Triton Networks LLC New York PSC No. 1 Effective Date: March 19, 2018 Local Exchange Service Leaf: 1 Revision: 0 Superseding Revision:

Triton Networks LLC

REGULATIONS AND SCHEDULE OF INTRASTATE CHARGES $\label{eq:communications} \text{APPLYING TO LOCAL AND INTEREXCHANGE COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES WITHIN }$ THE STATE OF NEW YORK

Applicable in New York State

Received: 12/20/2017

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EXPLANATION OF SYMBOLS

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

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TARIFF FORMAT

- Α. Page Numbering - Page numbers appear in the upper right corner of the Page and are numbered sequentially. However, new Pages are occasionally added to the tariff. When a new Page is added between Pages already in effect, a number is added. For example, a Page added between Page 14 and 15 would be 14.1
- В. Page Revision Numbers - Revision numbers also appear in the upper right corner of each Page. These numbers are used to determine the most current Page version on file with the NYDPS. For example, the 4th Revised Page 14 cancels the 3rd Revised Page 14. Because of various suspension periods, deferrals, etc. the NYDPS follows in its tariff approval process, the most current Page number on file with the Department is not always the tariff Page 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.

2.1.1.A.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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APPLICATION OF TARIFF

This tariff sets forth the service offerings, rates, terms and conditions applicable to the furnishing of intrastate end-user local exchange communications services by Triton Networks LLC, hereinafter referred to as the Company, to Customers within the state of New York. Services are furnished subject to the availability of facilities and subject to the terms and conditions set forth herein.

This tariff is on file with the New York Department of Public Service. In addition, this tariff is available for review at the main office of Triton Networks LLC at 12160 Abrams Road, Suite 200, Dallas, TX 75243.

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 1 - DEFINITIONS

Advance Payment – Payment of all or part of a charge required before the start of service.

Authorization Code - A numerical code, one or more of which may be assigned to a Customer, to enable Carrier to identify the origin of service of the Customer so it may rate and bill the call. All authorization codes shall be the sole property of Carrier and no Customer shall have any property or other right or interest in the use of any particular authorization code. Automatic numbering identification (ANI) may be used as or in connection with the authorization code.

Authorized User - A person, corporation or other entity that 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

Automatic Numbering Identification (ANI) - A type of signaling provided by a local exchange telephone company which automatically identifies the local exchange line from which a call originates.

Common Carrier - An authorized company or entity providing telecommunications services to the public

Company – Triton Networks LLC, the issuer of this tariff.

Customer - The person, firm or corporation that orders service and is responsible for the payment of charges and compliance with the terms and conditions of this tariff.

Customer Premises - A location designated by the Customer for the purposes of connecting to the Company services.

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SECTION 1 – DEFINITIONS (CONT'D.)

Customer Terminal Equipment - Terminal equipment provided by the Customer.

Department - New York Department of Public Service.

Deposit - Refers to a cash or equivalent of cash security held as a guarantee for payment of the charges.

End Office - The LEC switching system office or serving wire center where Customer station loops are terminated for purposes of interconnection to each other and/or to trunks.

Equal Access - A form of dialed access provided by local exchange companies whereby interexchange calls dialed by the Customer are automatically routed to the Company's network. Presubscribed Customers may also route interexchange calls to the Company's network by dialing an access code supplied by the Company.

Exchange Telephone Company or Telephone Company - Denotes any individual, partnership, association, joint-stock company, trust, or corporation authorized by the appropriate regulatory bodies to engage in providing public switched communication service throughout an exchange area, and between exchange areas within the LATA.

Individual Case Basis (**ICB**) – A service arrangement in which the regulations, rates and charges are developed based on the specific circumstances of the Customer's situation.

IXC or Interexchange Carrier- A long distance telecommunications services provider.

Interruption - The inability to complete calls due to equipment malfunctions or human errors. Interruption shall not include, and no allowance shall be given for service difficulties such as slow dial tone, circuits busy or other network and/or switching capability shortages. Nor shall Interruption include the failure of any service or facilities provided by a common carrier or other entity other than the Carrier. Any Interruption allowance provided within this Tariff by Carrier shall not apply where service is interrupted by the negligence or willful act of the Customer, or where the Carrier, pursuant to the terms of this Tariff, terminates service because of non-payment of bills, unlawful or improper use of the Carrier's facilities or service, or any other reason covered by this Tariff or by applicable law.

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SECTION 1 – DEFINITIONS (CONT'D.)

Joint User - A person, firm or corporation designated by the Customer as a user of local exchange service furnished to the Customer by the Company, and to whom a portion of the charges for such facilities are billed under a joint use arrangement.

LATA - A Local Access and Transport Area established pursuant to the Modification of Final Judgment entered by the United States District Court for the District of Columbia in Civil Action No. 82-0192; or any other geographic area designated as a LATA in the National Exchange Carrier Association, Inc. Tariff F.C.C. No. 4, or its successor tariff(s).

LEC - Local Exchange Company refers to the dominant, monopoly local telephone company in the area also served by the Company.

Local Calling - A completed call or telephonic communication between a calling Station and any other Station within the local service area of the Calling Station.

Monthly Recurring Charges - The monthly charges to the Customer for services, facilities and equipment, which continue for the agreed upon duration of the service.

MOU - Minutes of Use.

NECA - National Exchange Carriers Association.

Non-Recurring Charge ("NRC") - The initial charge, usually assessed on a one-time basis, to initiate and establish service.

PIN - Personal Identification Number. See Authorization Code.

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SECTION 1 – DEFINITIONS (CONT'D.)

Point of Presence ("POP") - Point of Presence

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.

Recurring Charges - Monthly charges to the Customer for services, and equipment, which continues for the agreed upon duration of the service.

Service - Any means of service offered herein or any combination thereof.

Service Commencement Date - The first day following the date on which the Company notifies the Customer that the requested service or facility is available for use, unless extended by the Customer's refusal to accept service which does not conform to standards set forth in the Service order or this tariff, in which case the Service Commencement Date is the date of the Customer's acceptance of service. The parties may mutually agree on a substitute Service Commencement Date.

Service Order - The written or verbal request for Company services by the Customer and the Company in the format devised by the Company, A Service Order initiates the respective obligations of the parties as set forth therein and pursuant to this tariff.

Services - The Company's telecommunications services offered on the Company's network.

Shared Inbound Calls - Refers to calls that are terminated via the Customer's Company-provided local exchange line.

Shared Outbound Calls - Refers to calls in Feature Group (FGD) exchanges whereby the Customer's local telephone lines are presubscribed by the Company to the Company's outbound service such that "1 + 10-digit number" calls are automatically routed to the Company's or an IXC's network. Calls to stations within the Customer's LATA may be placed by dialing "10XXX" or "101XXXX" with 1 + 10-digit number."

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SECTION 1 – DEFINITIONS (CONT'D.)

Station - The network control signaling unit and any other equipment provided at the Customer's premises that enables the Customer to establish communications connections and to effect communications through such connections.

Subscriber - The person, firm, partnership, corporation, or other entity that orders telecommunications service from the Company. Service may be ordered by, or on behalf of, those who own, lease or otherwise manage the pay telephone, PBX, or other switch vehicle from which an End User places a call utilizing the services of the Company.

Switched Access Origination/Termination - Where access between the Customer and the interexchange carrier is provided on local exchange company Feature Group circuits and the connection to the Customer is a LEC-provided business or residential access line. The cost of switched Feature Group access is billed to the interexchange carrier.

Terminal Equipment - Any telecommunications equipment other than the transmission or receiving equipment installed at a Company location.

Usage Charges - Charges for minutes or messages traversing over local exchange facilities.

User or End User - A Customer, Joint User, or any other person authorized by a Customer to use service provided under this tariff.

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SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS

2.1 Undertaking of the Company

2.1.1 Scope

The Company undertakes to furnish communications service pursuant to the terms of this tariff in connection with one-way and/or two-way information transmission originating from points within the State of New York.

