caused or claimed to have been caused, directly or indirectly, by the installation, operation, failure to operate, maintenance, removal, presence, condition, occasion or use of emergency 911 service features and the equipment associated therewith, or by any services furnished by the Company, including but not limited to, the identification of the telephone number, address or name associated with the telephone used by the party or parties accessing emergency 911 service, and which arise out of the negligence or other wrongful act of the Company, the Customer, its users, agencies or municipalities, other employees or agents of any one of them;
6. Changes in any of the facilities, operations or procedures of the Company that render any equipment, facilities or services provided by the Customer obsolete, or require modification or alteration of such equipment, facilities or services, or otherwise affect their use or performance, except where reasonable notice is required by the Company and is not provided to the Customer, in which event the Company's liability is limited as set forth in this Section 2.1;
7. Defacement of or damage to Customer premises resulting from the furnishing of Service or equipment on such premises or the installation or removal thereof;

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SECTION 2 - GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS (Cont'd)

2.1 USE OF FACILITIES AND SERVICE (Cont'd)

2.1.2 Limitations on Liability (Cont'd)

A. (Cont'd)

8. Injury to property or injury or death to persons, including claims for payments made under Workers' Compensation law or under any plan for employee disability or death benefits, arising out of, or caused by, any act or omission of the Customer, or the construction, installation, maintenance, presence, use or removal of the Customer's facilities or equipment connected, or to be connected, to the Company's facilities;
9. Any intentional, wrongful act of a Company employee when such act is not within the scope of the employee's responsibilities for the Company and/or is not authorized by the Company;
10. Any representations made by Company employees that do not comport, or that are inconsistent, with the provisions of this tariff;
11. Any act, omission or network condition resulting in the non-availability of 911, E911, or similar services for any reason including, without limitation and by way of example only, due to any failure of Service functionality or interruption of electric service to Customer's premises;
12. Any non-completion of calls due to network busy conditions or network failures;
13. Any calls not actually attempted to be completed during any period that Service is unavailable;
14. Blockages by other providers of services on the public switched network; and
15. Breach in the privacy or security of communications transmitted over the Company's facilities.

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SECTION 2 - GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS (Cont'd)

2.1 USE OF FACILITIES AND SERVICE (Cont'd)

2.1.2 Limitations on Liability (Cont'd)

- B. The Company shall be indemnified, defended and held harmless by the Customer or End User from and against any and all claims, loss, demands, suits, expense, or other action or any liability whatsoever, including attorney fees, whether suffered, made, insinuated, or asserted by the Customer or by any other party, for any personal injury to or death of any person or persons, and for any loss, damage or destruction of any property, including environmental contamination, whether owned by the Customer or by any other party, caused or claimed to have been caused directly or indirectly by the installation, operation, failure to operate, maintenance, presence, condition, location, use, or removal of any Company or Customer-provided equipment or facilities or Service provided by the Company.
- C. The Company does not guarantee nor make any warranty with respect to Service installations at locations at which there is present an atmosphere that is explosive, prone to fire, dangerous or otherwise unsuitable for such installations.
- D. The Company assumes no responsibility for the availability or performance of any systems or related facilities under the control of other entities, whether or not affiliated with the Company, or for other facilities provided by other entities used for Service to the Customer, even if the Company has acted as the Customer's agent in arranging for such facilities or services. Such facilities are provided subject to such degree of protection or non-preemptibility as may be provided by the other entities.
- E. Except as otherwise state in this tariff, any claim of whatever nature against the Company shall be deemed conclusively to have been waived unless presented in writing to the Company within thirty (30) days after the date of the occurrence that gave rise to the claim.
- F. The Company makes no warranties or representations express or implied either in fact or by operation of law, statutory or otherwise, including warranties of merchantability or fitness for a particular use, except those expressly set forth herein.
- G. The Company will not be liable for any charge incurred when any long distance (toll call) carrier or alternative operator service provider accepts third number billed or collect calls.

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SECTION 2 - GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS (Cont'd)

2.1 USE OF FACILITIES AND SERVICE (Cont'd)

2.1.2 Limitations on Liability (Cont'd)

- H. When the facilities of other companies are used in establishing a connection, the Company is not liable for any act, error, omission, or interruption caused by the other company or their agents or employees. This includes the provision of a signaling system database by another company.
- I. THE INCLUDED EXCULPATORY LANGUAGE DOES NOT CONSTITUTE A DETERMINATION BY THE COMMISSION THAT A LIMITATION OF LIABILITY IMPOSED BY THE COMPANY SHOULD BE UPHELD IN A COURT OF LAW. ACCEPTANCE FOR FILING BY THE COMMISSION RECOGNIZES THAT IT IS A COURT'S RESPONSIBILITY TO ADJUDICATE NEGLIGENCE AND CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGE CLAIMS. IT IS ALSO THE COURT'S RESPONSIBILITY TO DETERMINE THE VALIDITY OF THE EXCULPATORY CLAUSE.

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SECTION 2 - GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS (Cont'd)

2.2 LIABILITY OF THE COMPANY

2.2.1 General

- A. Except as otherwise states in this tariff, liability of the Company for damages arising out of either (1) the furnishing of its Service, including, but not limited to, mistakes, omissions, interruptions, delays, or errors, or other defects, representations, or use of these Services, or (2) the failure to furnish its Service, whether caused by acts or omission, shall be limited to the extension of allowances to the Customer for interruptions in Service.
- B. Except for the extension of allowances to the Customer for interruptions in Service, the Company shall not be liable to a Customer or third party for any direct, indirect, special, incidental, reliance, consequential, exemplary or punitive damages, including, but not limited to, loss of revenue or profits, for any reason whatsoever, including, but not limited to, any act or omission, failure to perform, delay, interruption, error, degradation or failure to provide any Service, including the partial or complete inability to access emergency 911 services during any such failure, or any failure in or breakdown of facilities associated with the Service.
- C. The liability of the Company for errors in billing that result in overpayment by the Customer shall be limited to a credit equal to the dollar amount erroneously billed or, in the event that payment has been made and Service has been discontinued, to a refund of the amount erroneously billed.
- D. With respect to Emergency Number 911 Service:
 - 1. The Service is offered solely as an aid in handling assistance calls in connection with fire, police and other emergencies. The Company is not responsible for any losses, claims, demands, suits or any liability whatsoever, whether suffered, made instituted or asserted by the Customer or by any other party or person for any personal injury or death of any person or persons, and for any loss, damage or destruction of any property, whether owned by the Customer or others, caused or claimed to have been caused by: (1) mistakes, omissions, interruptions, delays, errors or other defects in the provision of service, of (2) installation, operation, failure to operate, maintenance, removal, presence, condition, local or use of any equipment and facilities furnishing this service.

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SECTION 2 - GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS (Cont'd)

2.2 LIABILITY OF THE COMPANY (Cont'd)

2.2.1 General (Cont'd)

D. With respect to Emergency Number 911 Service: (Cont'd)

2. The Company is not responsible for any infringement, nor invasion of the right of privacy of any person or persons, caused or claimed to have been caused directly or indirectly, by the installation, operation, failure to operate, maintenance, removal, presence, condition, occasion or use of emergency 911 service features and the equipment associated therewith, or by any services furnished by the Company, including, but not limited to the identification of the telephone number, address or name associated with the telephone used by the party or parties accessing emergency 911 service, and which arise out of the negligence or other wrongful act of the Company, the Customer, its users, agencies or municipalities, or the employee or agents of any one of them.

2.2.2 Use of Service

Any service provided under this Tariff may be resold to or shared (jointly used) with other persons at the customer's option. The customer remains solely responsible for all use of service ordered by it or billed to its telephone number(s) pursuant to this Tariff, for determining who is authorized to use its service, and for promptly notifying the Company of any unauthorized use. The customer may advise its customers that a portion of its service is provided by the Company, but the customer shall not represent that the Company jointly participates with the customer in the provision of the service.

2.2.3 Use and Ownership of Equipment

The Company's equipment, apparatus, channels and lines shall be carefully used. Equipment furnished by the Company shall remain its property and shall be returned to the Company whenever requested, within a reasonable period following the request, in good condition, reasonable wear and tear accepted. The customer is required to reimburse the Company for any loss of, or damage to, the facilities or equipment on the customer's premises, including loss or damage caused by agents, employees, or independent contractors of the customer through any negligence.

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SECTION 2 - GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS (Cont'd)

2.2 LIABILITY OF THE COMPANY (Cont'd)

2.2.4 Directory Errors

In the absence of gross negligence or willful misconduct and except for the allowances stated below, no liability for damages arising from errors or mistakes in or omissions of directory listings, or errors or mistakes in or omissions of listings obtainable from the directory assistance operator, including errors in the reporting thereof, shall attach to the Company.

An allowance for errors or mistakes in or omissions of published directory listings or for errors or mistakes in or omissions of listings obtainable from the directory assistance operator shall be given as follows:

- A. Free Listings: For free or no-charge published directory listings, credit shall be given at the rate of two times the monthly tariff rate for an additional or charge listing for each individual, auxiliary or party line, PBX trunk or Centrex attendant loop affected, for the life of the directory or the charge period during which the error, mistake or omission occurs.
- B. Charge Listings: For additional or charge published directory listings, credit shall be given at the monthly tariff rate for each such listing for the life of the directory or the charge period during which the error, mistake or omission occurs.
- C. Operator records: For free or charge listings obtainable from records used by the directory assistance operator, upon notification to the Company of the error, mistake or omission in such records by the subscriber, the Company shall be allowed a period of three business days to make a correction. If the correction is not made in that time, credit shall be given at the rate of 2/30ths of the basic monthly rate for the line or lines in question for each day thereafter that the records remain uncorrected. (Where Centrex attendant loops are involved, credit shall be given at the rate of 2/30ths of the basic monthly rate for PBX trunks.)

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SECTION 2 - GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS (Cont'd)

2.2 LIABILITY OF THE COMPANY (Cont'd)

2.2.4 Directory Errors (Cont'd)

- D. Credit limitation: The total amount of the credit provided for the preceding paragraphs A, B, and C shall not exceed, on a monthly basis, the total of the charges for each charge listing plus the basic monthly rate, as specified in paragraph 3, for the line or lines in question.
- E. Definitions: As used in Paragraphs A, B, C, and D above, the terms "error," "mistake" or "omission" shall refer to a discrepancy in the directory listing or directory assistance records which the Company has failed to correct and where the error affects the ability to locate a particular subscriber's correct telephone number. The terms shall refer to addresses only to the extent that an error, mistake or omission of an address places the subscriber on an incorrect street or in an incorrect community.
- F. Notice: Such allowances or credits as specified in Paragraphs A, B, and C above, shall be given upon notice to the Company by the subscriber that such error, mistake or omission has occurred; provided, however, that when it is administratively feasible for the Company to have knowledge of such error, mistake or omission, the Company shall give credit without the requirement of notification by the subscribers.

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SECTION 2 - GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS (Cont'd)

2.3 MINIMUM PERIOD OF SERVICE

The minimum period of service is one month except as otherwise provided in this tariff. The customer must pay the regular tarified rate for the service they subscribe to for the minimum period of service. If a customer disconnects service before the end of the minimum service period, that customer is responsible for paying the regular rates for the remainder of the minimum service period. When the service is moved within the same building, to another building on the same premises, or to a different premises entirely, the period of service at each location is accumulated to calculate if the customer has met the minimum period of service obligation.

If service is terminated before the end of the minimum period of service as a result of condemnation of property, damage to property requiring the premises to be abandoned, or by the death of the customer, the customer is not obligated to pay for service for the remainder of the minimum period.

If service is switched over to a new customer at the same premises after the first month's service, the minimum period of service requirements is assigned to the new customer if the new customer agrees in writing to accept them. For facilities not taken over by the new customer, the original customer is responsible for the remaining payment for the minimum service period in accordance with the terms under which the service was originally furnished.

2.4 FLEXIBLE PRICING

2.4.1 General

Flexible Pricing sets minimum and maximum rates that can be charged for telephone service. The Company may change a specific rate within the range of the established minimum and maximum rates on one day's notice to customers and the Public Service Commission.

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SECTION 2 - GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS (Cont'd)

2.4 FLEXIBLE PRICING (Cont'd)

2.4.2 Conditions

- A. The Company reserves the right to change prices at any time subject to regulatory requirements by filing a revised Rate Attachment with the Commission.
- B. Individual written notice to Customers of rate changes shall be made in accordance with Commission regulations. Where there are no regulations, notification will be made in a manner appropriate to the circumstances involved.
- C. A rate shall not be changed unless it has been in effect for at least thirty (30) days.
- D. A customer can request that the Company disconnect service that is provided under the Flexible Pricing due to a price increase. The customer will be credited for the difference between the new price and the old price retroactive to the effective date of the price increase if the customer notifies the Company of its desire to disconnect service within 20 days of receiving notification of the price increase.

