ACCESS SERVICES

2. REGULATIONS

2.1 Undertaking of the Company

2.1.1 Scope

Access Services consist of furnishing communications service in connection with one-way and/or two-way information transmission between points within the State of Rhode Island under the terms of this tariff.

2.1.2 Shortage of Equipment or Facilities

2.1.2.1 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.

2.1.2.2 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 Fiber Optic Cable facilities as well as facilities the company may obtain from other Carriers from time to time, to furnish service as required at the sole discretion of the Company.

2.1.2.3 The provisioning and restoration of service in emergencies shall be in accordance with Part 64, Subpart D, Appendix A of the Federal Communications Commission's Rules and Regulations, which specifies the priority system for such activities.

2.1.3 Terms and Conditions

2.1.3.1 Except as otherwise provided herein, service is provided and billed on the basis of a minimum period of at least one month, and shall continue to be provided until cancelled by the Customer, in writing, on not less than 30 days notice. Unless otherwise specified herein, for the purpose of computing charges in this tariff, a month is considered to have 30 days.

2.1.3.2 Customers may be required to enter into written Service Orders which shall contain or reference the name of the Customer, 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. Customer will also be required to execute any other documents as may be reasonably requested by the Company.

2.1.3.3 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 at the then current rates unless terminated by either party upon 30 days written notice. Any termination shall not relieve 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.

2.1.3.4 This tariff shall be interpreted and governed by the laws of the State of Rhode Island without regard for the State's choice of laws provisions.

ACCESS SERVICES

2. REGULATIONS (Cont.)

2.1 Undertaking of the Company (Cont.)

2.1.3 Terms and Conditions (Cont.)

2.1.3.5 The Customer agrees to operate Company-provided equipment in accordance with instructions of the Company or the Company's agent. Failure to do so will void Company liability for interruption of service and may make the Customer responsible for damage to equipment pursuant to section 2.1.3.6 below.

2.1.3.6 The Customer agrees to return to the Company all Company-provided equipment delivered to Customer within five (5) days of termination of the service in connection with which the equipment was used. Said equipment shall be in the same condition as when delivered to Customer, normal wear and tear only excepted. Customer shall reimburse the Company, upon demand, for any costs incurred by the Company due to Customer's failure to comply with this provision.

2.1.4 Liability of the Company

2.1.4.1 The liability of the Company for damages arising out of the furnishing of its Services, including but not limited to mistakes, omissions, interruptions, delays, errors, other defects, or representations by the Company, or use of these services or damages arising out of the failure to furnish the service whether caused by act or omission, shall be limited to the extension of allowances for interruption as set forth in 2.6 below. The extension of such allowances for interruption shall be the sole remedy of the Customer and the sole liability of the Company. The Company will not be liable for any direct, indirect, incidental, special, consequential, exemplary or punitive damages to Customer as a result of any Company service, equipment or facilities, or the acts or omissions or negligence of the Company's employees or agents.

2.1.4.2 The Company's liability for willful misconduct, if established as a result of judicial or administrative proceedings, is not limited by this tariff. The Company's liability, if any, with regard to delayed installation of Company facilities or commencement of service, shall not exceed $1,000. With respect to any other claim or suit, by a Customer or by any others, for damages associated with the ordering (including the reservation of any specific number for use with a service), installation (including delays thereof), provision, termination, maintenance, repair interruption or restoration of any service or facilities offered under this tariff, and subject to the provisions of Section 2.6, the Company's liability, if any, shall be limited as provided herein.

2.1.4.3 The Company shall not be liable for any delay or failure of performance or equipment due to causes beyond its control, including but not limited to: acts of God, fire, flood, explosion or other catastrophes; any law, order, regulation, direction action, or request of The United States government or of any other government, including state and local governments having or claiming jurisdiction over the Company, or of any department, agency, commission, bureau, corporation, or other instrumentality of any one or more of these federal state, or local governments, or of any military authority; preemption of existing service in compliance with national emergencies; insurrections; riots; wars; unavailability of rights-of-way or materials; or strikes, lockouts work stoppages, or other labor difficulties.

ACCESS SERVICES

2. REGULATIONS (Cont.)

2.1 Undertaking of the Company (Cont.)

2.1.4 Liability of the Company (Cont.)

2.1.4.4 The Company shall not be liable for (a) any act or omission of any entity furnishing the Company or the Company's Customers facilities or equipment used for the interconnection with Access Services; or (b) for the acts or omissions of other Common Carriers or warehousemen.

2.1.4.5 The Company shall not be liable for any damages or losses due to the fault or negligence of the Customer or due to the failure or malfunction of Customer-provided equipment or facilities.