The Company is responsible under this tariff only for the services and facilities provided hereunder, and it assumes no responsibility for any service provided by any other entity that purchases access to the Company network in order to originate or terminate its own services, or to communicate with its own Customers.

The Company arranges for installation, operation, and maintenance of the communications services provided in this tariff for Customers in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth under this tariff. The Company may act as the Customer's agent for ordering access connection facilities provided by other carriers or entities, when authorized by the Customer, to allow connection of a Customer's location to the Company network. The Customer shall be responsible for all charges due for such service arrangement.

2.1.2 Shortage of Equipment or Facilities

- **A.** The Company reserves the right to limit or to allocate the use of existing facilities, or of additional facilities offered by the Company, when necessary because of lack of facilities, or due to some other cause beyond the Company's control.
- **B.** The furnishing of service under this tariff is subject to the availability on a continuing basis of all the necessary facilities and is limited to the capacity of the Company's facilities as well as facilities the Company may obtain from other carriers to furnish service from time to time as required at the sole discretion of the Company.

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

2.1 Undertaking of the Company (Cont'd.)

2.1.3 Terms and Conditions

- A. Service is provided on the basis of a minimum period of at least thirty days (30), 24-hours per day. For the purpose of computing charges in this tariff, a month is considered to have 30 days. When a service is discontinued prior to the expiration of the minimum period, charges are applicable, whether the service is used or not.
- **B.** Except as otherwise stated in the tariff, Customers may be required to enter into written service orders which shall contain or reference a specific description of the service ordered, the rates to be charged, the duration of the services, and the terms and conditions in this tariff. Customers will also be required to execute any other documents as may be reasonably requested by the Company to provide service.
- C. At the expiration of the initial term specified in each Service Order, or in any extension thereof, service shall continue on a month-to-month basis, unless otherwise specified by the written Service Order, at the then current rates unless terminated by either party upon notice. Any termination shall not relieve the Customer of its obligation to pay any charges incurred under the service order and this tariff prior to termination. The rights and obligations which by their nature extend beyond the termination of the term of the service order shall survive such termination.
- **D.** Service may be terminated by Company upon written notice to the Customer if:
 - 1. the Customer is using the service in violation of this tariff;
 - 2. the Customer is using the service in violation of the law, or
 - 3. the Customer is in violation of written Service Order terms.
- **E.** This tariff shall be interpreted and governed by the laws of the State of New York without regard for its choice of laws provision.

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

2.1 Undertaking of the Company (Cont'd.)

2.1.3 Terms and Conditions (Cont'd.)

- **F.** Any other telephone company may not interfere with the right of any person or entity to obtain service directly from the Company. No person or entity shall be required to make any payment, incur any penalty, monetary or otherwise, or purchase any services in order to have the right to obtain service directly from the Company.
- G. To the extent that either the Company or any other telephone company exercises control over available cable pairs, conduit, duct space, raceways, or other facilities needed by the other to reach a person or entity, the party exercising such control shall make them available to the other on terms equivalent to those under which the Company makes similar facilities under its control available to its Customers. At the reasonable request of either party, the Company and the other telephone company shall join the attempt to obtain from the owner of the property access for the other party to serve a person or entity.

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

2.1 Undertaking of the Company (Cont'd.)

2.1.4 Limitations on Liability

- **A.** Except as otherwise stated in this section, the liability of the Company for damages arising out of either: (1) the furnishing of its services, 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 as set forth in Section 2.9.
- **B.** Except for the extension of allowances to the Customer for interruptions in service as set forth in Section 2.9, 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, failure to provide any service 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.

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

2.1 Undertaking of the Company (Cont'd.)

2.1.4 Limitations on Liability (Cont'd.)

- **D.** The Company shall be indemnified and saved harmless by the Customer from and against all loss, liability, damage and expense, including reasonable counsel fees, due to:
 - 1. Any act or omission of: (a) the Customer, (b) any other entity furnishing service, equipment or facilities for use in conjunction with services or facilities provided by the Company; or (c) common carriers or warehousemen, except as contracted by the Company;
 - 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, or other catastrophes; 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; and any law, order, regulation or other action of any governing authority or agency thereof;
 - 3. Any unlawful or unauthorized use of the Company's facilities and services;
 - 4. Libel, slander, invasion of privacy or infringement of patents, trade secrets, or copyrights arising from or in connection with the material transmitted by means of Company-provided facilities or services; or by means of the combination of Company-provided facilities or services;
 - 5. Breach in the privacy or security of communications transmitted over the Company's facilities;

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

2.1 Undertaking of the Company (Cont'd.)

2.1.4 Limitations on Liability (Cont'd.)

D. (Cont'd.)

- 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 liability is limited as set forth in Section 2.1.4.A.
- 7. Defacement of or damage to Customer premises resulting from the furnishing of services or equipment on such premises or the installation or removal thereof;
- 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 Company facilities;
- 9. Any non-completion of calls due to network busy conditions;
- 10. Any calls not actually attempted to be completed during any period that service is unavailable;
- 11. And any other claim resulting from any act or omission of the Customer or patron(s) of the Customer relating to the use of Company services or facilities.

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

2.1 Undertaking of the Company (Cont'd.)

2.1.4 Limitations on Liability (Cont'd.)

- **E.** The Company does not guarantee nor make any warranty with respect to installations provided by it for use in an explosive atmosphere.
- **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.** Failure by the Company to assert its rights pursuant to one provision of this rate sheet does not preclude the Company from asserting its rights under other provisions.
- H. Directory Errors In the absence of gross negligence or willful misconduct, no liability for damages arising from errors or mistakes in or omissions of directory listings, or errors or mistakes in or omissions of listing 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 listing obtainable from the directory assistance operator shall be at the monthly tariff rate for each listing, or in the case of a free or no-charge directory listing, credit shall equal two times the monthly tariff rate for an additional listing, for the life of the directory or the charge period during which the error, mistake or omission occurs.

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

2.1 Undertaking of the Company (Cont'd.)

2.1.4 Limitations on Liability (Cont'd.)

I. With respect to Emergency Number 911 Service:

- 1. This 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.
- 2. Neither is the Company 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 employees or agents of any one of them.

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

2.1 Undertaking of the Company (Cont'd.)

2.1.4 Limitations on Liability (Cont'd.)

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

3. When a Customer with a nonpublished telephone number, as defined herein, places a call to the emergency 911 service, the Company will release the name and address of the calling party, where such information can be determined, to the appropriate local governmental authority responsible for emergency 911 service upon request of such governmental authority. By subscribing to service under this rate sheet, the Customer acknowledges and agrees with the release of information as described above.

2.1.5 Notification of Service-Affecting Activities

The Company will provide the Customer reasonable notification of service-affecting activities that may occur in normal operation of its business. Such activities may include, but are not limited to, equipment or facilities additions, removals or rearrangements and routine preventative maintenance. Generally, such activities are not specific to an individual Customer but affect many Customers' services. No specific advance notification period is applicable to all service activities. The Company will work cooperatively with the Customer to determine the reasonable notification requirements. With some emergency or unplanned service-affecting conditions, such as an outage resulting from cable damage, notification to the Customer may not be possible.

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

2.1 Undertaking of the Company (Cont'd.)

2.1.6 Provision of Equipment and Facilities

- A. The Company shall use reasonable efforts to make available services to a Customer on or before a particular date, subject to the provisions of and compliance by the Customer with, the regulations contained in this tariff. The Company does not guarantee availability by any such date and shall not be liable for any delays in commencing service to any Customer.
- **B.** The Company shall use reasonable efforts to maintain only the facilities and equipment that it furnishes to the Customer. The Customer may not, nor may the Customer permit others to, rearrange, disconnect, remove, attempt to repair, or otherwise interfere with any of the facilities or equipment installed by the Company, except upon the written consent of the Company.
- C. The Company may substitute, change or rearrange any equipment or facility at any time and from time to time, but shall not thereby alter the technical parameters of the service provided the Customer.
- **D.** Equipment the Company provides or installs at the Customer Premises for use in connection with the services the Company offers shall not be used for any purpose other than that for which it was provided.
- E. The Customer shall be responsible for the payment of service charges as set forth herein for visits by the Company's agents or employees to the Premises of the Customer when the service difficulty or trouble report results from the use of equipment or facilities provided by any party other than the Company, including but not limited to the Customer.