2.5 PAYMENT FOR SERVICE RENDERED

2.5.1 Responsibility for All Charges

Any applicant for facilities or service may be required to sign an application form requesting the Company to furnish the facilities or service in accordance with the rates, charges, rules, and regulations from time to time in force and effect. The customer is responsible for all local and toll calls originating from the customer's premises and for all calls charged to the customer's line where any person answering the customer's line agrees to accept such charge.

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SECTION 2 - GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS (Cont'd)

2.5 PAYMENT FOR SERVICE RENDERED (Cont'd)

2.5.2 Deposits

Subject to special provisions as may be set forth below and in other sections of this Tariff, any applicant or customer whose financial responsibility is not established to the satisfaction of the Company may be required to deposit a sum up to an amount equal to the total of the estimated local service and IntraLATA toll charges for up to two months for the facilities and service. If the minimum period of service for the requested facilities and service is more than one month, as specified in this Tariff, the customer may also be required to deposit a sum up to an amount equal to the total charges for service for the minimum service period less any connection charge paid by the customer.

The fact that a deposit has been made shall in no way relieve the applicant or customer from complying with the Tariff regulations for the prompt payment of bills on presentation. Each applicant from whom a deposit is collected will be given a certificate of deposit and circular containing the terms and conditions applicable to deposits, in accordance with the Rules and Regulations of the Commission pertaining to customer deposits.

A. Interest on Deposits

Simple interest at the rate specified by the Commission shall be credited or paid to the customer while the Company holds the deposit.

B. Inadequate Deposit

If the amount of a deposit is proven to be less than required to meet the requirements specified above, the customer shall be required to pay an additional deposit upon request.

C. Return of Deposit

When a deposit is to be returned, the customer may request that the full amount of the deposit be issued by check. If the customer requests that the full amount be credited to amounts owed the Company, the Company will process the transaction on the billing date and apply the deposit to any amount currently owed to the Company and return any remaining amount of the deposit to the customer by check.

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SECTION 2 - GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS (Cont'd)

2.5 PAYMENT FOR SERVICE RENDERED (Cont'd)

2.5.3 Payment of Charges

Charges for facilities and service, other than usage charges, are due monthly in advance. All other charges are payable upon request of the Company. Bills are due on the due date shown on the bill and are payable at any business office of the Company, by U.S. Mail, or at any location designated by the Company. If objection is not received by the Company within three months after the bill is rendered, the items and charges appearing thereon shall be determined to be correct and binding upon the customer. A bill will not be deemed correct and binding upon the customer if the Company has records on the basis of which an objection may be considered, or if the customer has in his or her possession such Company records. If objection results in a refund to the customer, such refund will be with interest at the greater of the unadjusted customer deposit rate or the applicable late payment rate, if any, for the service classification under which the customer was billed. Interest will be paid from the date when the customer overpayment was made, adjusted for any changes in the deposit rate or late payment rate, compounded monthly, until the overpayment is refunded. Notwithstanding the foregoing, no interest will be paid by the Company on customer overpayments that are refunded within 30 days after the overpayment is received by the Company.

Where an objection to the bill involves a superseded service order, the items and charges appearing on the bill shall be deemed to be correct and binding upon the customer if objection is not received by the Company within two months after the bill is rendered.

2.5.4 Return Check Charge

When a check which has been presented to the Company by a customer in payment for charges is returned by the bank, the customer shall be responsible for the payment of a Returned Check Charge of \$20.00.

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SECTION 2 - GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS (Cont'd)

2.5 PAYMENT FOR SERVICE RENDERED (Cont'd)

2.5.5 Late Payment Charges

- A. Customer bills for telephone service are due on the due date specified on the bill. A customer is in default unless payment is made on or before the due date specified on the bill. If payment is not received by the customer's next billing date, a late payment charge of 1.5% will be applied to all amounts previously billed under this Tariff, excluding one month's local service charge, but including arrears and unpaid late payment charges.
- B. Late payment charges do not apply to those portions (and only those portions) of unpaid balances that are associated with disputed amounts. Undisputed amounts on the same bill are subject to late payment charges if unpaid and carried forward to the next bill.
- C. Late payment charges do not apply to final accounts.
- D. Late payment charges do not apply to government agencies of the State of New York. These agencies are required to make payment in accordance with the provisions of Article XI-A of the State Finance Law (Chapter 153 of the Laws of 1984).

2.5.6 Customer Overpayments

The Company will provide interest on customer overpayments that are not refunded within 30 days of the date the Company receives the overpayment. An overpayment is considered to have occurred when payment in excess of the correct charges for service is made because of erroneous Company billing. The customer will be issued reimbursement for the overpayment, plus interest, or, if agreed to by the customer, credit for the amount will be provided on the next regular Company bill. The rate of interest shall be the greater of the customer deposit interest rate or the Company's applicable Late Payment Charge.

Interest shall be paid from the date when overpayment was made, adjusted for any changes in the deposit rate or late payment rate, and compounded monthly, until the date when the overpayment is refunded. The date when overpayment is considered to have been made will be the date on which the customer's overpayment was originally recorded to the customer's account by the Company.

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SECTION 2 - GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS (Cont'd)

2.6 INSTALLATION SERVICE

The Company provides a Half-Day Installation Plan, which offers customers half-day appointments (i.e., morning/afternoon or a rolling interval) for connection of Commission regulated service involving a customer premise visit. In the case of any inconsistency with the regulations in Part 609 of 16 NYCRR for installation service, the rules of the Commission shall prevail.

2.7 ACCESS TO CUSTOMER'S PREMISES

The customer shall be responsible for making arrangements or obtaining permission for safe and reasonable access for Company employees or agents of the Company to enter the premises of the customer or any joint user or customer of the customer at any reasonable hour for the purpose of inspecting, repairing, testing or removing any part of the Company's facilities.

2.8 SUSPENSION OR TERMINATION OF SERVICE

2.8.1 Suspension or Termination for Nonpayment

In the event that any bill rendered, or any deposit required is not paid, the Company may suspend service or terminate service until the bill or the required deposit has been paid. If service is suspended or terminated for nonpayment, the customer will be billed a Connection Charge as well as any payment due and any applicable deposits upon reconnection.

- A. Termination shall not be made until at least 20 days after written notification has been mailed to the billing address of the customer.
- B. Suspension will not be made until at least 8 days after written notification has been mailed to the customer and 20 days before the termination notice.

Telephone service shall only be suspended between 8:00 AM and 7:30 PM, on Monday through Thursday, and between 8:00 AM and 3:00 PM on Friday. It shall not be suspended or terminated for nonpayment on weekends, public holidays, other federal and state holidays proclaimed by the President or the Governor, or on days when the main business office of the Company is not open for business, or during the periods from December 23rd through December 26th or December 30th through January 1st.

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SECTION 2 - GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS (Cont'd)

2.8 SUSPENSION OR TERMINATION OF SERVICE (Cont'd)

2.8.2 Exceptions to Suspension and Termination

Telephone service shall not be suspended or terminated for:

- A. Nonpayment of bills rendered for charges other than telephone service or deposits requested in connection with telephone service;
- B. Nonpayment for service for which a bill has not been rendered;
- C. Nonpayment for service which have not been rendered;
- D. Nonpayment of any billed charge which is in dispute or for the nonpayment of a deposit which is in dispute during the period before a determination of the dispute is made by the Company in accordance with Company's complaint handling procedures. These procedures are in accordance with the Public Service Commission Rules and Regulations contained in Part 609 of 16 NYCRR.

Telephone service may be suspended or terminated for nonpayment of the undisputed portion of a disputed bill or deposit if the customer does not pay the undisputed portion after being asked to do so.

- E. Nonpayment of back-billed amounts.

2.8.3 Verification of Nonpayment

Telephone service shall not be suspended or terminated for nonpayment of a bill rendered or a required deposit unless:

- A. The Company has verified, in a manner approved by the Public Service Commission, that payment has not been received at any office of the Company or at any office of an authorized collection agent through the end of the period indicated in the notice, and
- B. The Company has checked the customer's account on the day that suspension or termination is to occur to determine whether payment has been posted to the customer's account as of the opening of business on that day.

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SECTION 2 - GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS (Cont'd)

2.8 SUSPENSION OR TERMINATION OF SERVICE (Cont'd)

2.8.4 Termination for Cause Other Than Nonpayment

A. General

The Company, after notice in writing to the customer and after having given the customer an appropriate opportunity to respond to such notice, may terminate service and sever the connection(s) from the customer's premises under the following conditions:

1. in the event of prohibited, unlawful or improper use of the facilities or service, or any other violation by the customer of the rules and regulations governing the facilities and service furnished, or
2. if, in the judgment of the Company, any use of the facilities or service by the customer may adversely affect the Company's personnel, plant, property or service. The Company shall have the right to take immediate action, including termination of the service and severing of the connection, without notice to the customer when injury or damage to telephone personnel, plant, property, or service is occurring, or is likely to occur, or
3. in the event of unauthorized use, where the customer fails to take reasonable steps to prevent the unauthorized use of the facilities or service received from the Company, or
4. in the event that service is connected for a customer who is indebted to the Company for service or facilities previously furnished, that service may be terminated by the Company unless the customer satisfies the indebtedness within 20 days after written notification. See Section 2.10.7 regarding Deferred Payment Agreements.

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SECTION 2 - GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS (Cont'd)

2.8 SUSPENSION OR TERMINATION OF SERVICE (Cont'd)

2.8.4 Termination for Cause Other Than Nonpayment (Cont'd)

B. Prohibited, Unlawful or Improper Use of the Facilities or Service

Prohibited, unlawful or improper use of the facilities or service includes, but is not limited to:

1. The use of facilities or service of the Company without payment of tariff charges;
2. Calling or permitting others to call another person or persons so frequently or at such times of the day or in such manner as to harass, frighten, abuse or torment such other person or persons;
3. The use of profane or obscene language;
4. The use of the service in such a manner such that it interferes with the service of other customers or prevents them from making or receiving calls;
5. The use of a mechanical dialing device or recorded announcement equipment to seize a customer's line, thereby interfering with the customer's use of the service;
6. Permitting fraudulent use.

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SECTION 2 - GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS (Cont'd)

2.8 SUSPENSION OR TERMINATION OF SERVICE (Cont'd)

2.8.4 Termination for Cause Other Than Nonpayment (Cont'd)

C. Abandonment or Unauthorized Use of Facilities

1. If it is determined that facilities have been abandoned, or are being used by unauthorized persons, or that the customer has failed to take reasonable steps to prevent unauthorized use, the Company may terminate telephone service.
2. In the event that telephone service is terminated for abandonment of facilities or unauthorized use and service is subsequently restored to the same customer at the same location:
 - (a) No charge shall apply for the period during which service had been terminated, and
 - (b) Reconnection charges will apply when service is restored. However, no charge shall be made for reconnection if the service was terminated due to an error on the part of the Company.

D. Change in the Company's Ability to Secure Access

Any change in the Company's ability (a) to secure and retain suitable facilities and rights for the construction and maintenance of the necessary circuits and equipment or (b) to secure and retain suitable space for its plant and facilities in the building where service is provided to the customer may require termination of a customer's service until such time as new arrangements can be made. No charges will be assessed the customer while service is terminated, and no connection charges will apply when the service is restored.

2.8.5 Emergency Termination of Service

The Company will immediately terminate the service of any customer, on request, when the customer has reasonable belief that the service is being used by an unauthorized person or persons. The Company may require that the request be submitted in writing as a follow-up to a request made by telephone.

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SECTION 2 - GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS (Cont'd)

2.9 ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS APPLICABLE TO BUSINESS CUSTOMERS

2.9.1 Application of Business Rates

- A. Business rates as described in this Tariff apply to service furnished:
1. In office buildings, stores, factories and all other places of a business nature;
 2. In hotels, apartment houses, clubs and boarding and rooming houses except when service is within the customer's domestic establishment and no business listings are provided; colleges, hospitals and other institutions; and in churches except when service is provided to an individual of the clergy for personal use only and business service is already established for the church at the same location;
 3. At any location when the listing or public advertising indicates a business or a profession;
 4. At any location where the service includes an extension which is at a location where business rates apply unless the extension is restricted to incoming calls; or
 5. At any location where the customer resells or shares exchange service.
- B. The use of business facilities and service is restricted to the customer, customers, agents and representatives of the customer, and joint users.

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SECTION 2 - GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS (Cont'd)

2.9 ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS APPLICABLE TO BUSINESS CUSTOMERS (Cont'd)

2.9.2 Telephone Number Changes

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

The customer may order a Customized Number where facilities permit for an additional charge.