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

2.1 Undertaking of the Company (Cont'd.)

2.1.6 Provision of Equipment and Facilities (Cont'd.)

- F. The Company shall not be responsible for the installation, operation, or maintenance of any Customer-provided communications equipment. Where such equipment is connected to the facilities furnished pursuant to this tariff, the responsibility of the Company shall be limited to the furnishing of facilities offered under this tariff and to the maintenance and operation of such facilities. Subject to this responsibility, the Company shall not be responsible for:
 - 1. the transmission of signals by Customer-provided equipment or for the quality of, or defects in, such transmission; or
 - 2. the reception of signals by Customer-provided equipment.

2.1.7 Non-routine Installation

At the Customer's request, installation and/or maintenance may be performed outside the Company's regular business hours or in hazardous locations. In such cases, charges based on cost of the actual labor, material, or 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.

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

2.1 Undertaking of the Company (Cont'd.)

2.1.8 Special Construction

Subject to the agreement of the Company and to all of the regulations contained in this tariff, special construction of facilities may be undertaken on a reasonable efforts basis at the request of the Customer. Special construction is that construction undertaken:

- **A.** where facilities are not presently available, and there is no other requirement for the facilities so constructed;
- **B.** of a type other than that which the Company would normally utilize in the furnishing of its services;
- **C.** over a route other than that which the Company would normally utilize in the furnishing of its services;
- **D.** in a quantity greater than that which the Company would normally construct;
- **E.** on an expedited basis;
- **F.** on a temporary basis until permanent facilities are available;
- **G.** involving abnormal costs; or
- **H.** in advance of its normal construction.

2.1.9 Ownership of Facilities

Title to all facilities provided in accordance with this rate sheet remains in the Company, its partners, agents, contractors or suppliers.

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

2.2 Prohibited Uses

- **2.2.1** The services the Company offers shall not be used for any unlawful purpose or for any use as to which the Customer has not obtained all required governmental approvals, authorizations, licenses, consents and permits.
- 2.2.2 The Company may require applicants for service who intend to use the Company's offerings for resale and/or for shared use to file a letter with the Company confirming that their use of the Company's offerings complies with relevant laws and Department regulations, policies, orders, and decisions.
- 2.2.3 The Company may block any signals being transmitted over its Network by Customers that cause interference to the Company or other users. Customer shall be relieved of all obligations to make payments for charges relating to any blocked Service and shall indemnify the Company for any claim, judgment or liability resulting from such blockage.
- 2.2.4 A customer, joint user, or authorized user may not assign, or transfer in any manner, the service or any rights associated with the service without the written consent of the Company. The Company will permit a Customer to transfer its existing service to another entity if the existing Customer has paid all charges owed to the Company for regulated communications services. Such a transfer will be treated as a disconnection of existing service and installation of new service, and non-recurring installation charges as stated in this tariff will apply.

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

2.3 **Obligations of the Customer**

2.3.1 General

The Customer is responsible for making proper application for service; placing any necessary order, complying with tariff regulations; payment of charges for services provided. Specific Customer responsibilities include, but are not limited to the following:

- A. the payment of all applicable charges pursuant to this tariff and written Service Orders:
- damage to or loss of the Company's facilities or equipment caused by the acts or В. omissions of the Customer; or the noncompliance by the Customer, with these regulations; or by fire or theft or other casualty on the Customer Premises, unless caused by the negligence or willful misconduct of the employees or agents of the Company;
- C. providing at no charge, as specified from time to time by the Company, any needed personnel, equipment space and power to operate Company facilities and equipment installed on the premises of the Customer, and the level of heating and air conditioning necessary to maintain the proper operating environment on such premises;
- D. obtaining, maintaining, and otherwise having full responsibility for all rights-of-way and conduits necessary for installation of fiber optic cable and associated equipment used to provide Communication Services to the Customer from the cable building entrance or property line to the location of the equipment space described in 2.3.1.C. Any and all costs associated with obtaining and maintaining the rights-of-way described herein, including the costs of altering the structure to permit installation of the Company-provided facilities, shall be borne entirely by, or may be charged by the Company to, the Customer. The Company may require the Customer to demonstrate its compliance with this section prior to accepting an order for service;

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

2.3 Obligations of the Customer (Cont'd.)

2.3.1 General (Cont'd.)

- E. providing a safe place to work and complying with all laws and regulations regarding the working conditions on the premises at which Company employees and agents shall be installing or maintaining the Company's facilities and equipment. The Customer may be required to install and maintain Company facilities and equipment within a hazardous area if, in the Company's opinion, injury or damage to the Company's employees or property might result from installation or maintenance by the Company. The Customer shall be responsible for identifying, monitoring, removing and disposing of any hazardous material (e.g. asbestos) prior to any construction or installation work;
- F. complying with all laws and regulations applicable to, and obtaining all consents, approvals, licenses and permits as may be required with respect to, the location of Company facilities and equipment in any Customer premises or the rights-of-way for which Customer is responsible under Section 2.3.1.D; and granting or obtaining permission for Company agents or employees to enter the premises of the Customer at any time for the purpose of installing, inspecting, maintaining, repairing, or upon termination of service as stated herein, removing the facilities or equipment of the Company;
- **G.** not creating, or allowing to be placed, any liens or other encumbrances on the Company's equipment or facilities; and
- **H.** making Company facilities and equipment available periodically for maintenance purposes at a time agreeable to both the Company and the Customer. No allowance will be made for the period during which service is interrupted for such purposes.

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

2.3 Obligations of the Customer (Cont'd.)

2.3.2 Liability of the Customer

- A. The Customer will be liable for damages to the facilities of the Company and for all incidental and consequential damages caused by the negligent or intentional acts or omissions of the Customer, its officers, employees, agents, invites, or contractors where such acts or omissions are not the direct result of the Company's negligence or intentional misconduct.
- **B.** To the extent caused by any negligent or intentional act of the Customer as described in A., preceding, the Customer shall indemnify, defend and hold harmless the Company from and against all claims, actions, damages, liabilities, costs and expenses, including reasonable attorneys' fees, for (1) any loss, destruction or damage to property of any third party, and (2) any liability incurred by the Company to any third party pursuant to this or any other rate sheet of the Company, or otherwise, for any interruption of, interference to, or other defect in any service provided by the Company to such third party.
- C. The Customer shall not assert any claim against any other Customer or user of the Company's services for damages resulting in whole or in part from or arising in connection with the furnishing of service under this rate sheet including but not limited to mistakes, omissions, interruptions, delays, errors or other defects or misrepresentations, whether or not such other Customer or user contributed in any way to the occurrence of the damages, unless such damages were caused solely by the negligent or intentional act or omission of the other Customer or user and not by any act or omission of the Company. Nothing in this rate sheet is intended either to limit or to expand Customer's right to assert any claims against third parties for damages of any nature other than those described in the preceding sentence.

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

2.4 Customer Equipment and Channels

2.4.1 General

Local Exchange Service includes services and facilities provided for the origination or termination of any telecommunication regardless of the technology used in transmission. This includes, but is not limited to, local exchange, long distance, and data communications services that may use TDM, Internet Protocol ("IP") or other technology. Company services are designed primarily for the transmission of voice-grade telephonic signals, except as otherwise stated in this tariff. A User may transmit any form of signal that is compatible with Company equipment, but the Company does not guarantee that its services will be suitable for purposes other than voice-grade telephonic communication except as specifically stated in this tariff.