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.

2.9.3 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 customer.

2.9.4 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.

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SECTION 2 - GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS (Cont'd)

2.10 ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS APPLICABLE TO RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMERS

2.10.1 Application of Rates

Residential rates as described in this Tariff apply to service furnished in private homes or apartments (including all parts of the customer's domestic establishment) for domestic use. Residential rates also apply in college fraternity or sorority houses, convents and monasteries, and to the clergy for domestic use in residential quarters.

Residential rates do not apply to service in residential locations if the listing indicates a business or profession. Residential rates do not apply to service furnished in residential locations if there is an extension line from the residential location to a business location unless the extension line is limited to incoming calls.

The use of residential service and facilities is restricted to the customer, members of the customer's domestic establishment, and joint users.

2.10.2 Telephone Number Changes

When a residential customer requests a telephone number change, the referral period for the disconnected number is 90 days.

The customer may order a Customized Number where facilities permit for an additional charge.

When service in an existing location is continued for a new customer, the existing 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.

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SECTION 2 - GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS (Cont'd)

2.10 ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS APPLICABLE TO RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMERS (Cont'd)

2.10.3 Deposits

A. General

Except as provided in (B) following, the Company may require a deposit, as described in Section 2.5.2 of this Tariff, from a residential customer who is applying for service if the customer: 1) has had service terminated for nonpayment once within the preceding six-month period, or 2) is delinquent in payment. A customer is delinquent in payment if that customer has received two consecutive telephone bills without making payment of at least one-half the total arrears due on the due date of the second bill. A customer is not considered delinquent, however, if an amount in dispute is not paid before the dispute is resolved.

An existing customer is an applicant for service who was a customer of the Company within twelve months of making the request, provided that prior service was not terminated for nonpayment, unless service is requested within 10 days of such termination for nonpayment. Applicants for residential service and existing residential customers are permitted to pay deposits in installments over a period not to exceed 6 months.

A new customer is an applicant for service who has not been a customer of the Company within twelve months of making the request for service. A new customer shall not be required to post a security deposit as a condition of receiving telephone service.

A seasonal customer is an individual who applies for and receives telephone service periodically each year, intermittently during the year or at other regular intervals scheduled at the time of application. A seasonal customer may be required to post a deposit.

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SECTION 2 - GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS (Cont'd)

2.10 ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS APPLICABLE TO RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMERS (Cont'd)

2.10.3 Deposits (Cont'd)

B. Customers Exempt from Deposits

1. 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.
2. 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.

C. Recent Payment History

A customer who has a recent payment history (within the preceding twelve months) with the Company is entitled to service without payment of a deposit unless his or her records indicate a delinquency in payment or a termination of service for nonpayment. A customer who still owes money to the Company for residential service on a prior account shall be offered a deferred payment plan provided that the customer had service for three months and was not terminated for nonpayment during that period. (See Deferred Payment Agreements)

New deposits from a residential customer are reviewed after the first 3 monthly bills have been rendered; if too much has been taken, the excess is returned. The entire deposit is returned to a residential customer after 1 year, unless the customer is delinquent in payment, in which case the Company may continue to retain the deposit until the delinquency is satisfied. If the service is discontinued, the deposit is applied against the final bill, and any balance is returned to the customer.

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SECTION 2 - GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS (Cont'd)

2.10 ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS APPLICABLE TO RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMERS (Cont'd)

2.10.4 Installment Billing for Nonrecurring Charges

A residential customer may elect to pay service connection and other nonrecurring charges associated with a service order in monthly installments for up to a 12-month period. When installment billing is requested, all nonrecurring charges associated with a given service order will be included in the calculation of the monthly installment.

Installment billing is subject to the following restrictions:

- A. Installment billing may be used only by residential customers;
- B. Charges will be billed in the number of installments of equal dollar amounts as requested by the customer up to a maximum of 12 installments over the course of 12 months;
- C. A customer may not pay a portion of the charges and then request installment billing for the remaining charges;
- D. More than one installment plan may be in effect for the same customer at the same time;
- E. If a customer disconnects service during the installment payment period, all unbilled charges will be included in the final bill rendered;
- F. A customer may elect to pay the unbilled charges before the expiration of the installment plan;
- G. Installment billing payments will continue even when an account is temporarily suspended;
- H. No interest or carrying charges will be applied to the outstanding balance during the installment period.

2.10.5 Adjusted Payment Schedule

A customer on a fixed income (e.g., pension and public assistance) shall be offered the opportunity to pay his or her bills on a reasonable schedule that is adjusted for periodic receipt of income.

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SECTION 2 - GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS (Cont'd)

2.10 ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS APPLICABLE TO RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMERS (Cont'd)

2.10.6 Suspension or Termination for Nonpayment

- A. Suspension/termination notices may not be issued until at least 25 days after the date of the bill. Bills must be mailed to the customer no later than 6 business days after the date of the bill.
- B. After issuing the written notification in accordance with 2.8.1, at least one attempt shall be made during non-working hours to contact the residential customer by telephone before the scheduled date of suspension/termination.
- C. Suspension/termination may occur only between 8:00 AM and 7:30 PM on Monday through Thursday, and between 8:00 AM and 3:00 PM on Friday, provided that such day or the following day is not a public holiday or a day on which the main office is closed. In addition, service may not be disconnected during the periods of December 23 through the 26 and December 30 through January 2.
- D. Telephone service may be suspended or terminated for nonpayment of the undisputed portion of a disputed bill or deposit if the customer does not pay the undisputed portion after being asked to do so. Suspended or terminated residential service shall be reconnected within 24 hours following payment or within 24 hours of the end of circumstances beyond the Company's control which delay the reconnection. The Commission may direct that service be reconnected in less than 24 hours.

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SECTION 2 - GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS (Cont'd)

2.10 ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS APPLICABLE TO RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMERS (Cont'd)

2.10.7 Deferred Payment Agreements

Service will not be suspended or terminated unless the customer has been advised that a deferred payment plan can be arranged. An existing residential customer with three or more months service and for whom service has not been terminated for nonpayment is eligible for Deferred Payment Arrangements (DPA). The Company must offer an eligible customer a DPA in accordance with the Commission's order in Case 90-C-1148 issued on August 7, 1992. Final notice of suspension/termination will advise the customer of deferred payment arrangements and will include, in bold print, a notice that assistance in reaching an agreement may be obtained from the Commission. The DPA notice will be mailed no less than six days before termination of total service.

A Deferred Payment Agreement will be for a period agreed to by both the customer and the Company.

If the Company believes that the customer has the resources to pay the bill, it shall notify both the customer and the Commission in writing of the reasons for its belief. The Commission shall make the final determination as to whether a DPA should be provided. A customer with medical emergencies and a customer who is elderly, blind or disabled shall be exempt from such eligibility criteria.

2.10.8 Dishonored Checks

When a check received from a residential customer is dishonored, the company shall make two attempts, one outside of normal business hours, to contact the customer within 24 hours. The customer shall be given an additional 24 hours to pay before suspension/termination. The additional notice will be given provided that the customer has not submitted a dishonored check within the past 12 months.

2.10.9 Suspension or Termination - Abandonment

Suspension/termination of residential service for abandonment or unauthorized use may occur only after the Company makes a reasonable attempt to determine occupancy or authorized use, or the customer takes reasonable steps to prevent unauthorized use. A notice must be sent to the customer five days before such suspension or termination. The notification requirement is waived when previous mailings are returned by the Post Office, or the company is advised that a new customer has moved into the location.

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SECTION 2 - GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS (Cont'd)

2.10 ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS APPLICABLE TO RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMERS (Cont'd)

2.10.10 Suspension or Termination - Medical Emergencies

In the event of a medical emergency as defined in 16NYCRR, Sec. 609, an additional 30 days will be allowed for a residential customer before suspension or termination. A medical certificate as defined in 16NYCRR, Sec. 609, must be supplied. The medical emergency status may be extended beyond 30 days upon submission of specified documentation. During the emergency, the customer will be able to defer payment of monthly charges up to an amount specified by the Commission until the emergency ceases or it is determined that the customer has the ability to pay the charges. Charges in any month in excess of the amount specified are due by the due date of the bill.

2.10.11 Suspension or Termination - Elderly, Blind or Disabled

An additional 20 days will be allowed before suspension or termination may occur when:

- A. the customer is known to or identified to the Company as being blind or disabled, as defined in 16NYCRR, Sec. 609; or
- B. the customer is 62 years of age or older, and all other residents of the customer's household are: under 18 years of age, over 62 years of age, blind or disabled.

In cases where service has been suspended or terminated and the Company subsequently learns that the customer is entitled to the protection established herein, the Company shall within 24 hours of such notification restore service for an additional 20 days and make a diligent effort to contact in person an adult resident at the customer's premises for the purpose of devising a payment plan.

2.10.12 Back-billing for Residential Customers

The Company shall not charge a residential customer for previously unbilled service or adjust upward a bill previously rendered when the period for the unbilled service or billing adjustment is more than six months prior to the mailing of the bill or the upward adjustment unless the conduct of the customer caused or contributed to the failure of the Company to render timely accurate billing. Unless the customer causes the late billing, the Company shall explain the reason for the late billing and shall advise the customer that suspension/termination of service is not permitted for charges billed in excess of six months after the service was provided. The customer will be given the opportunity to pay the charges under an installment plan on a schedule equal in time to the length of the back-billing period.

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SECTION 2 - GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS (Cont'd)

2.11 ALLOWANCES FOR INTERRUPTIONS IN SERVICE

Interruptions in service, which are not due to the negligence of, or non-compliance with the provisions of this Tariff by the Customer, or the operation or malfunction of the facilities, power, or equipment provided by the Customer, will be credited to the Customer as set forth below for the part of the service that the interruption affects. A credit allowance will be made when an interruption occurs because of a failure of any component furnished by the Company under this Tariff.

2.11.1 Credit for Interruptions

- A. An interruption period begins when the Customer reports a service, facility, or circuit to be interrupted and releases it for testing and repair. An interruption period ends when the service, facility, or circuit is operative. If the Customer reports a service, facility, or circuit to be inoperative but declines to release it for testing and repair, it is considered to be impaired, but not interrupted.
- B. For calculating credit allowances, every month is considered to have 30 days. A credit allowance is applied on a pro rata basis against the rates specified hereunder and is dependent upon the length of the interruption. Only those facilities on the interrupted portion of the circuit will receive a credit.
- C. A credit allowance will be given, upon request of the customer to the business office, for interruptions of 30 minutes or more. Credit allowances will be calculated as follows:
 - 1. if interruption continues for less than 24 hours:
 - (a) $\text{Credit} = A/720 \times B$

A = interruption time in hours (must be 8 or more)
B = total monthly Recurring Charge for affected service
 - 2. if interruption continues for more than 24 hours:
 - (a) Cancellation or termination for service interruption is permitted only if any circuit experiences a single continuous interruption of 8 hours or more or cumulative service credits equaling 16 hours in a continuous 12-month period. The right to cancel service under this provision applies only to the single circuit that has been subject to the interruption or cumulative service credits.

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SECTION 2 - GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS (Cont'd)

2.11 ALLOWANCES FOR INTERRUPTIONS IN SERVICE (Cont'd)

2.11.1 Credit for Interruptions (Cont'd)

D. Credit to Customer

Credits attributable to any billing period for interruptions of service shall not exceed the total charges for that period for the service and facilities furnished by the Company rendered useless or substantially impaired.

E. "Interruption" Defined

For the purpose of applying this provision, the word "interruption" shall mean the inability to complete calls either incoming or outgoing or both due to equipment malfunction or human errors. "Interruption" does not include, and no allowance shall be given for service difficulties such as slow dial tone, circuits busy or other network and/or switching capacity shortages. Nor shall the interruption allowance apply where service is interrupted by the negligence or willful act of the subscriber or where the Company, pursuant to the terms of the Tariff, suspends or terminates service because of nonpayment of bills due to the company, unlawful or improper use of the facilities or service, or any other reason covered by the Tariff. No allowance shall be made for interruptions due to electric power failure where, by the provisions of this Tariff, the subscriber is responsible for providing electric power. Allowance for interruptions of message rate service will not affect the subscriber's local call allowance during a given billing period.

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SECTION 2 - GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS (Cont'd)

2.11 ALLOWANCES FOR INTERRUPTIONS IN SERVICE (Cont'd)

2.11.2 Limitations on Credit Allowances

No credit allowance will be made for:

- A. interruptions due to the negligence of, or non-compliance with the provisions of this Tariff, by any party other than the Company, including but not limited to the customer, authorized user, or other common carriers connected to, or providing service connected to, the service of the Company or to the Company's facilities;
- B. interruptions due to the failure or malfunction of non-Company equipment, including service connected to customer provided electric power;
- C. interruptions of service during any period in which the Company is not given full and free access to its facilities and equipment for the purpose of investigating and correcting interruptions;
- D. interruptions of service during any period when the customer has released service to the Company for maintenance purposes or for implementation of a customer order for a change in service arrangements;
- E. interruptions of service due to circumstances or causes beyond the control of the Company.

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SECTION 2 - GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS (Cont'd)

2.12 EMERGENCY/CRISIS/DISASTER RESTORATION AND PROVISIONING -
TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICE PRIORITY

2.12.1 General

- A. The Telecommunications Service Priority (TSP) Program is a federal program used to identify and prioritize telecommunications services that support national security or emergency preparedness (NS/EP) missions. NS/EP services are defined as those telecommunications services which are used to maintain a state of readiness or respond to and manage any event or crisis which causes or could cause injury or harm to the population, damage or loss to property, or degrades or threatens the NS/EP posture of the United States. TSP restoration and/or provisioning shall be provided in accordance with Part 64, Appendix A of the Federal Communications Commission's Rules and Regulations (47 C.F.R.), and the "Service Vendor Handbook For The Telecommunications Service Priority (TSP) Program" and the "Service User Manual for the Telecommunications Service Priority (TSP) System" (NCS Manual 3-1-1) (Service User Manual) issued and updated as necessary by the Office of Priority Telecommunications (OPT) of the National Communications System. Any changes to or reissuance of these regulations or manuals supersede tariff language contained herein.
- B. The TSP program has two components, restoration, and provisioning.
 - 1. A restoration priority is applied to new or existing telecommunications services to ensure restoration before any other services during a service outage. TSP restoration priorities must be requested and assigned before a service outage occurs.
 - 2. A provisioning priority is obtained to facilitate priority installation of new telecommunications services during a service outage. Provisioning on a priority basis becomes necessary when an end-user has an urgent requirement for a new NS/EP service that must be installed immediately or by a specific due date that can be met only by a shorter than standard or expedited Company provisioning time frame. As a matter of general practice, existing TSP services will be restored before provisioning new TSP services.

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SECTION 2 - GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS (Cont'd)

2.12 EMERGENCY/CRISIS/DISASTER RESTORATION AND PROVISIONING - TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICE PRIORITY (Cont'd)

2.12.2 TSP Request Process – Restoration

To request a TSP restoration priority assignment, a prospective TSP user must:

- A. Determine that the user's telecommunications service supports an NS/EP function under one of the following four TSP categories.
 - 1. National Security Leadership
 - 2. National Security Posture and U.S. Population Attack Warning
 - 3. Public Health, Safety, and Maintenance of Law and Order
 - 4. Public Welfare and Maintenance of National Economic Posture
- B. Identify the priority level to be requested for the telecommunications service. The priority level is determined by the end-user's TSP category and service profile. The service profile defines the user's level of support to the portion of the telecommunications service that the user owns and operates, such as customer premises equipment or wiring. The five levels of priority and seven element groups that define the service profile are contained in the Service User Manual.
- C. Complete the TSP Request for Service Users form (SF 315) available on the National Communications System (NCS) website (<http://tsp.ncs.gov/>).
 - 1. For non-federal users, have their TSP requests approved by a federal agency sponsor. Non-federal users should contact the OPT, at the NCS website (<http://tsp.ncs.gov/>), for information on identifying a sponsor for TSP requests.
- D. Submit the SF 315 to the OPT.
- E. Upon receipt of the TSP Authorization Code from the OPT, notify the Company, and include the TSP Authorization Code in any service order to the Company requesting restoration of NS/EP services.

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SECTION 2 - GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS (Cont'd)

2.12 EMERGENCY/CRISIS/DISASTER RESTORATION AND PROVISIONING - TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICE PRIORITY (Cont'd)

2.12.3 TSP Request Process – Provisioning

To request a TSP provisioning priority assignment, a prospective TSP user must follow the same steps listed in 2.12.2.A. -- 2.12.2. E above for restoration priority assignment except for the following differences. The user should:

- A. Certify that its telecommunications service is an emergency service. Emergency services are those that support one of the NS/EP functions listed in 2.12.2.a. above and are so critical that they must be provisioned at the earliest possible time, without regard to cost to the user.
- B. Verify that the Company cannot meet the service due date without a TSP assignment.
- C. Obtain approval from the end-user's invocation official to request a provisioning priority. Invocation officials are designated individuals with the authority to request TSP provisioning for a telecommunications service and include the head or director of a federal agency, commander of a unified/specified military command, chief of a military service, commander of a major military command, or state governor.

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SECTION 2 - GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS (Cont'd)

2.12 EMERGENCY/CRISIS/DISASTER RESTORATION AND PROVISIONING -
TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICE PRIORITY (Cont'd)

2.12.4 Responsibilities of the End-User

End-users or entities acting on their behalf must perform the following:

- A. Identify telecommunications services requiring priority.
- B. Request, justify, and revalidate all priority level assignments. Revalidation must be completed every 2 years and must be done before expiration of the end-user's TSP Authorization Code(s).
- C. Accept TSP services by the service due dates.
- D. Have Customer Premises Equipment (CPE) and Customer Premises Wiring (CPW) available by the requested service due date and ensure (through contractual means or otherwise) priority treatment for CPE and CPW necessary for end-to-end service continuity.
- E. Pay the Company any authorized costs associated with priority services.
- F. Report to the Company any failed or unusable services with priority levels.
- G. Designate a 24-hour point of contact for each TSP request and apprise the OPT.
- H. Cooperate with the OPT during reconciliation (comparison of NS/EP service information and resolution of any identified discrepancies) and revalidation.

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SECTION 2 - GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS (Cont'd)

2.12 EMERGENCY/CRISIS/DISASTER RESTORATION AND PROVISIONING -
TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICE PRIORITY (Cont'd)

2.12.5 Responsibilities of the Company

The Company will perform the following:

- A. Provide TSP service only after receipt of a TSP authorization code.
- B. Revoke TSP services at the direction of the end-user or OPT.
- C. Ensure that TSP Program priorities supersede any other telecommunications priority that may be provided (other than control services and order wires).
- D. Designate a 24-hour point of contact to receive reports of TSP service outages from TSP service users.
- E. Designate a 24-hour point of contact to coordinate TSP processes with the OPT.
- F. Confirm completion of TSP service order activity to the OPT.
- G. Participate in reconciliation of TSP information at the request of the OPT.
- H. Ensure that all subcontractors complete reconciliation of TSP information with the service vendor.
- I. Ensure that other carriers supplying underlying facilities are provided information necessary to implement priority treatment of facilities that support NS/EP services.
- J. Assist in ensuring that priority level assignments of NS/EP services are accurately identified "end-to-end" by providing to subcontractors and interconnecting carriers the restoration priority level assigned to a service.
- K. Disclose content of the NS/EP TSP database only as may be required by law.
- L. Comply with regulations and procedures supplemental to and consistent with guidelines issued by the OPT.

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SECTION 2 - GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS (Cont'd)

2.12 EMERGENCY/CRISIS/DISASTER RESTORATION AND PROVISIONING -
TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICE PRIORITY (Cont'd)

2.12.6. Preemption

When spare facilities are not available, it may be for the Company to preempt the facilities required to provision or restore a TSP service. When preemption is necessary, non-TSP services may be preempted based on the Company's best judgment. If no suitable spare or non-TSP services are available, the Company may preempt an existing TSP service to restore a TSP service with a higher restoration priority assignment. When preemption is necessary, prior consent of the service user whose service will be preempted is not required; however, the Company will make every reasonable effort to notify the preempted customer of the action to be taken.

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SECTION 3 - CONNECTION CHARGES

3.1 CONNECTION CHARGE

3.1.1 General

The Connection Charge is a nonrecurring charge which applies to the following: (a) the installation of a new service; (b) the transfer of an existing service to a different location; (c) a change from one class of service to another at the same or a different location; or (d) restoral of service after suspension or termination for nonpayment. Connection Charges are listed with each service to which they apply.

3.1.2 Exceptions to the Charge

- A. No charge applies for a change to a service for which a lower monthly rate applies, made within 90 days after any general rate increase if a lower grade of service is offered in the customer's exchange.
- B. No charge applies for one change in the class of residence service, provided that the change is ordered within 90 days of the initial connection of the customer's exchange service.
- C. The Company may from time to time waive or reduce the charge as part of a promotion.

3.2 RESTORAL CHARGE

A restoral charge applies each time a service is reconnected after suspension or termination for nonpayment but before cancellation of the service, as deemed in Section 1 of this Tariff.

Restoral Charge: \$59.00

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SECTION 3 - CONNECTION CHARGES (Cont'd)

3.3 MOVES, ADDS AND CHANGES

The Company alone may make changes in the location of its lines and equipment. When it is found that a move or change of such lines or equipment has been made by others, the Connection Charge for the underlying service will apply as if the work had been done by the Company.

The customer will be assessed a charge for any move, add or change of a Company service. Move, Add and Change are defined as follows:

Move: The disconnection of existing equipment at one location and reconnection of the same equipment at a new location in the same building or in a different building on the same premises.

Add: The addition of a vertical service to existing equipment and/or service at one location.

Change: Change - including rearrangement or reclassification - of existing service at the same location.

	<u>Move</u>	<u>Add</u>	<u>Change</u>
Charge:	\$ 59.00	\$ 59.00	\$ 11.95

3.4 MAINTENANCE VISIT CHARGE

An MVC, a/k/a Trouble Location Charge, describes that process where the Company determines whether the trouble reported by the Customer is due to the Company or to the Customer. A Network Interface Device (NID) is one form of a Company Service demarcation point that provides a customer with a test point where he/she can pretest service conditions before initiating a trouble report to the Company. Where a NID exists, if the Company is able to test for Dial Tone at the NID and the problem proves to be beyond the NID (within Customer premises) a charge for trouble location is applicable. In the event there is no NID and/or the Company is unable to test for dial tone, then no trouble location charge will be assessed. In those cases where the customer has bought an inside wire maintenance warranty/plan (a non-regulated service) from the Company no trouble location charge will be applicable regardless of the dial tone test results or whether a NID exists or not.

Maintenance Visit Charge, per visit:

Per Hour	\$119.00
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All wire and equipment charges are in addition to any maintenance visit charges.

Maintenance False Dispatch Charge, per visit:	\$99.00
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SECTION 4 – SERVICE CHARGES AND SURCHARGES

4.1 CARRIER PRESUBSCRIPTION

4.1.1 General

Carrier Presubscription is a procedure whereby a customer designates to the Company the carrier that the Customer wishes to be the carrier of choice for IntraLATA and InterLATA toll calls. Such calls are automatically directed to the designated carrier, without the need to use carrier access codes or additional dialing to direct the call to the designated carrier. Presubscription does not prevent a customer who has presubscribed to an IntraLATA or InterLATA toll carrier from using carrier access codes or additional dialing to direct calls to an alternative long-distance carrier on a per call basis.

4.1.2 Presubscription Options - Customers may select the same carrier or separate carriers for IntraLATA and InterLATA long distance. The following options for long distance Presubscription are available:

- Option A: Customer selects the Company as the presubscribed carrier for IntraLATA and InterLATA toll calls subject to presubscription.
- Option B: Customer may select the Company as the presubscribed carrier for IntraLATA calls subject to presubscription and some other carrier as the presubscribed carrier for InterLATA toll calls subject to presubscription.
- Option C: Customer may select a carrier other than the Company for IntraLATA toll calls subject to presubscription and the Company for InterLATA toll calls subject to presubscription.
- Option D: Customer may select the carrier other than the Company for both IntraLATA and InterLATA toll calls subject to presubscription
- Option E: Customer may select two different carriers, neither being the Company for IntraLATA and InterLATA toll calls. One carrier to be the Customers' primary IntraLATA interexchange carrier. The other carrier to be the Customer's primary InterLATA interexchange carrier.
- Option F: Customer may select a carrier other than the Company for no presubscribed carrier for IntraLATA toll calls subject to presubscription which will require the Customer to dial a carrier access code to route all IntraLATA toll calls to the carrier of choice for each call.

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SECTION 4 – SERVICE CHARGES AND SURCHARGES (Cont'd)

4.1 CARRIER PRESUBSCRIPTION (Cont'd)

4.1.3 Rules and Regulations

Customers of record will retain their primary interexchange carrier(s) until they request that their dialing arrangements be changed.

Customers of record or new Customers may select either Options A, B, C, D, E or F for intraLATA Presubscription.

Customers may change their selected Option and/or presubscribed toll carrier at any time subject to charges specified in 4.1.5 below.

4.1.4 Presubscription Procedures

A new Customer will be asked to select intraLATA and interLATA toll carriers at the time the Customer places an order to establish local exchange service with the Company. The Company will process the Customer's order for service. All new Customers' initial requests for intraLATA toll service presubscription shall be provided free of charge.