2.4.2 Station Equipment

- A. Terminal equipment on the User's Premises and the electric power consumed by such equipment shall be provided by and maintained at the expense of the User. The User is responsible for the provision of wiring or cable to connect its terminal equipment to the Company Point of Connection.
- B. The Customer is responsible for ensuring that Customer-provided equipment connected to Company equipment and facilities is compatible with such equipment and facilities. The magnitude and character of the voltages and currents impressed on Company-provided equipment and wiring by the connection, operation, or maintenance of such equipment and wiring shall be such as not to cause damage to the Company-provided equipment and wiring or injury to the Company's employees or to other persons. Any additional protective equipment required to prevent such damage or injury shall be provided by the Company at the Customer's expense, subject to prior Customer approval of the equipment expense.

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

2.4 Customer Equipment and Channels (Cont'd.)

2.4.3 Interconnection of Facilities

- **A.** Any special interface equipment necessary to achieve compatibility between the facilities and equipment of the Company used for furnishing Communication Services and the channels, facilities, or equipment of others shall be provided at the Customer's expense.
- **B.** Communication Services may be connected to the services or facilities of other communications carriers only when authorized by, and in accordance with, the terms and conditions of the tariffs of the other communications carriers that are applicable to such connections.
- C. Facilities furnished under this tariff may be connected to Customer-provided terminal equipment in accordance with the provisions of this tariff. All such terminal equipment shall be registered by the Federal Communications Commission pursuant to Part 68 of Title 47, Code of Federal Regulations; and all User-provided wiring shall be installed and maintained in compliance with those regulations.

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

2.4 Customer Equipment and Channels (Cont'd.)

2.4.4 Inspections

- A. Upon suitable notification to the Customer, and at a reasonable time, the Company may make such tests and inspections as may be necessary to determine that the Customer is complying with the requirements set forth in Section 2.4.2.A. for the installation, operation, and maintenance of Customer-provided facilities, equipment, and wiring in the connection of Customer-provided facilities and equipment to Company-owned facilities and equipment.
- **B.** If the protective requirements for Customer-provided equipment are not being complied with, the Company may take such action as it deems necessary to protect its facilities, equipment, and personnel. The Company will notify the Customer promptly if there is any need for further corrective action. Within ten days of receiving this notice, the Customer must take this corrective action and notify the Company of the action taken. If the Customer fails to do this, the Company may take whatever additional action is deemed necessary, including the suspension of service, to protect its facilities, equipment and personnel from harm.

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

2.5 Payment Arrangements

2.5.1 Payment for Service

The Customer is responsible for the payment of all charges for facilities and services furnished by the Company to the Customer and to all Authorized Users by the Customer, regardless of whether those services are used by the Customer itself or are resold to or shared with other persons.

The Customer is responsible for payment of any sales, use, gross receipts, excise, access or other local, state, federal and 911 taxes, charges or surcharges (however designated) (excluding taxes on Company net income) imposed on or based upon the provision, sale or use of network services.

Customers will only be charged once, on either an interstate or intrastate basis, for any nonrecurring charges.

2.5.2 Billing and Collection of Charges

The Customer is responsible for payment of all charges incurred by the Customer or other Authorized Users for services and facilities furnished to the Customer by the Company.

- **A.** Nonrecurring charges are due and payable within fifteen (15) days after the invoice date, unless otherwise agreed to in advance.
- **B.** The Company shall present invoices for recurring charges monthly to the Customer, in advance of the month in which service is provided, and Recurring Charges shall be due and payable within fifteen (15) days after the invoice date unless otherwise agreed to in advance. When billing is based on customer usage, charges will be billed monthly for the preceding billing periods.

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

2.5 **Payment Arrangements (Cont'd.)**

2.5.2 Billing and Collection of Charges (Cont'd.)

- C. When service does not begin on the first day of the month, or end on the last day of the month, the charge for the fraction of the month in which service was furnished will be calculated on a pro rata basis. For this purpose, every month is considered to have thirty (30) days.
- D. Billing of the Customer by the Company will begin on the Service Commencement Date, which is the first day following the date on which the Company notifies the Customer that the service or facility is available for use, except that the Service Commencement Date may be postponed by mutual agreement of the parties, or if the service or facility does not conform to standards set forth in this tariff or the Service Order. Billing accrues through and includes the day that the service, circuit, arrangement or component is discontinued.
- E. If any portion of the payment is not received by the Company, or if any portion of the payment is received by the Company in funds that are not immediately available, by the due date on the bill, then a late payment penalty shall be due the Company. The late payment penalty shall be that portion of the payment not received by the date due minus any charges billed as local taxes multiplied by 1.5% or the highest allowable by law. 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).
- F. Customers will be assessed a charge, as set forth in the Current Rates section of this Tariff, for each check submitted by the Customer to the Company that a financial institution refuses to honor.
- G. If service is disconnected by the Company in accordance with Section 2.5.7 following and later restored, restoration of service will be subject to all applicable installation charges. Service shall, at the Company's discretion, be restored when all past due amounts are paid or the event giving rise to the discontinuance (if other than nonpayment) is corrected.

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

2.5 Payment Arrangements (Cont'd.)

2.5.3 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 rate.

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 overpayment was originally recorded to the Customer account by the Company.

2.5.4 Disputed Bills

- A. In the event that a billing dispute occurs concerning any charges billed to the Customer by the Company, the Company may require the Customer to pay the undisputed portion of the bill to avoid discontinuance of service for non-payment. The Customer must submit a documented claim for the disputed amount. The Customer will submit all documentation as may reasonably be required to support the claim. All claims must be submitted to the Company within 30 days of receipt of billing for those services. If the Customer does not submit a claim as stated above, the Customer waives all rights to filing a claim thereafter.
- **B.** Unless disputed the invoice shall be deemed to be correct and payable in full by the Customer. If the Customer is unable to resolve any dispute with the Company, then the Customer may file a complaint with the New York Department of Public Service, Three Empire State Plaza, Albany, New York 12223.
- **C.** If the dispute is resolved in favor of the Customer and the Customer has withheld the disputed amount, no interest credits or penalties will apply.
- D. If the dispute is resolved in favor of the Company and the Customer has withheld the disputed amount, payment is due within 5 days of notice of resolution or late fees and penalties will apply.

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

2.5 Payment Arrangements (Cont'd.)

2.5.5 Advance Payments

- **A.** Advance payments are not required of residential Customers.
- **B.** For commercial Customers, the Company may require a Customer to make an advance payment before services and facilities are furnished. The advance payment will not exceed an amount equal to the non-recurring charge(s) and one month's charges for the service or facility. In addition, where special construction is involved, the advance payment may also include an amount equal to the estimated non-recurring charges for the special construction and recurring charges (if any) for a period to be set between the Company and the Customer. The advance payment will be credited to the Customer's initial bill. An advance payment may be required in addition to a deposit.

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

2.5 Payment Arrangements (Cont'd.)

2.5.6 Deposits

A. Commercial Customers

- 1. The Company may, in order to safeguard its interests, require a Customer which has a proven history of late payments to the Company or does not have established credit or has a bad credit rating to make a deposit prior to or at any time after the provision of service to the Customer to be held by the Company as a guarantee of the payment of rates and charges. No such deposit will be required of a Customer which has established satisfactory credit and has no history of late payments to the Company.
- 2. The amount of the deposit which may be required of a Customer for the purpose of establishing credit shall not exceed two times the average monthly bill for residential Customers whose bills are payable in advance. The amount of deposit may be adjusted at the request of the Customer at any time when the character, purpose, or degree of the Customer's use of the service has materially changed, or when it is indicated that it will change.
- 3. The making of a deposit shall not relieve any Customer of the obligation to pay current bills when due. A deposit shall only be applied to the indebtedness of the Customer for jurisdictional telecommunications services of the provider.