If a new Customer is unable to make selection at the time the new Customer places an order to establish local exchange service, the Company will read a random listing of all available intraLATA and interLATA carriers to aid the Customer in selection. If selection is still not possible, the Company will inform the Customer that he/she will be given 90 calendar days in which to inform the Company of his/her choice for primary toll carrier(s) free of charge. Until the Customer informs the Company of his/her choice of primary toll carrier, the Customer will not have access to long distance services on a presubscribed basis, but rather will be required to dial a carrier access code to route all toll calls to the carrier(s) of choice. Customers who inform the Company of a choice for toll carrier presubscription within the 90 day period will not be assessed a service charge for the initial Customer request.

Customers of record may initiate a intraLATA or interLATA presubscription change at any time, subject to the charges specified in 4.1.5 below. If a Customer of record inquires of the Company of the carriers available for toll presubscription, the Company will read a random listing of all available intraLATA carriers to aid the Customer in selection.

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SECTION 4 – SERVICE CHARGES AND SURCHARGES (Cont'd)

4.1 CARRIER PRESUBSCRIPTION (Cont'd)

4.1.5 Presubscription Charges

A. Application of Charges

After a Customer's initial selection for a presubscribed toll carrier and as detailed in Paragraph 4.1.4 above, for any change thereafter, an Presubscription Change Charge, as set for the below will apply. Customers who request a change in intraLATA and interLATA carriers with the same order will be assessed a single charge per line.

B. Nonrecurring Charges

Per business or residence line, trunk, or port	
Initial Line, or Trunk or Port	\$11.95
Additional Line, Trunk or Port	\$11.95

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SECTION 4 – SERVICE CHARGES AND SURCHARGES (Cont'd)

4.2 TELEPHONE SURCHARGES

4.2.1 General

In addition to the rates and charges applicable according to the rules and regulations of this Tariff, various surcharges may apply to the customer's monthly bill statement. The Customer is responsible for payment of any and all such fees, charges and taxes, however designated, (including without limitation sales, use, gross receipts, excise, access or other taxes but excluding taxes on the Company's net income) imposed by any local, state, or federal government on or based upon the provision, sale or use of Network Services. Fees, charges, and taxes imposed by a city, county, or other political subdivision will be collected only from those customers receiving service within the boundaries of that subdivision, or as deemed taxable by the political subdivision.

4.2.2 New York State Gross Revenue Tax Surcharge

- A. Description: This surcharge recovers telephone company expenses associated with mandated New York State Transportation and Transmission Corporation Franchise Taxes (Section 184 Tax) and Excise Taxes on Telecommunications Services (Section 186E Tax). This surcharge is generally applied to all services except the E911 surcharge.
- B. Rate or Range of Rates: The Commission has previously established maximum rates for this surcharge, which vary according to the type of service provided and whether or not the carrier is principally engaged in local telephone business. For telephone corporations, including resellers, principally engaged in local telephone business, the maximum rates are as follows:
- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------|
| Services provided for resale | 0.3764% |
| IntraLata toll and regional calling | 2.8273% |
| All other services | 2.9405% |
- C. What it is applied to: This surcharge is generally applied to all services except the E911 surcharge.

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SECTION 4 – SERVICE CHARGES AND SURCHARGES (Cont'd)

4.2 TELEPHONE SURCHARGES (Cont'd)

4.2.3 Municipal Surcharge

- A. Description: This surcharge recovers telephone company expenses associated with municipal revenue taxes, which apply to calls originating and terminating within the village or municipality.
- B. Rate or Range of Rates: Not to exceed 1% except in Buffalo, Rochester and Yonkers, where the rate may not exceed 3%. Statements attached to tariff schedules indicate the surcharge percentage for each village or municipality.
- C. What it is applied to: All local charges, LNP Surcharge, FCC Line Charge and Federal USF Surcharge.

4.2.4 MTA Tax Surcharge

- A. Description: This surcharge recovers telephone company expenses associated with mandated New York State temporary metropolitan transportation business tax surcharge (Section 184-A Tax), and applies to customers located in the New York metro area only.
- B. Rate or Range of Rates: The Commission has previously established maximum rates for this surcharge, which vary according to the type of service provided and whether or not the carrier is principally engaged in local telephone business. For telephone corporations, including resellers, principally engaged in local telephone business, the maximum rates are as follows:

Services provided for resale	0.1277%
IntraLATA toll and regional calling	0.6890%
All other services	0.73%
- C. What it is applied to: This surcharge is generally applied to all services except the E911 surcharge.

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SECTION 4 – SERVICE CHARGES AND SURCHARGES (Cont'd)

4.2 TELEPHONE SURCHARGES (Cont'd)

4.2.5 E911 Surcharge

- A. Description: 911 has been designated as the “Universal Emergency Number” for all citizens throughout the United States to request emergency assistance. The purpose of the fee is to “pay for” the cost of such systems. Consumers do not pay this fee in order to be provided with E911 service. A consumer has access to E911 whether or not the locality in which the customer lives has imposed the monthly charge line that appears on their bill. There is no per-call charge for calling 911.
- B. Rate or Range of Rates: Not to exceed 35 cents per access line per month on the consumers of every service provider within each municipality imposing the surcharge, other than the City of New York. The City is authorized to impose a monthly charge of up to \$1.00. No such surcharge shall be imposed upon more than 75 exchange lines per customer per location. Lifeline customers, a public safety agency and any municipality which has enacted a local law pursuant to the provisions of this article shall be exempt from any fee/surcharge imposed under this article.
- C. What it is applied to: This surcharge is a flat fee paid by the consumer. The surcharge required to be collected by the service provider shall be added to and stated separately in its billings to the customer.

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SECTION 5 – LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

5.1 GENERAL

Local exchange service is offered to residential and business Customers on a presubscription basis from equal access originating end offices only. Service is provided on a term basis only. Unless other specified, the minimum term is one (1) year. Rates for service may vary by call type and/or term commitment. Usage rates, per call charges and monthly fees may apply. In addition, applicable Service Order and other non-recurring charges may apply. Call timing is defined in the description for each service. Service is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Service is available where technically feasible and where facilities permit.

5.1.1 Charges Based on Duration of Use

Where charges for a service are specified based on the duration of use, such as the duration of a telephone call, the following rules apply:

- A. Calls are measured in durational increments identified for each service. All calls that are fractions of a measurement increment are rounded-up to the next whole unit.
- B. Timing on completed calls begins when the call is answered by the called party.

Answering is determined by hardware answer supervision in all cases where this signaling is provided by the terminating local carrier and any intermediate carrier(s). Timing for operator service person-to-person calls start with completion of the connection to the person called or an acceptable substitute, or to the PBX station called.
- C. Timing terminates on all calls when the calling party hangs up or the Company network receives an off-hook signal from the terminating carrier.
- D. Calls originating in one time period and terminating in another will be billed in proportion to the rates in effect during different segments of the call.
- E. All times refer to local time.

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SECTION 5 – LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE (Cont'd)

5.1 GENERAL (Cont'd)

5.1.2 Basic Local Exchange Service

Basic Local Exchange Service provides a Customer with a telephonic connection to, and a unique telephone number on, the Company switching network that enables the Customer to:

- A. receive calls from other stations on the public switched telephone network;
- B. access the Company Local Calling Services and other Services as set forth in this tariff;
- C. access interexchange calling services of the Company and of other carriers;
- D. access (at no additional charge) to Company operators and business office for service related assistance;
- E. access toll-free telecommunications services such as 800 NPA; and access toll-free emergency services by dialing 0 or 9-1-1 (where available);
- F. access relay services for the hearing and/or speech impaired.

Basic Local Exchange Services cannot be used to originate calls to caller-paid information services (e.g., 900, 976) provided by other companies. Calls to those numbers and other numbers used for caller-paid information services will be blocked by the Company switch. Each Basic Local Exchange Service corresponds to one or more telephonic communications channels that can be used to place or receive one call at a time.

Individual line Residence and Business Basic Local Exchange Service is comprised of exchange access lines defined as follows:

Exchange Access Line - The service central office line equipment and all the Company plant facilities up to the demarcation point. These facilities are Company-provided and maintained and provide access to and from the telecommunications network for message toll service and for local calling appropriate to the tariff use offering selected by the Customer.

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SECTION 5 – LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE (Cont'd)

5.2 RESIDENTIAL BASIC LOCAL SERVICE (FLAT-RATE LOCAL)

Monthly Recurring Charge	\$19.99
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5.3 BUSINESS BASIC LOCAL SERVICE (MESSAGE RATE)

Monthly Recurring Charge	\$19.99
Per Message Charge, local calling	\$0.0775

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SECTION 6 – SUPPLEMENTAL SERVICES

6.1 DIRECTORY ASSISTANCE SERVICES

6.1.1 General

A Customer may obtain assistance, for a charge, in determining a telephone number by dialing Directory Assistance (DA).

A call to DA is considered completed whether or not the number(s) requested are available from DA records.

Direct-dialed calls to DA are exempt from rates and regulations when placed from:

- A. 10 free calls per month from main business and/or residence telephone lines or PBX trunk lines;
- B. all directory assistance calls made by customers who are 65 years old or older;
- C. a single-line registered main telephone exchange line of a handicapped user. A main line may be registered for exemption with the carrier in those instances where one of the users of the line is considered to be legally blind, or visually or physically handicapped as defined by the Federal Register, Vol. 35 #126. Where a user's handicap prevents the dialing of a telephone in a conventional manner or permits only the dialing of "0", those calls placed from the registered line, and not directly dialed, will also be exempt;
- D. all pay telephones;
- E. exchange lines in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and its political subdivisions; and
- F. also exempt are directory assistance calls for telephone numbers which are non-listed, or non-listed and non-published, or when the DA operator provides an incorrect number. The Customer must inform the Company of the error in order to receive credit

6.1.2 Rates

Unless one of the exceptions listed in Section 6.1.1 above applies, the charges as shown below apply for each request made to the DA operator:

Local DA	\$0.75
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SECTION 6 – SUPPLEMENTAL SERVICES (Cont'd)

6.2 OPERATOR SERVICES

The Company's operator services, available to presubscribed Customers, are accessible on a twenty-four (24) hour per day seven (7) days per week basis. In addition to the per call service charge, usage rates apply. The types of calls handled are as follows:

Customer Dialed Calling/Credit Card Call - This charge applies in addition to usage charges for station to station calls billed to an authorized Calling Card or Commercial Credit Card. The Customer must dial the destination telephone number where the capability exists for the Customer to do so. A separate rate applies in the event operator assistance is requested for entering the Customer's card number for billing purposes.

Operator Dialed Calling/Credit Card Call - This charge applies in addition to usage charges for station to station calls billed to an authorized telephone Calling Card or Commercial Credit Card and the operator dials the destination telephone number at the request of the Customer.

Person-to-Person - This charge applies in addition to usage charges for calls placed with the assistance of a Company operator to a particular party at the destination number. This charge applies regardless of billing method, including but not limited to billing to a Calling Card, Commercial Credit Card, Collect, by deposit of coins in Pay Telephones, or to a Third Party. Charges do not apply unless the specified party or an acceptable substitute is available.

Third Party Billed - Provides the Customer with the capability to charge a local call to a third number which is different from the called or calling party. The party answering at the third number has the option to refuse acceptance of the charges in advance or when queried by the operator.

Collect Calls - Provides the Customer with the capability to charge a call to the called party. On the operator announcement of a collect call, the called party has the option to refuse acceptance of charges in advance or when queried by the operator.

6.2.1 Local Usage Charges

Usage charges for local operator assisted calls are those usage charges that would normally apply to the calling party's service. In addition to usage charges, an operator assistance charge applies to each call.

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SECTION 6 – SUPPLEMENTAL SERVICES (Cont'd)

6.2 OPERATOR SERVICES (Cont'd)

6.2.2 Per Call Service Charges

Customer Dialed Calling Card	\$0.75
Operator Dialed Calling Card	\$2.50
Operator Assisted:	
Collect	\$2.50
3rd Party Billed	\$2.50
Person-to-Person	\$4.50

6.3 BUSY LINE VERIFICATION AND EMERGENCY INTERRUPT SERVICE

Upon request of a calling party the Company will verify a busy condition on a designated local service line. The operator will determine if the line is clear or in use and report to the calling party. At the request of the Customer, the operator will interrupt the call on the busy line. Emergency Interruption is only permitted in cases where the calling party indicates an emergency exists, requests interruption and the call has already been verified as busy.

No charge will apply when the calling party advises that the call is to or from an official public emergency agency. Busy Verification and Interrupt Service is furnished where and to the extent that facilities permit.