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

2.5 Payment Arrangements (Cont'd.)

2.5.6 Deposits (Cont'd.)

A. Commercial Customers (Cont'd.)

- 4. The Company will pay interest on deposits, to accrue from the date the deposit is made until it has been refunded, or until a reasonable effort has been made to effect refund. The Company will pay interest at the rate prescribed by the Department.
- 5. The Company shall keep a record of each cash deposit until the deposit is returned. The record will show the name of each Customer making a deposit; the premises occupied by the Customer when making the deposit and each successive premises occupied while the deposit is retained by the Company; the amount and date of making the deposit; and a record of each transaction, such as the payment of interest, interest credited, etc., concerning the deposit. Concurrently with receiving a deposit, the Company will provide the Customer a receipt showing the deposit date, the name and billing address of the Customer and the deposit amount.
- 6. Upon discontinuance of service, or when a Customer has established credit by other means, the Company will promptly refund any deposit, plus accrued simple interest, or the balance, if any, in excess of the unpaid bills for the services furnished by the Company. A transfer of service from one location to another within the Company serving area shall not be deemed a discontinuance with the Company if the character of the service remains unchanged.
- 7. Deposits will be refunded after twelve months of timely payment, with interest as specified above.

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

2.6 Discontinuance of Service

2.6.1 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 during the hours between 8:00 AM and 4:00 PM, Monday through Thursday and between the hours of 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 2nd.

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

2.6 Discontinuance of Service (Cont'd.)

2.6.2 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 services that 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 Department of Public Service 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 backbilled amounts.

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

2.6 Discontinuance of Service (Cont'd.)

2.6.3 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 Department of Public Service, 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 - RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT'D.)

2.6 Discontinuance of Service (Cont'd.)

2.6.4 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.

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

2.6 Discontinuance of Service (Cont'd.)

2.6.4 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 - RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT'D.)

2.6 Discontinuance of Service (Cont'd.)

2.6.4 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:
 - No charge shall apply for the period during which service had been terminated, and
 - 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.

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

2.6 Discontinuance of Service (Cont'd.)

2.6.5 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 - RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT'D.)

2.7 Cancellation of Application for Service

- **2.7.1** Applications for service cannot be canceled without the Company's agreement. Where the Company permits a Customer to cancel an application for service prior to the start of service or prior to any special construction, no charges will be imposed except for those specified below.
- 2.7.2 Where, prior to cancellation by the Customer, the Company incurs any expenses in installing the service or in preparing to install the service that it otherwise would not have incurred, a charge equal to the costs incurred by the Company, less net salvage, shall apply, but in no case shall this charge exceed the sum of the charge for the minimum period of services ordered, including installation charges, and all charges others levy against the Company that would have been chargeable to the Customer had service commenced (all discounted to present value at six percent).
- 2.7.3 Where the Company incurs any expense in connection with special construction, or where special arrangements of facilities or equipment have begun, before the Company receives a cancellation notice, a charge equal to the costs incurred by the Company, less net salvage, applies. In such cases, the charge will be based on such elements as the cost of the equipment, facilities, and material, the cost of installation, engineering, labor, and supervision, general and administrative expense, other disbursements, depreciation, maintenance, taxes, provision for return on investment, and any other costs associated with the special construction or arrangements.
- **2.7.4** The special charges described in 2.7.3 will be calculated and applied on a case-by-case basis.

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

2.8 Changes in Service Requested

If the Customer makes or requests material changes in circuit engineering, equipment specifications, service parameters, premises locations, or otherwise materially modifies any provision of the application for service, the Customer's installation fee shall be adjusted accordingly.

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

2.9 Allowances for Interruptions in Service

Interruptions in service that are not due to the negligence of, or noncompliance 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 in 2.9.1 for the part of the service that the interruption affects.

2.9.1 General

- A. A credit allowance will be given when service is interrupted, except as specified below. A service is interrupted when it becomes inoperative to the Customer, e.g., the Customer is unable to transmit or receive, because of a failure of a component furnished by the Company under this rate sheet.
- **B.** An interruption period begins when the Customer reports a service, facility or circuit to be inoperative and, if necessary, releases it for testing and repair. An interruption period ends when the service, facility or circuit is operative.
- C. If the Customer reports a service, facility or circuit to be interrupted but declines to release it for testing and repair, or refuses access to its premises for test and repair by the Company, the service, facility or circuit is considered to be impaired but not interrupted. No credit allowances will be made for a service, facility or circuit considered by the Company to be impaired.
- **D.** The Customer shall be responsible for the payment of service charges as set forth herein for visits by the Company's agents or employees to the premises of the Customer when the service difficulty or trouble report results from the use of equipment or facilities provided by any party other than the Company, including but not limited to the Customer.

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

2.9 Allowances for Interruptions in Service (Cont'd.)

2.9.2 Limitations of Allowances

No credit allowance will be made for any interruption in service:

- **A.** Due to the negligence of or noncompliance with the provisions of this rate sheet by any person or entity other than the Company, including but not limited to the Customer;
- **B.** Due to the failure of power, equipment, systems, connections or services not provided by the Company;
- **C.** Due to circumstances or causes beyond the reasonable control of the Company;
- **D.** During any period in which the Company is not given full and free access to its facilities and equipment for the purposes of investigating and correcting interruptions;
- **E.** A service will not be deemed to be interrupted if a Customer continues to voluntarily make use of such service. If the service is interrupted, the Customer can get a service credit, use another means of communications provided by the Company (pursuant to Section 2.9.3), or utilize another service provider;
- **F.** 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;
- **G.** That occurs or continues due to the Customer's failure to authorize replacement of any element of special construction; and
- **H.** That was not reported to the Company within thirty (30) days of the date that service was affected.

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

2.9 Allowances for Interruptions in Service (Cont'd.)

2.9.3 Use of Another Means of Communications

If the Customer elects to use another means of communications during the period of interruption, the Customer must pay the charges for the alternative service used.

2.9.4 Application of Credits for Interruptions in Service

- A. Credits for interruptions in service that is provided and billed on a flat rate basis for a minimum period of at least one month, beginning on the date that billing becomes effective, shall in no event exceed an amount equivalent to the proportionate charge to the Customer for the period of service during which the event that gave rise to the claim for a credit occurred. 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.
- **B.** For calculating credit allowances, every month is considered to have thirty (30) days.
- C. A credit allowance will be given for interruptions over two hours. Two or more interruptions of fifteen (15) minutes or more during any one 24-hour period shall be combined into one cumulative interruption.

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

2.9 Allowances for Interruptions in Service (Cont'd.)

2.9.4 Application of Credits for Interruptions in Service (Cont'd.)

D. Interruptions of 24 Hours or Less

Length of Interruption	Amount of Service To Be Credited
Less than 2 hours	None
Over 2 hours	Credit Formula

Credit Formula:

Credit = $A/720 \times B$

A = outage time in hours

B = total monthly charge for affected service

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

2.9 Allowances for Interruptions in Service (Cont'd.)

2.9.5 Cancellation For Service Interruption

Cancellation or termination for service interruption is permitted only if any circuit experiences a single continuous outage 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 outage or cumulative service credits.

2.10 Use of Customer's Service by Others

2.10.1 Joint Use Arrangements

Joint use arrangements will be permitted for all services provided under this tariff. From each joint use arrangement, one member will be designated as the Customer responsible for the manner in which the joint use of the service will be allocated. The Company will accept orders to start, rearrange, relocate, or discontinue service only from the designated Customer. Without affecting the Customer's ultimate responsibility for payment of all charges for the service, each joint user shall be responsible for the payment of the charges billed to it.

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

2.11 Cancellation of Service/Termination Liability

If a Customer cancels a Service Order or terminates services before the completion of the term for any reason whatsoever other than a service interruption (as defined in Section 2.9.1 above), the Customer agrees to pay to the Company termination liability charges, as defined below unless otherwise stated in written Service Order. These charges shall become due as of the effective date of the cancellation or termination and be payable within the period, set forth in Section 2.5.2.