The Customer shall identify and save the Company harmless against all claims that may arise from either party to the interrupted call or any person.

6.3.1 Rates

Busy Line Verification, per request:	\$7.50
Busy Line Interrupt, per request:	\$5.00

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SECTION 6 – SUPPLEMENTAL SERVICES (Cont'd)

6.4 DIRECTORY LISTING SERVICE

6.4.1 General

For each Customer of Company provided Local Exchange Access Service, the Company shall arrange for the listing of the Customer's main billing telephone number in the directory(s) published by the dominant Local Exchange Carrier in the area.

The following rules and charges apply to listings in the white pages of the telephone directory and to the Directory Assistance records. Only information necessary to identify the Customer is included in the listings. The Company may use abbreviations in listings. The Company may reject a listing, which is judged to be advertising. It may also reject a listing it judges to be objectionable. A name made up by adding a term such as Company, Shop, Agency, Works, etc. to the name of a commodity or service will not be accepted as a listing unless the subscriber is legally doing business under that name.

A name may be repeated in the white pages only when a different address or telephone number is used.

6.4.2 Listings

A. Primary (Published) Listings

The Primary (Published) listing is included with local service at no additional charge and consists of the following:

1. The name under which a business is conducted by the Customer
2. The address of the Customer
3. The main telephone number of the Customer

This information will appear in the white pages of the Local Telephone Directory and the Directory Assistance Database.

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SECTION 6 – SUPPLEMENTAL SERVICES (Cont'd)

6.4 DIRECTORY LISTING SERVICE (Cont'd)

6.4.2 Listings (Cont'd)

B. Non-Published Service

Non-published service means that the Customer's telephone number is not listed in the local telephone directory, nor does it appear in the Directory Assistance Records. This service is subject to the rules and regulations for E911 service, where applicable. The Company will complete calls to a non-published number only when the caller dials direct or gives the operator the number. No exceptions will be made, even if the caller says it is an emergency. If a published listing is desired at a later date, there may be a delay in publishing the listing.

When the Company agrees to keep a number unlisted, it does so without any obligation. Except for cases of gross negligence or willful misconduct, the Company is not liable for any damages that might arise from publishing a non-published number in the directory or disclosing it to some. If, in error, the telephone number is published in the directory, the Company's only obligation is to credit or refund any monthly charges the Customer paid for non-published service.

The subscriber indemnifies (i.e., promises to reimburse the Company for any amount the Company must pay as a result of) and save the Company harmless against any and all claims for damages caused or claimed to have been caused, directly or indirectly, by the publication of a non-published service or the disclosing of said number to any person.

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SECTION 6 – SUPPLEMENTAL SERVICES (Cont'd)

6.4 DIRECTORY LISTING SERVICE (Cont'd)

6.4.2 Listings (Cont'd)

C. Non-Listed Service

Non-listed service means that the Customer's telephone number is not listed in the local telephone directory, but it does appear in the Directory Assistance Records.

This service is subject to the rules and regulations for E911 service, where applicable. The Company will complete calls to a non-listed number.

When the Company agrees to keep a number unlisted, it does so without any obligation. Except for cases of gross negligence or willful misconduct, the Company is not liable for any damages that might arise from publishing a non-listed number in the directory or disclosing it to some. If, in error, the telephone number is listed in the directory, the Company's only obligation is to credit or refund any monthly charges the Customer paid for non-listed service.

The subscriber indemnifies (i.e., promises to reimburse the Company for any amount the Company must pay as a result of) and save the Company harmless against any and all claims for damages caused or claimed to have been caused, directly or indirectly, by the publication of a non-listed service or the disclosing of said number to any person.

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SECTION 6 – SUPPLEMENTAL SERVICES (Cont'd)

6.4 DIRECTORY LISTING SERVICE (Cont'd)

6.4.3 Additional Listings

A. Duplicate Listing

A listing of another name by which a Customer is known such as abbreviated name, a name commonly spelled in more than one way or a name consisting of several words, which the public commonly rearranges.

Cross Reference is a type of Duplicate Listing. It refers to the name under which a complete listing is shown. Cross Reference can be temporary caused by a change of ownership or firm name, which may be shown with a reference to the successor.

B. Alternate Telephone Number Listing

A listing that refers calling parties to another telephone number at certain hours or on certain days or in case no answer is received on the call to the primary number.

C. Foreign Listing

Any of the types of additional listings covered herein may be provided in a different directory or in the same directory under a different geographical heading from that under which the Customer is normally listed.

6.4.4 Monthly Rates

	<u>Residential</u>	<u>Business</u>
Non-published Service	\$5.00	\$5.95
Non-listed Service	\$2.50	\$2.50

A service order charge will apply, as set forth in Section 4, if not ordered at the time of installation.

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SECTION 7 – TOLL SERVICES

7.1 GENERAL

Long Distance service is only available in conjunction with local service.

7.2 DIRECT DIAL SERVICE

Direct Dial Service rates apply when the Customer dials the telephone number without the assistance of an operator and the call is billed to the calling number. Usage is billed in one (1) minute increments with a one (1) minute minimum period.

Per Minute Usage Rate All Times of Day \$0.25

7.3 NATIONWIDE DIRECTORY ASSISTANCE SERVICE

The charges as shown below apply for each request made to the Directory Assistance operator:

Nationwide Directory Assistance (555-1212) \$1.99

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SECTION 8 - SPECIAL SERVICES AND PROGRAMS

8.1 SPECIAL EQUIPMENT FOR THE HEARING OR SPEECH IMPAIRED CUSTOMER

- 8.1.1 As required by Section 92-a of New York State Public Service Law, the Company will provide, upon request, specialized telecommunications equipment for a customer certified as hearing or speech impaired.
- 8.1.2 A customer can be certified as hearing or speech impaired by a licensed physician, otolaryngologist, speech-language pathologist, audiologist or an authorized representative of a social agency that conducts programs for persons with hearing or speech impairments in cooperation with an official agency of the State of New York.
- 8.1.3 The Company will make every reasonable effort to locate and obtain equipment for a certified customer.
- 8.1.4 The customer may purchase equipment at a price not to exceed the actual purchase price (including any applicable shipping costs) the Company pays.
- 8.1.5 The Company will also advise the customer who requests this equipment of the applicable terms for purchase.

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SECTION 8 - SPECIAL SERVICES AND PROGRAMS (Cont'd)

8.2 DISCOUNTED SERVICE FOR THE HEARING OR SPEECH IMPAIRED CUSTOMER

8.2.1 General

A handicapped person who has been certified to the Company as having a hearing or speech impairment which requires that he or she communicate over telephone facilities by means other than voice, and who either use non-voice equipment or make calls through an interpreter, will receive, upon application to the Company, a 50% discount on local message rate service.

8.2.2 Certification

Acceptable certifications are:

1. Those made by a licensed physician, otolaryngologist, speech-language pathologist or audiologist or an authorized representative of a social agency that conducts programs for persons with hearing or speech impairment in cooperation with an official agency of the State of New York, or
2. A pre-existing certification establishing the impairment of hearing or speech such as those which qualify the handicapped person for social security benefits on the basis of total hearing impairment or for the use of facilities of an agency for a person with hearing or speech impairment.

8.2.3 Qualification

A customer qualifying for the discount is one whose impairment is such that competent authority would certify him or her as being unable to use a telephone for voice communication. See Section 11, "Handicapped Person," for a listing of the necessary qualifications.

8.2.4 Billing

The reduction in charges is applied only at one location, designated by the impaired person.

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SECTION 8 - SPECIAL SERVICES AND PROGRAMS (Cont'd)

8.3 UNIVERSAL EMERGENCY TELEPHONE NUMBER SERVICE

Universal Emergency Telephone Number Service (911 Service) is an arrangement of Company central office and trunking facilities whereby any telephone user who dials the number 911 will reach the emergency report center for the telephone from which the number is dialed or will be routed to an operator if all lines to an emergency report center are busy. If no emergency report center customer exists for a central office entity, a telephone user who dials the number 911 will be routed to an operator. The telephone user who dials the 911 number will not be charged for the call.

8.4 NEW YORK RELAY SERVICE

8.4.1 General

The Company will provide access to a telephone relay center for New York Relay Service. The service permits telephone communications between hearing and/or speech impaired individuals who must use a Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (TDD) or a Teletypewriter (TTY) and individuals with normal hearing and speech. The Relay Service can be reached by dialing an 800 number. Specific 800 numbers have been designated for both impaired and non-impaired customers to use.

8.4.2 Regulations

- A. Only intrastate calls can be completed using the New York Relay Service under the terms and conditions of this tariff.
- B. Charges for calls placed through the Relay Service will be billed as if direct distance dialed (DDD) from the point of origination to the point of termination. The actual routing of the call does not affect billing.
- C. Calls through the Relay Service may be billed to a third number only if that number is within New York State. Calls may also be billed to calling cards issued by the Company or other carriers who may choose to participate in this service.
- D. The following calls may not be placed through the Relay Service:
 - 1. calls to informational recordings and group bridging service;
 - 2. calls to time or weather recorded messages;
 - 3. station sent paid calls from coin telephones; and
 - 4. operator-handled conference service and other teleconference calls.

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SECTION 8 - SPECIAL SERVICES AND PROGRAMS (Cont'd)

8.4 NEW YORK RELAY SERVICE (Cont'd)

8.4.3 Liability

The Company contracts with an outside provider for the provision of this service. The outside provider has complete control over the provision of the service except for the facilities provided directly by the Company. In addition to other provisions of this Tariff dealing with liability, in the absence of gross negligence or willful misconduct on the part of the Company, the Company shall not be liable for and the customer, by using the service, agrees to release, defend and hold harmless for all damages, whether direct, incidental or consequential, whether suffered, made, instituted or asserted by the customer or by any other person, for any loss or destruction of any property, whatsoever whether covered by the customer or others, or for any personal injury to or death of, any person. Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary, in no event shall the Company be liable for any special, incidental, consequential, exemplary or punitive damages of any nature whatsoever.

8.5 SPECIAL CREDIT CARD FOR BLIND AND DISABLED PERSONS

8.5.1 General

Persons who are blind or whose disability causes difficult with hand and finger coordination and use of a telephone qualify for a Special Credit Card. The card may be used from any telephone within the Company's territory to place calls within and outside the state of New York at a special rate or to place calls from a telephone outside of the Company's territory, but within the state of New York at rates applicable to the territory from which the call is made.

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SECTION 8 - SPECIAL SERVICES AND PROGRAMS (Cont'd)

8.5 SPECIAL CREDIT CARD FOR BLIND AND DISABLED PERSONS (Cont'd)

8.5.2 Rates

Within the Company's Territory:

Station to station toll calls placed with operator assistance will be billed at the lower rate normally applicable to calls placed without operator assistance. Local calls cannot be charged to the card. Person-to-person calls charged to the card will be billed at the higher operator handled rate.

Outside the Company's Territory, but within New York State:

All rates, charges, billing and restriction in effect in the territory from which the call is made will apply.

8.5.3 Qualification

The following criteria will be used to determine eligibility for the Special Credit Card:

1. "Legally Blind" - those whose visual acuity is 20/200 or less in the better eye with correcting glasses or whose widest diameter of visual field subtends an angular distance no greater than 20 degrees.
2. "Physically Handicapped" - those who are certified by competent authority as unable to read or use ordinary printed materials as result of physical limitations.
3. Persons whose disabling condition causes difficulty with hand and finger coordination and utilization of a coin or noncoin telephone. Acceptable certifications are those made by a licensed physician, ophthalmologist or optometrist.

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SECTION 8 - SPECIAL SERVICES AND PROGRAMS (Cont'd)

8.5 SPECIAL CREDIT CARD FOR BLIND AND DISABLED PERSONS (Cont'd)

8.5.4 Billing Authorization

Responsibility for payment of charges may be handled in one of two ways:

1. The handicapped person (the applicant) may accept responsibility for payment of his or her own bill. In this case, the applicant must be 18 years of age or older and must reside within the Company's service territory, but he or she does not need to have other service from the Company.
2. Another party may agree to accept responsibility for payment of charges incurred through use of the Special Credit Card by the applicant. When this option is chosen, the person accepting this responsibility must be 18 years of age or older, but does not need to reside within the Company's service territory.

In either case, the applicant is the only authorized user of the Special Credit Card. If the person accepting payment responsibility has service within the Company's service territory, charges will be billed on a regular monthly bill; otherwise a separate bill will be sent.