2.11.1 Termination Liability

The Customer's termination liability for cancellation of service shall be equal to:

- **A.** all unpaid Non-Recurring charges reasonably expended by the Company to establish service to the Customer; plus
- **B.** any disconnection, early cancellation or termination charges reasonably incurred and paid to third parties by the Company on behalf of the Customer; plus
- **C.** all Recurring Charges specified in the applicable Service Order Tariff for the balance of the then current term;

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

2.12 Cancellation by Customer

Customers may cancel service verbally or in writing. The company shall hold the Customer responsible for payment of all charges, including fixed fees, surcharges, etc., which accrue up to the cancellation date. Customers that cancel the primary local exchange line will have the entire Account disconnected, including any secondary line and all associated features. In the event the Customer executes a term commitment agreement with the Company, the Customer must cancel service and terminate the agreement in accordance with the agreement terms.

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

2.13 Transfers and Assignments

Neither the Company nor the Customer may assign or transfer its rights or duties in connection with the services and facilities provided by the Company without the written consent of the other party, except that the Company may assign its rights and duties:

- to any subsidiary, parent company or affiliate of the Company; or
- pursuant to any sale or transfer of substantially all the assets of the Company; or
- pursuant to any financing, merger or reorganization of the Company.

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

2.14 Customer Liability for Unauthorized Use of the Network

Unauthorized use of the network occurs when a person or entity that does not have actual, apparent, or implied authority to use the network, obtains the Company's services provided under this rate sheet.

2.14.1 Customer Liability for Fraud and Unauthorized Use of the Network

- A. The Customer is liable for the unauthorized use of the network obtained through the fraudulent use of a Company calling card, if such a card is offered by the Company, or an accepted credit card, provided that the unauthorized use occurs before the Company has been notified.
- **B.** A Company calling card is a telephone calling card issued by the Company at the Customer's request, which enables the Customer or user(s) authorized by the Customer to place calls over the Network and to have the charges for such calls billed to the Customer's account.

An accepted credit card is any credit card that a cardholder has requested or applied for and received, or has signed, used, or authorized another person to use to obtain credit. Any credit card issued as an renewal or substitute in accordance with this paragraph is an accepted credit card when received by the cardholder.

- C. The Customer must give the Company written or oral notice that an unauthorized use of a Company calling card or an accepted credit card has occurred or may occur as a result of loss, and/or theft.
- **D.** The Customer is responsible for payment of all charges for calling card services furnished to the Customer or to users authorized by the Customer to use service provided under this rate sheet, unless due to the negligence of the Company. This responsibility is not changed due to any use, misuse, or abuse of the Customer's service or Customer-provided equipment by third parties, the Customer's employees, or the public.

The liability of the Customer for unauthorized use of the Network by credit card fraud will not exceed the lesser of fifty dollars (\$50.00) or the amount of money, property, labor, or services obtained by the unauthorized user before notification to the Company.

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

2.15 Notices and Communications

- **2.15.1** The Customer shall designate on the Service Order an address to which the Company shall mail or deliver all notices and other communications, except that the Customer may also designate a separate address to which the Company's bills for service shall be mailed.
- **2.15.2** The Company shall designate on the Service Order an address to which the Customer shall mail or deliver all notices and other communications, except that Company may designate a separate address on each bill for service to which the Customer shall mail payment on that bill.
- **2.15.3** Except as otherwise stated in this tariff, all notices or other communications required to be given pursuant to this tariff will be in writing. Notices and other communications of either party, and all bills mailed by the Company, shall be presumed to have been delivered to the other party on the third business day following placement of the notice, communication or bill with the U.S. Mail or a private delivery service, prepaid and properly addressed, or when actually received or refused by the addressee, whichever occurs first.
- **2.15.4** The Company or the Customer shall advise the other party of any changes to the addresses designated for notices, other communications or billing, by following the procedures for giving notice set forth herein.

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

2.16 Taxes, Fees and Surcharges

The Customer is responsible for the payment of any sales, use, gross receipts, excise, access, or other local, state, and federal taxes, charges or surcharges (however designated) excluding taxes on the net income of the Company, imposed on or based upon the provision, sale, or use of services. Any taxes imposed by a local jurisdiction (e.g., county and municipal taxes) will only be recovered from those Customers located in the affected jurisdictions.

2.16.1 Surcharge For State Gross Income and Gross Earnings Taxes

A monthly surcharge to recover the additional expense related to the State Gross Income and Gross Earnings Taxes applies to the recurring and nonrecurring rates and charges for all intrastate service except returned check charges, late payment charges and rates for local coin calls. The applicable Gross Revenue Surcharge rates are shown in the Rate Schedule at the end of this tariff. Any changes to these rates will be filed on 15 days' notice to Customers and the Department, and as directed by the Department. Whenever the state levies a new tax on the Company's gross revenues, repeals such a tax, or changes the rate of such a tax, the Department may approve new surcharge factors, and the Company will file a revised rate schedule as directed or approved by the Department.

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

2.16 Taxes, Fees and Surcharges (Cont'd.)

2.16.2 Village or Municipal Surcharge On Local Utility Gross Revenue Taxes

In certain cities and villages a municipal surcharge related to the Local Utility Gross Revenue Taxes applies to the recurring and nonrecurring rates and charges for all intrastate service except returned check charges, late payment charges and rates for local coin calls. The percentage rate of the surcharge in each locality where such a surcharge applies is listed in the Rate Schedule at the end of this tariff.

The surcharge rate schedule shall be filed at least fifteen business days before the effective date. The effective date of the rate schedule shall not be prior to the effective date of the surcharge and no sooner than the date when the tax enactment is filed with the Secretary of State. The surcharge shall be applicable to bills subject to the tax enactment that are rendered on or after the effective date of the rate schedule. If the tax enactment either ceases to be effective or is modified so as to reduce the tax rate, the surcharge will be changed accordingly within 5 business days.

Introduction, cancellation, or modification of a surcharge will be effective on the date of the Customer's first bill rendered after the effective date of the change.

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

2.17 Miscellaneous Provisions

2.17.1 Telephone Number Changes

Whenever any Customer telephone number is changed after a directory is published, the Company shall intercept all calls to the former number for at least one hundred and twenty (120) days and give the calling party the new number provided existing central office equipment will permit, and the Customer so desires.

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.

2.17.2 Maintenance and Operations Records

Records of various tests and inspections, to include non-routine corrective maintenance actions or monthly traffic analysis summaries for network administration, necessary for the purposes of the Company or to fulfill the requirements of Department rules shall be kept on file in the office of the Company as required under Department rules.

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

2.18 Additional Provisions Applicable to Business Customers

2.18.1 Application of Rates

- **A.** Business rates 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 that is at a location where business rates apply unless the extension is restricted to incoming calls;
 - 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 - RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT'D.)

2.18 Additional Provisions Applicable to Business Customers (Cont'd.)

2.18.2 Telephone Number Changes

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

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

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

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

2.18.3 Dishonored Checks

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

2.18.4 Deposits

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

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

2.19 Automatic Number Identification

2.19.1 Regulations

The Company will provide Automatic Number Identification (ANI) associated with an intrastate service, by tariff, to any entity (ANI recipient), only under the following terms and conditions:

- A. The ANI recipient or its designated billing agent may use or transmit ANI information to third parties for billing and collection, routing, screening, ensuring network performance, and completion of a telephone subscriber's call or transaction, or for performing a service directly related to the telephone subscriber's original call or transaction, or for performing a service directly related to the telephone subscriber's original call or transaction.
- **B.** The ANI recipient may offer to any telephone subscriber with whom the ANI recipient has an established Customer relationship, a product or service that is directly related to products or service previously purchased by the telephone subscriber from the ANI recipient.
- C. The ANI recipient or its designated billing agent is prohibited from utilizing ANI information to establish marketing lists or to conduct outgoing marketing calls, except as permitted by the preceding paragraph, unless the ANI recipient obtains the prior written consent of the telephone subscriber permitting the use of ANI information for such purposes. The foregoing provisions notwithstanding, no ANI recipient or its designated billing agent may utilize ANI information if prohibited elsewhere by law.