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SECTION 8 - SPECIAL SERVICES AND PROGRAMS (Cont'd)

8.6 SCHOOLS AND LIBRARIES DISCOUNT PROGRAM

8.6.1 General

The Schools and Libraries Discount Program permits eligible schools (public and private, grades Kindergarten through 12) and libraries to purchase the Company services offered in this tariff and the (additional company tariff references, if appropriate) at a discounted rate, in accordance with the Rules adopted by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) in its Universal Service Order 97-157, issued May 8, 1997 and the New York State Public Service Commission in its Opinion and Order 97-11 Adopting Discounts for Services for Schools and Libraries, issued June 25, 1997. The Rules are codified at 47 Code of Federal Regulation (C.F.R.) 54.500 et. seq.

As indicated in the Rules, the discounts will be between 20 and 90 percent of the pre-discount price, which is the price of services to schools and libraries prior to application of a discount. The level of discount will be based on an eligible school or library's level of economic disadvantage and by its location in either an urban or rural area. A school's level of economic disadvantage will be determined by the percentage of its students eligible for participation in the national school lunch program, and a library's level of economic disadvantage will be calculated on the basis of school lunch eligibility in the public school district in which the library is located. A non-public school may use either eligibility for the national school lunch program or other federally approved alternative measures to determine its level of economic disadvantage. To be eligible for the discount, schools and libraries will be required to comply with the terms and conditions set forth in the Rules. Discounts are available only to the extent that they are funded by the federal universal service fund. Schools and libraries may aggregate demand with other eligible entities to create a consortium.

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SECTION 8 - SPECIAL SERVICES AND PROGRAMS (Cont'd)

8.6 SCHOOLS AND LIBRARIES DISCOUNT PROGRAM (Cont'd)

8.6.2 Regulations

A. Obligation of eligible schools and libraries

1. Requests for service

- (a) Schools and libraries and consortia shall participate in a competitive bidding process for all services eligible for discounts, in accordance with any state and local procurement rules.

2. Schools and libraries and consortia shall submit requests for services to the Schools and Libraries Corporation, as designated by the FCC, and follow established procedures.

3. Services requested will be used for educational purposes.

4. Services will not be sold, resold or transferred in consideration for money or any other thing of value.

B. Obligations of the Company

1. The Company will offer discounts to eligible schools and libraries on commercially available telecommunications services contained in this tariff. Those services contained in this tariff which are excluded from the discount program, in accordance with the Rules, are included as an attachment to this tariff.

2. The Company will offer services to eligible schools, libraries and consortia at prices no higher than the lowest price it charges to similarly situated non-residential customers for similar services (lowest corresponding price).

3. In competitive bidding situations, the Company may offer flexible pricing or rates other than in this tariff, where specific flexible pricing arrangements are allowed, subject to New York State Public Service Commission approval.

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SECTION 8 - SPECIAL SERVICES AND PROGRAMS (Cont'd)

8.6 SCHOOLS AND LIBRARIES DISCOUNT PROGRAM (Cont'd)

8.6.3 Discounted Rates for Schools and Libraries

- A. Discounts for eligible schools and libraries and consortia shall be set as a percentage from the pre-discount price, which is the price of services to schools and libraries prior to application of a discount.
- B. The discount rate will be applied to eligible intrastate services purchased by eligible schools, libraries or consortia.
- C. The discount rate is based on each school or library's level of economic disadvantage as determined in accordance with the FCC Order or other federally approved alternative measures (as permitted by the Rules) and by its location in either an urban or rural area.
- D. The discount matrix for eligible schools, libraries and consortia is included as an attachment to this tariff.

8.7 HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS SUPPORT PROGRAM

8.7.1 General

The purpose of the Health Care Providers Support Program is to enable public and non-profit rural health care providers to have access to telecommunications services necessary for the provision of health care services at rates comparable to those paid for similar services in urban areas. The Health Care Providers Support Program offers eligible public and non-profit health care providers located in rural areas reduced rates for Company intrastate services, available in this Tariff. Such services must be purchased in accordance with the Rules adopted by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) in its Universal Service Order 97-157, issued May 8, 1997 and the New York State Public Service Commission in its Order in Cases 94-C-0095 and 28425, issued November 4, 1997. The FCC Rules are codified at 47 Code of Federal Regulation (C.F.R.) 54.601 et. seq., and any amendments made thereto.

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SECTION 8 - SPECIAL SERVICES AND PROGRAMS (Cont'd)

8.7 HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS SUPPORT PROGRAM (Cont'd)

8.7.2 Regulations

- A. To be eligible for the reduced rates, rural health care providers are required to comply with the terms and conditions set forth in the FCC Rules.
- B. Reduced rates are available only to the extent that they are funded by the federal universal service fund.
- C. Eligible rural health care providers may aggregate demand with other entities to create a consortium. Universal service support shall apply only to the portion of eligible services used by an eligible health care provider.
- D. Responsibility of eligible health care providers
 - 1. Rural health care providers and consortia shall participate in a competitive bidding process for all services eligible for reduced rates in accordance with any state and local procurement rules.
 - 2. Rural health care providers and consortia shall submit requests for services to the program Administrator, as designated by the FCC, and follow established procedures.
 - 3. Services requested must be used for purposes related to the provision of health care services or instruction that the health care provider is legally authorized to provide under the law.
 - 4. A health care provider that cannot obtain toll free access to an Internet Service Provider and who is eligible for support for limited toll-free access under the Rules must certify that it lacks toll-free Internet access and that it is an eligible health care provider.
 - 5. Services cannot be sold, resold or transferred in consideration for money or any other thing of value.

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SECTION 8 - SPECIAL SERVICES AND PROGRAMS (Cont'd)

8.7 HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS SUPPORT PROGRAM (Cont'd)

8.7.2 Regulations

E. Responsibility of the Company

1. The Company shall offer the rates and charges to eligible health care providers to the extent that facilities and services are available and offered in the tariffs specified in 1. preceding.
2. The Company shall offer services to eligible rural health care providers and consortia at prices no higher than the highest urban rate as defined in the FCC Order and Rules.
3. In competitive bidding situations, where specific flexible pricing arrangements are allowed, the Company may offer flexible pricing (to determine the reduced rate) subject to New York State Public Service Commission approval.

8.7.3 Rates and Charges

The following price adjustments will be available to eligible rural health care providers, except subparagraph c., which shall be available to all eligible health care providers, regardless of location;

- A. A reduced rate for telecommunications services, using a bandwidth capacity of up to 1.544 Mbps, not to exceed the highest tariffed or publicly available rate charged to a commercial customer for a similar service provided over the same distance in the nearest city in New York State with a population of at least 50,000.
- B. An exemption from some mileage charges for any telecommunications services, using a bandwidth capacity of up to 1.544 Mbps, that is necessary for the provision of health care services. The exempted mileage includes the distance between the rural health care provider and the most distant perimeter of the nearest city in New York State with a population of 50,000 or more, less the standard urban distance, which is the maximum average diameter of all cities with population of 50,000 or more in the state.
- C. Each eligible health care provider that cannot obtain toll-free access to an Internet service provider is entitled to receive toll charge credits for toll charges imposed for connecting to an Internet service provider as per the FCC Rules. Such toll charge credits are available pursuant to applicable toll tariffs.

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SECTION 8 - SPECIAL SERVICES AND PROGRAMS (Cont'd)

ATTACHMENT

A. SERVICES INELIGIBLE FOR SCHOOLS AND LIBRARIES DISCOUNT

1. Voice Mail Services

B. SCHOOLS AND LIBRARIES DISCOUNT MATRIX

HOW DISADVANTAGED	% DISCOUNT LEVEL	
	URBAN DISCOUNT	RURAL DISCOUNT
% of students eligible for national school lunch program		
<1	20	25
1-19	40	50
20-34	50	60
35-49	60	70
50-74	80	80
75-100	90	90

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SECTION 9 - SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS

9.1 SPECIAL CONSTRUCTION

9.1.1 Basis for Charges

Basis for Charges where the Company furnishes a facility or service for which a rate or charge is not specified in the Company's tariffs, charges will be based on the costs incurred by the Company (including return) and may include:

- A. nonrecurring charges;
- B. recurring charges;
- C. termination liabilities; or
- D. combinations of A, B, and C.

9.1.2 Basis for Cost Computation

The costs referred to in 9.1.1 preceding may include one or more of the following items to the extent they are applicable:

- A. Costs to install the facilities to be provided including estimated costs for the rearrangements of existing facilities. These costs include:
 - 1. equipment and materials provided or used;
 - 2. engineering, labor, and supervision; transportation; and
 - 3. rights of way and/or any required easements.
 - B. Cost of maintenance.
 - C. Depreciation on the estimated cost installed of any facilities provided, based on the anticipated useful service life of the facilities with an appropriate allowance for the estimated net salvage.
 - D. Administration, taxes, and uncollectible revenue on the basis of reasonable average cost for these items.
 - E. License preparation, processing, and related fees.
 - F. Tariff preparation, processing and related fees.
 - G. Any other identifiable costs related to the facilities provided; or
 - H. An amount for return and contingencies.
-

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SECTION 9 - SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS (Cont'd)

9.1 SPECIAL CONSTRUCTION (Cont'd)

9.1.3 Termination Liability

To the extent that there is no other requirement for use by the Company, a termination liability may apply for facilities specially constructed at the request of a customer.

- A. The period on which the termination liability is based is the estimated service life of the facilities provided.
- B. The amount of the maximum termination liability is equal to the estimated amounts (including return) for:
 - 1. Costs to install the facilities to be provided including estimated costs for the rearrangements of existing facilities. These costs include:
 - (a) equipment and materials provided or used;
 - (b) engineering, labor, and supervision;
 - (c) transportation; and
 - (d) rights of way and/or any required easements;
 - 2. license preparation, processing, and related fees;
 - 3. tariff preparation, processing and related fees;
 - 4. cost of removal and restoration, where appropriate; and
 - 5. any other identifiable costs related to the specially constructed or rearranged facilities.
- C. The termination liability method for calculating the unpaid balance of a term obligation is obtained by multiplying the sum of the amounts determined as set forth in Subsection B preceding by a factor related to the unexpired period of liability and the discount rate for return and contingencies. The amount determined in Subsection B preceding shall be adjusted to reflect the redetermined estimated net salvage, including any reuse of the facilities provided. This amount shall be adjusted to reflect applicable taxes.

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SECTION 9 - SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS (Cont'd)

9.2 NON-ROUTINE INSTALLATION AND/OR MAINTENANCE

At the customer's request, installation and/or maintenance may be performed outside the Company's regular business hours, or (in the Company's sole discretion and subject to any conditions it may impose) in hazardous locations. In such cases, charges based on the cost of labor, material, and other costs incurred by or charged to the Company will apply. If installation is started during regular business hours but, at the Customer's request, extends beyond regular business hours into time periods including, but not limited to, weekends, holidays, and/or night hours, additional charges may apply.

9.3 INDIVIDUAL CASE BASIS (ICB) ARRANGEMENTS

Rates for ICB arrangements will be developed on a case-by-case basis in response to a bona fide request from a customer or prospective customer for service which vary from tariffed arrangements. Rates quoted in response to such requests may be different for tariffed service than those specified for such service in the Rate Attachment. ICB rates will be offered to customers in writing and will be made available to similarly situated customers. A summary of each ICB contract pricing arrangement offered pursuant to this paragraph will be filed as an addendum to this Tariff within 30 days after the contract is signed by both the Company and the customer. The following information will be included in the summary:

- A. LATA and type of switch
- B. The V&H distance from the central office to the customer's premises
- C. Service description
- D. Rates and charges
- E. Quantity of circuits
- F. Length of the agreement.

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SECTION 10 - EXPLANATION OF TERMS

AGENCY

For 911 or E911 service, the government agency(s) designated as having responsibility for the control and staffing of the emergency report center.

ALTERNATE ROUTING ("AR")

Allows E911 calls to be routed to a designated alternate location if (1) all E911 exchange lines to the primary PSAP (see definition of PSAP below) are busy, or (2) the primary PSAP closes down for a period (night service).

ANALOG

A transmission method employing a continuous (rather than a pulsed or digital) electrical signal that varies in amplitude or frequency in response to changes of sound, light, position, etc., impressed on a transducer in the sending device.

APARTMENTS

A building or group of buildings used primarily to provide complete residential apartments but not lodging on a day-to-day basis.

ASCII

American Standard Code for Information Interchange. An eight-level code for data transfer adopted by the American Standards Association.

ASYNCHRONOUS

Transmission in which each information character is individually synchronized usually by the use of start-stop elements. The gap between each character is not of a fixed length.

AUTHORIZED USER

A person, corporation or other entity who is authorized by the Company's customer to utilize service provided by the Company to the customer. The customer is responsible for all charges incurred by an Authorized User

ATTENDANT

An operator of a PBX console or telephone switchboard.