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

2.19 Automatic Number Identification (Cont'd.)

2.19.1 Regulations (Cont'd.)

- **D.** The ANI recipient or its designated billing agent is prohibited from reselling, or otherwise disclosing ANI information to any other third party for any use other than those listed in Provision 1, unless the ANI recipient obtains the prior written consent of the subscriber permitting such resale or disclosure.
- E. Violation of any of the foregoing terms and conditions by any ANI recipient other than a Telephone Corporation shall result, after a determination through the Department's complaint process, in suspension of the transmission of ANI by the Telephone Corporation until such time as the Department receives written confirmation from the ANI recipient that the violations have ceased or have been corrected. If the Department determines that there have been three or more separate violations in a 24 month period, delivery of ANI to the offending party shall be terminated under terms and conditions determined by the Department.

2.19.2 Terms and Conditions

Violation of any of the foregoing terms and conditions by a Telephone Corporation may result in Department prosecution of penalty and enforcement proceedings pursuant to Section 24, 25 and 26 of the Public Service Law.

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

2.20 School and Libraries Discount Program

2.20.1 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 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 prediscount 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 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT'D.)

2.20 School and Libraries Discount Program (Cont'd.)

2.20.2 Regulations

- **A**. Obligation of eligible schools and libraries
 - 1. Request 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.
 - b. 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.
 - c. Service requested will be used for educational purposes.
 - d. 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 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT'D.)

2.20 School and Libraries Discount Program (Cont'd.)

2.20.3 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.

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

2.21 Health Care Providers Support Program

2.21.1 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 Department of Public Service 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.

2.21.2 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.

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

2.21 Health Care Providers Support Program (Cont'd.)

2.21.2 Regulations (Cont'd.)

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 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT'D.)

2.21 Health Care Providers Support Program (Cont'd.)

2.21.2 Regulations (Cont'd.)

E. Responsibility of the Company

- 1. The Company shall offer the rates and charges as specified in Section 2.20.3, to eligible health care providers to the extent that facilities and services are available and offered in the tariffs specified in 2.20.1. 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 Department of Public Service approval.

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

2.21 Health Care Providers Support Program (Cont'd.)

2.21.3 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 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT'D.)

2.22 Emergency / Crisis / Disaster Restoration and Provisioning - Telecommunications Service Priority

2.22.1 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.

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

2.22 Emergency / Crisis / Disaster Restoration and Provisioning - Telecommunications Service Priority (Cont'd.)

2.22.1 General (Cont'd.)

- **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 - RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT'D.)

2.22 Emergency / Crisis / Disaster Restoration and Provisioning - Telecommunications Service Priority (Cont'd.)

2.22.2 TSP Request Process

A. Restoration

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

1. Determine that the user's telecommunications service supports an NS/EP function under one of the following four TSP categories.

National Security Leadership National Security Posture and U.S. Population Attack Warning Public Health, Safety, and Maintenance of Law and Order Public Welfare and Maintenance of National Economic Posture

- 2. 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.
- 3. Complete the TSP Request for Service Users form (SF 315) available on the National Communications System (NCS) website (http://tsp.ncs.gov/).
- 4. 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.
- 5. Submit the SF 315 to the OPT.
- 6. 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 - RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT'D.)

2.22 Emergency / Crisis / Disaster Restoration and Provisioning - Telecommunications Service Priority (Cont'd.)

2.22.2 TSP Request Process (Cont'd.)

B. Provisioning

To request a TSP provisioning priority assignment, a prospective TSP user must follow the same steps listed in 2.21.2.A above for restoration priority assignment except for the following differences. The user should:

Certify that its telecommunications service is an Emergency service. Emergency services are those that support one of the NS/EP functions listed in 2.21.2.A.1 above <u>and</u> are so critical that they must be provisioned at the earliest possible time, without regard to cost to the user.

Verify that the Company cannot meet the service due date without a TSP assignment.

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 - RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT'D.)

2.22 Emergency / Crisis / Disaster Restoration and Provisioning - Telecommunications Service Priority (Cont'd.)

2.22.3 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 - RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT'D.)

2.22 Emergency / Crisis / Disaster Restoration and Provisioning - Telecommunications Service Priority (Cont'd.)

2.22.4 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 - RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT'D.)

2.22 Emergency / Crisis / Disaster Restoration and Provisioning - Telecommunications Service Priority (Cont'd.)

2.22.5 Preemption

When spare facilities are not available, it may be necessary 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 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT'D.)

2.23 Caller ID Unblocking

2.23.1 311 / 911 Caller ID Blocking *

The City of New York 311 Call Center provides consolidated access to non-emergency municipal services and information 24 hours per day, 365 days per year. Callers have the ability to access City departments and services by using the 311 abbreviated dialing code instead of dialing a particular seven-digit number. In certain circumstances, calls to the 311 Call Center involve emergencies of various levels. In these instances, the Call Center will transfer the call to the 911 Emergency Call Center. If the caller has activated Caller ID Blocking, either on a per-call or per-line basis, the 911 Emergency Call Center will be unable to determine the caller's location. Thus, by Order dated April 18, 2003 (Case 03-C00171), the New York Public Service Commission directed that, for reasons of public safety, Caller ID Blocking shall be unblocked on all calls to the 311 Call Center. This ruling applies only to calls made to the 311 Call Center and not to any other municipal office.

2.23.2 211 / 911 Caller ID Unblocking

The City of New York 211 Call Center provides a means of accessing community information and referral services within the Five Boroughs. Callers dialing 211 from telephones located within New York City will reach the Call Center where the calls will be routed to call takers trained to provide basic health and human services information. In certain circumstances, calls to the 211 Call Center may involve emergencies of various levels. In these instances, the Call Center will transfer the call to the 911 Emergency Call Center. If the caller has activated Caller ID Blocking, either on a per-call or per-line basis, the 911 Emergency Call Center operator will be unable to determine the caller's location. By Order dated May 28, 2008 (Case 07-C-1091), the New York Public Service Commission directed that, for reasons of public safety, Caller ID Blocking shall be unblocked on all calls to the 211 Call Center. This ruling applies only to calls to the 211 Call Center and not to any other municipal office.

* Caller ID Blocking is deactivated for calls to 211 or 311 or 911 in the New York exchange only.

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SECTION 3 - SERVICE AREAS

3.1 Local Exchange Service Areas

Local exchange services are provided, subject to availability of facilities and equipment, in all areas currently served by the following incumbent LECs:

1) Verizon

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SECTION 4 - SERVICE CHARGES AND SURCHARGES

4.1 Service Order and Change Charges

4.1.1 Non-recurring charges apply to processing Service Orders for new service and for changes in service.

Primary Line Connection Charge: Applies to requests for initial connection or establishment of telephone service with the Company.

Secondary Line Connection Charge: Applies to installation of a second or additional access line.

Service Order Charge: Applies to connection of new lines and to services orders associated with Customer requests for changes in service, moves, and the addition of services, including the additional of calling features.

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

4.1 Service Order and Change Charges (Cont'd.)

4.1.2 Minimum / Maximum Rates

	Business	
	<u>Minimum</u>	<u>Maximum</u>
Line Connection Charge		
Primary Line	\$30.00	\$120.00
Secondary Line	\$30.00	\$120.00
Service Order Charge		
Moves/Adds/Changes	\$12.50	\$50.00

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

4.2 Premises Visit Charge

Premises Visit charges apply when the installation of network access facilities or trouble resolution require a visit to the Customer's premises. This charge applies in addition to the Technician Dispatch Charge.