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SECTION 10 - EXPLANATION OF TERMS (Cont'd)

AUTOMATIC LOCATION IDENTIFICATION ("ALI")

The name and address associated with the calling party's telephone number (identified by ANI as defined below) is forwarded to the PSAP for display. Additional telephones with the same number as the calling party's (secondary locations, off premises, etc.) will be identified with the address of the telephone number at the main location.

AUTOMATIC NUMBER IDENTIFICATION ("ANI")

A system whereby the calling party's telephone number is identified and sent forward with the call record for routing and billing purposes. E911 Service makes use of this system.

BIT

The smallest unit of information in the binary system of notation.

BUILDING

A structure enclosed within exterior walls or fire walls, built, erected and framed of component structural parts and designed for permanent occupancy.

CALL INITIATION

The point in time when the exchange network facility are initially allocated for the establishment of a specific call.

CALL TERMINATION

The point in time when the exchange network facility allocated to a specific call is released for reuse by the network.

CENTRAL OFFICE

An operating office of the Company where connections are made between telephone exchange lines.

CENTRAL OFFICE LINE

A line providing direct or indirect access from a telephone or switchboard to a central office. Central office lines subject to PBX rate treatment are referred to as central office trunks.

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SECTION 10 - EXPLANATION OF TERMS (Cont'd)

CHANNEL

A point-to-point bi-directional path for digital transmission. A channel may be furnished in such a manner as the Company may elect, whether by wire, fiber optics, radio or a combination thereof and whether or not by means of single physical facility or route. One 1.544 Mbps Service is equivalent to 24 channels.

CHANNEL CONVERSION

The termination of 1.544. Mbps Service at a customer's location with conversion of the digital signal to 24 analog voice grade circuits. Channel Conversion can be furnished by the customer.

CHANNEL SERVICE UNIT ("CSU")

The equipment located at the customer's premises which terminates each 1.544 Mbps Digital Loop and performs such functions as proper termination of facilities, regeneration of signals, recognition and correction of signal format errors and provides remote loop-back capability.

COLLEGE

An establishment for higher education authorized to confer degrees where lodging for the students is maintained on the premises.

COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS

Channels and other facilities which are capable of two-way communications between subscriber -provided terminal equipment or Telephone Company stations, even when not connected to exchange and message toll communications service.

COMPANY

(company name) , unless otherwise clearly indicated from the context.

COMMISSION

The New York State Public Service Commission.

CUSTOMER

The person, firm, corporation, or other entity which orders service pursuant to this Tariff and utilizes service provided under Tariff by the Company. A customer is responsible for the payment of charges and for compliance with all terms of the Company's Tariff.

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CUSTOMER PREMISES EQUIPMENT (CPE)

Equipment provided by the customer for use with the Company's services. CPE can include a station set, facsimile machine, key system, PBX, or other communication system.

DEFAULT ROUTING ("DR")

When an incoming E911 call cannot be selectively routed due to an ANI failure, garbled digits or other causes, such incoming calls are routed from the E911 Control Office to a default PSAP. Each incoming E911 facility group to the Control Office is assigned to a designated default PSAP.

DEMARCATIION POINT

The physical dividing point between the Company's network and the customer.

DIAL PULSE ("DP")

The pulse type employed by a rotary dial station set.

DIRECT INWARD DIAL ("DID")

A service attribute that routes incoming calls directly to stations, by-passing a central answer point.

DIRECT OUTWARD DIAL ("DOD")

A service attribute that allows individual station users to access and dial outside numbers directly.

DIGITAL

A method of storing, processing and transmitting information through the use of distinct electronic or optical pulses that represent the binary digits (bits) 0 and 1. Digital transmission/switching technologies employ a sequence of discrete, individually distinct pulses to represent information, as opposed to the continuously variable signal of analog technologies.

DUAL TONE MULTI-FREQUENCY ("DTMF")

The pulse type employed by tone dial station sets. (Touch tone)

EMERGENCY SERVICE NUMBER ("ESN")

A unique code, assigned by the Company, used to define specific combinations of police, fire and/or ambulance jurisdictions, or any other authorized agency, which are designated by the customer.

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E911 SERVICE AREA

The geographic area in which the government agency will respond to all E911 calls and dispatch appropriate emergency assistance.

E911 CUSTOMER

A governmental agency that is the customer of record and is responsible for all negotiations, operations and payment of bills in connection with the provision of E911 service.

ERROR

A discrepancy or unintentional deviation by the Company from what is correct or true. An "error", can also be an omission in records.

EXCHANGE

An area, consisting of one or more central office districts, within which a call between any two points is a local call.

EXCHANGE ACCESS LINE

A central office line furnished for direct or indirect access to the exchange system.

EXCHANGE SERVICE

The provision to the subscriber of access to the exchange system for the purpose of sending and receiving calls. This access is achieved through the provision of a central office line (exchange access line) between the central office and the subscriber's premises.

FINAL ACCOUNT

A customer whose service has been disconnected who has outstanding charges still owed to the Company.

FLAT RATE SERVICE

The type of exchange service provided at a monthly rate with an unlimited number of calls within a specified primary calling area.

GROUND START

Describes the signaling method between the PBX/key system interface and the Company's switch. It is the signal requesting service.

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HANDICAPPED PERSON

A person who is legally blind, visually handicapped or physically handicapped, under the following definitions from the Federal Register (Vol. 35 #126 dated June 30, 1970).

Legally Blind - a person whose visual acuity is 20/200 or less in the better eye with correcting glasses, or whose widest diameter of visual field subtends an angular distance no greater than 20 degrees.

Visually Handicapped - a person whose visual disability, with correction and regardless of optical measurement with respect to legal blindness, are certified as unable to read normal printed material.

Physically Handicapped - a person who is certified by competent authority as unable to read or use ordinary printed materials as a result of physical limitation, or a person whose disabling condition causes difficulty with hand and finger coordination and use of a coin telephone.

The term "Handicapped Person", when used in connection with a person having a speech or hearing impairment which requires that they communicate over telephone facilities by means other than voice is defined below:

Hearing - a person with binaural hearing impairment of 60% or higher on the basis of the procedure developed by the American Academy of Otolaryngology (A.A.O.) as set forth in "Guide for Conservation of Hearing in Noise" 38-43, A.A.O., 1973; "guides to the Evaluation of Permanent Impairment" 103-107, American Medical Association, 1971.

Speech - a person with 65% or higher of impairment on the basis of the procedure recommended by the American Medical Association's Committee on Rating of Mental and Physical Impairment to evaluate speech impairment as to three categories: audibility, intelligibility and functional efficiency, as set forth in "Guides to the Evaluation of Permanent Impairment" 109-III, American Medical Association, 1971.

HOSPITAL

An establishment for treatment of human patients by members of the medical profession where lodging for the patients is maintained on the premises.

HOTEL

An establishment offering lodging with or without meals to the general public on a day-to-day basis.

INCOMING SERVICE GROUP

Two or more central office lines arranged so that a call to the First line is completed to a succeeding line in the group when the first line is in use.

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INTERFACE

That point on the premises of the subscriber at which provision is made for connection of facilities provided by someone other than the Company to facilities provided by the Company.

INTEROFFICE MILEAGE

The segment of a line which extends between the central offices serving the originating and terminating points.

INTERRUPTION

The inability to complete calls, either incoming or outgoing or both, due to Company facilities malfunction or human errors.

JOINT USER

A person, firm, or corporation which uses the telephone service of a subscriber as provided in Section 1 of the Tariff.

KILOBIT

One thousand bits.

LATA

Local Access and Transport Area. The area within which the Company provides local and long distance ("intraLATA") service. For call to numbers outside this area ("interLATA") service is provided by long distance companies.

LINK

The physical facility from the network interface on an end-user's or carrier's premises to the point of interconnection on the main distribution frame of the Company's central office.

LEASED CHANNEL

A non-switched electrical path used for connection of equipment furnished by the subscriber to equipment furnished by the subscriber or the Company for a specific purpose.

LOCAL CALL

A call which, if placed by a customer over the facilities of the Company, is not rated as a toll call.

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LOCAL CALLING AREA

The area, consisting of one or more central office districts, within which a subscriber for exchange service may make telephone calls without a toll charge.

LOCAL SERVICE

Telephone exchange service within a local calling area.

LOOP START

Describes the signaling between the terminal equipment or PBX/key system interface and the Company's switch. It is the signal requesting service.

LOOPS

Segments of a line which extend from the serving central office to the originating and to the terminating point.

MEGABIT

One million bits.

MESSAGE RATE SERVICE

A type of exchange service provided at a monthly rate with an additional charge for local calling based on the usage of the local network. One completed call is equal to one message.

MOVE

The disconnection of existing equipment at one location and reconnection of the same equipment at a new location in the same building or in a different building on the same premises.

MULTI-FREQUENCY ("MF")

An inter-machine pulse-type used for signaling between telephone company switches, or between telephone company switches and PBX/key systems.

MULTILINE HUNT

A method of call signaling by which a call placed to one number is subsequently routed to one or more alternative numbers when the called number is busy.

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NETWORK CONTROL SIGNALING

The transmission of signals used in the telecommunications system which perform functions such as supervision (control, status and charging signals), address signaling (e.g. dialing), calling and called number identification, audible tone signals (call progress signals indicating re-order or busy conditions, alerting) to control the operation of switching machines in the telecommunications system.

NETWORK CONTROL SIGNALING UNIT

The terminal equipment furnished, installed and maintained by the Telephone Company for the provision of network control signaling.

NODE

The location to which digital channels are routed and where access is provided to such lines and associated equipment for testing.

PBX

A private branch exchange.

PORT

A connection to the switching network with one or more voice grade communications channels, each with a unique network address (telephone number) dedicated to the customer. A port connects a link to the public switched network.

PREMISES

The space occupied by a customer or authorized user in a building or buildings or contiguous property not separated by a public right of way.

PRIVATE BRANCH EXCHANGE SERVICE

Service providing facilities for connecting central office trunks and tie lines to PBX stations, and for interconnecting PBX station lines by means of a switchboard or dial apparatus.

PUBLIC ACCESS LINE SERVICE

Service providing facilities for a customer owned coin operated telephone ("COCOT").

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PUBLIC SAFETY ANSWERING POINT ("PSAP")

An answering location for E911 calls originating in a given area. A PSAP may be designated as primary or secondary, which refers to the order in which calls are directed for answering. Primary PSAPs respond first; secondary PSAPs receive calls on a transfer basis only and generally serve as a centralized answering location for a particular type of emergency call.

RATE CENTER

A geographic reference point with specific coordinates on a map used for determining mileage when calculating charges.

REFERRAL PERIOD

The time frame during which calls to a number which has been changed will be sent to a recording which will inform the caller of the new number.

RESALE OF SERVICE

The subscription to communications service and facilities by one entity and the reoffering of communications service to others (with or without `adding value') for profit.

SAME PREMISES

All space in the same building in which one subscriber has the right of occupancy, and all space in different buildings on contiguous property when occupied solely by the same subscriber. Foyers, hallways and other space for the common use of all occupants of a building are considered the premises of the operator of the building.

SELECTIVE ROUTING ("SR")

A feature that routes an E911 call from a Central Office to the designated primary PSAP based upon the identified number of the calling party.

SERVING CENTRAL OFFICE

The central office from which local service is furnished.

SHARING

An arrangement in which several users collectively use communications service and facilities provided by a carrier, with each user paying a pro-rata share of the communication related costs.

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STATION

Each telephone on a line and where no telephone associated with the line is provided on the same premises and in the same building, the first termination in station key equipment or a jack for use with a portable telephone.

SUSPENSION

Suspension of service for nonpayment is interruption of outgoing service only. Suspension of service at the subscriber's request is interruption of both incoming and outgoing service.

SYNCHRONOUS

Transmission in which there is a constant time interval between bits, characters or events.

T-1 SYSTEM

A type of digital carrier system transmitting voice or data at 1.544 Mbps. A T-1 carrier can handle up to 24 multiplexed 64 Kbps digital voice/data channels. A T-1 carrier system can use metallic cable, microwave radio or optical fiber as transmission media.

TELEPHONE CALL

A voice connection between two or more telephone stations through the public switched exchange system.

TELEPHONE GRADE LINES

Lines furnished for voice transmission or for certain signaling purposes.

TERMINATION OF SERVICE

Discontinuance of both incoming and outgoing service.

TIE LINE

A dedicated line connecting two switchboards or dial systems.

TOLL CALL

Any call extending beyond the local exchange of the originating caller which is rated on a toll schedule by the Company.

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TONE DIAL SIGNALING ("TD")

An electronic signal emitted by the circuitry of Touch-Tone-type push-button dials to represent a dialed digit.

TWO WAY

A service attribute that includes DOD for outbound calls and can also be used to carry inbound calls to a central point for processing.

USER

A customer, joint user, or any other person authorized by a customer to use service provided under this Tariff.