4.2.1 Minimum / Maximum Charge

G	Business	
	<u>Minimum</u>	<u>Maximum</u>
Installation Charge – 1 st Hour	\$60.00	\$240.00
Repair Charge – 1 st ½ Hour	\$45.50	\$182.00
Repair Charge – Each Add'l ½ Hour	\$23.00	\$92.00

4.3 Restoral Charge

A restoration charge applies to the restoration of suspended service and facilities because of nonpayment of bills and is payable at the time that the restoration of the suspended service and facilities is arranged. The restoration charge does not apply when, after disconnection of service, service is later re-installed.

4.3.1 Minimum / Maximum Charge

	Business	
	<u>Minimum</u>	<u>Maximum</u>
Premises Visit Charge, per visit	\$ 20.00	\$ 80.00

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

4.4 Carrier Presubscription

4.4.1 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.

4.4.2 Presubscription Charges

A. Application of Charges

After a Customer=s initial selection for a presubscribed toll carrier and as detailed in Paragraph 4.4.4 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. Minimum / Maximum Nonrecurring Charges

Per business or residence line, trunk, or port	Minimum	Maximum
Initial Line, or Trunk or Port	\$2.50	\$10.00
Additional Line, Trunk or Port	\$2.50	\$10.00

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SECTION 5 – SUPPLEMENTAL SERVICES

5.1 Critical Facilities Administration Service

5.1.1 General Description of Service

Critical Facilities Administration Service (CFAS) provides physical route information to customers with Telecommunications Service Priority (TSP) qualified circuits, provided by the Company. Customer may request an enhance design layout record or may request a schematic/map layout (Circuit Layout Record). The request must be made in writing by authorized personnel. If the Company is acting as the Prime Contractor, the Company will obtain from its subcontractors the physical routing information for their portion of the qualified circuit.

5.1.2 Customer Obligations

- A. Customers' circuits must be federally registered as TSP circuits.
- B. Customers must subscribe to the Critical Facilities Administration Service (CFAS) offered by the Company and identify which qualifying circuits it wishes to enroll in the service. Such circuits will be referred to as "subscribed circuits."
- C. Customers must pay the appropriate tariff charges for CFAS, and any connecting carrier CFAS charges billed to the Company or directly to the Customer.
- D. Customers must agree to treat all network information provided to them regarding their subscribed circuits as confidential.

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SECTION 5 – SUPPLEMENTAL SERVICES (CONT'D.)

5.1 Critical Facilities Administration Service (Cont'd.)

5.1.3 Obligations of the Company

- A. The Company will maintain data and restrict access by each Customer to information relative to that Customer's subscribed circuits.
- B. The Company will identify the physical path of each subscribed circuit so as to allow the Customer to ascertain with a reasonable degree of accuracy the actual physical path of each subscribed circuit.
- C. The Company will maintain facilities associated with subscribed circuits in such a manner as to ensure that the Customer is notified of any change in the physical routing of its subscribed circuit(s).
- D. The Company will make available physical path information for newly provisioned subscribed circuits to the Customer within 5 business days after the circuit has been installed, and within 15 business days for existing TSP circuits.
- E. If Customer has previously obtained documentation as the physical path of a subscribed circuit, the Company will provide at least 24-hour advance notification to the Customer of any planned moves, changes, or rearrangements that affect the physical path of a subscribed circuit. Communications regarding unplanned activity will be provided within 24 hours following the change.
- F. The Company will make available updated information regarding the revised physical path of subscribed circuits to the Customer within 5 business days following planned actions, and within 15 business days following unplanned activities.
- G. For circuits provided in concert with other carriers, the Company, when acting as the Prime Contractor will obtain and forward information regarding the connecting carrier's portion of the physical path of the subscribed circuit to the customer as expeditiously as possible.
- H. Provision of CFAS will be suspended in the instance of a major telephone outage. Once subscribed circuits are restored to service, the Company will make updated physical path information available to the Customer within ninety days of the restoration of service.

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SECTION 5 – SUPPLEMENTAL SERVICES (CONT'D.)

5.1 Critical Facilities Administration Service (Cont'd.)

5.1.4 Minimum / Maximum Rates and Charges

A. Enhanced Design Layout Record (Circuit Layout Record)

Minimum Maximum Per circuit \$25.00 \$100.00

B. Hourly Charges

Rates for a schematic/map layout are contained reflect the hourly rate that will be charged to the CFAS subscriber per circuit subscribed. The Company will give the Customer a good faith estimate of the time needed to perform the requested service. The Customer will be billed those charges, along with the tariffed rates established by any connecting carrier for the service.

Minimum Maximum Per hour \$23.50 \$94.00

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SECTION 6 - SPECIAL SERVICES AND PROGRAMS

6.1 Special Equipment for the Hearing or Speech Impaired Customer

- **6.1.1** As required by Section 102-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.
- **6.1.2** 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.
- **6.1.3** The Company will make every reasonable effort to locate and obtain equipment for a certified Customer.
- **6.1.4** The Customer may purchase equipment at a price not to exceed the actual purchase price (including any applicable shipping costs) the Company pays.
- **6.1.5** The Company will also advise the Customer who requests this equipment of the applicable terms for purchase.

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SECTION 6 - SPECIAL SERVICES AND PROGRAMS (CONT'D.)

6.2 Discounted Service For The Hearing Or Speech Impaired Customer

6.2.1 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.

6.2.2 Certification

Acceptable certifications are:

- A. 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
- B. 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.

6.2.3 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.

6.2.4 Billing

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

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SECTION 6 - SPECIAL SERVICES AND PROGRAMS (CONT'D.)

6.3 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.

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SECTION 6 - SPECIAL SERVICES AND PROGRAMS (CONT'D.)

6.4 New York Relay Service

6.4.1 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.

6.4.2 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.

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SECTION 6 - SPECIAL SERVICES AND PROGRAMS (CONT'D.)

6.4 New York Relay Service (Cont'd.)

6.4.2 Regulations (Cont'd.)

- **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.

6.4.3 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. Not withstanding 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.

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SECTION 7 - CONTRACT SERVICES

7.1 Individual Case Basis (ICB) Arrangements

Arrangements will be developed on a case-by-case basis in response to a bona fide special request from a Customer or prospective Customer to develop a competitive bid for a service not generally offered under this tariff. Rates quoted in response to such competitive requests may be different than those specified for such services in this tariff. ICB rates will be offered to the Customer in writing and on a nondiscriminatory basis.

7.2 Special Service Arrangements

- **7.2.1** If a Customer's requirements cannot be met by services included in this tariff, or pricing for a service is shown in this tariff as "ICB", the Company will provide, where practical, special service arrangements at charges to be determined on an Individual Case Basis. These special service arrangements will be provided if the provision of such arrangements is not detrimental to any other services furnished under the Company's tariffs.
- **7.2.2** Special service arrangement rates are subject to revision depending on changing costs or operating conditions.
- **7.2.3** If and when a special service arrangement becomes a generically tariffed offering, the tariffed rate or rates will apply from the date of tariff approval.

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SECTION 8.0 - SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS

8.1 Non-Routine Installation and/or Maintenance

At the Customer's request, installation and/or maintenance may be performed outside Company regular business hours, or (in sole discretion of the Company 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.

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SECTION 9 - PROMOTIONS

9.1 Demonstration of Service

From time to time the Company may demonstrate service for potential Customers by providing free use of its network on a limited basis for a period of time, not to exceed one (1) month. Demonstration of service and the type, duration or quantity of service provided will be at the Company's discretion.

9.2 Special Promotions

From time to time, the Carrier may provide promotional offerings to introduce a current or potential Subscriber to a service not being used by the subscriber. These offerings may be limited to certain dates, times or locations and may waive or reduce recurring or non-recurring charges. The Company will notify the Commission prior to the effective date of any promotional offering.