2.1.4.6 The Customer shall indemnify and hold the Company harmless from any and all loss, claims, demands, suits, or other actions, or any liability whatsoever, whether suffered, made, instituted, or asserted by any other party or person(s), and for any loss, damage, or destruction of any property, whether owned by the Customer or others, caused or claimed to have been caused directly or indirectly by the installation, operation, failure to operate, maintenance, removal, condition, location, or use of any installation or equipment provided by the Company. The Company reserves the right to require each Customer to sign an agreement acknowledging acceptance of the provisions of this Section 2.1.4.6 as a condition precedent to such installations.

2.1.4.7 The Company shall not be liable for any defacement of or damage to Customers Premises resulting from the furnishing of services or equipment on such Premises or the installation or removal thereof, unless such defacement or damage is caused by the gross negligence or willful misconduct of the Company's agents or employees. No agents or employees of other participating Carriers shall be deemed to be agents or employees of the Company.

2.1.4.8 Notwithstanding the Customer's obligations as set forth in Section 2.3.2 below, the Company shall be indemnified, defended and held harmless by the Customer, or by others authorized by it to use the service, against any claim, loss or damage arising from Customer's use of services furnished under this tariff, including: claims for libel, slander, invasion of privacy or infringement of copyright arising from the material, data, information, or other content transmitted via the Company's service; and patent infringement claims arising from combining or connecting the service offered by the Company with apparatus and systems of the Customer or others; all other claims arising out of any act or omission of the Customer or others, in connection with any service provided by the Company pursuant to this tariff.

2.1.4.9 The Company shall be indemnified and held harmless by the End User against any claim, loss or damage arising from the End User's use of services offered under this tariff including: claims for libel, slander, invasion of privacy or infringement of copyright arising from the End User's own communications; patent infringement claims arising from the End User's combining or connecting the service offered by the Company with facilities or equipment furnished by the End User of another Interexchange Carrier; or all other claims arising out of any act or omission of the End User in connection with any service provided pursuant to this tariff.

ACCESS SERVICES

2. REGULATIONS (Cont.)

2.1 Undertaking of the Company (Cont.)

2.1.4 Liability of the Company (Cont.)

2.1.4.10 The entire liability of the Company for any claim, loss, damage or expense from any cause whatsoever shall in no event exceed sums actually paid to the Company by the Customer for the specific services giving rise to the claim, and no action or proceeding against the Company shall be commenced more than one year after the service is rendered.

2.1.4.11 The Company makes no warranties or representation, express or implied, including warranties or merchantability or fitness for a particular use, except those expressly set forth herein.

2.1.4.12 The Company shall not be liable for any act or omission of any other company or companies furnishing a portion of the service, or for damages associated with service, Channels, or equipment which result from the operation of Customer-provided systems, equipment, facilities or service which are interconnected with Company services.

2.1.4.13 The Company does not guarantee nor make any warranty with respect to service installations at locations at which there is present an atmosphere that is explosive, prone to fire, dangerous or otherwise unsuitable for such installations. The Customer and End User shall indemnify and hold the Company harmless from any and all loss, claims, demands, suits or other actions, or any liability whatsoever, whether suffered, made, instituted or asserted by the Customer or by any other party, for any personal injury to, or death of, any person or persons, or for any loss, damage or destruction of any property, whether owned by the Customer or others, caused or claimed to have been caused directly or indirectly, by the installation, operation, failure to operate, maintenance, removal, presence, condition, locations or use of service furnished by the Company at such locations.

2.1.4.14 The Company shall not be liable for the Customer's failure to fulfill its obligations to take all necessary steps including, without limitation, obtaining, installing and maintaining all necessary equipment, materials and supplies, for interconnecting the terminal equipment or communications system of the Customer, or any third party acting as its agent, to the Company's Network. The Customer shall secure all licenses, permits, rights-of-way, and other arrangements necessary for such interconnection. In addition, the Customer shall ensure that its equipment and/or system or that of its agent is properly interfaced with the Company's service, that the signals emitted into the Company's Network are of the proper mode, band-width, power, data speed, and signal level for the intended use of the Customer and in compliance with the criteria set forth in Section 2.1.6 following, and that the signals do not damage Company equipment, injure its personnel or degrade service to other Customer. If the Customer or its agent fails to maintain and operate its equipment and/or system or that of its agent properly, with resulting imminent harm to Company equipment, personnel, or the quality of service to other Customers, the Company, may, upon written notice, require the use of protective equipment at the Customer's expense.

ACCESS SERVICES

2. REGULATIONS (Cont.)

2.1 Undertaking of the Company (Cont.)

2.1.4 Liability of the Company (Cont.)

2.1.4.14 (Cont.)

If this fails to produce satisfactory quality and safety, the Company may, upon written notice, terminate the Customer's service without liability.

2.1.4.15 The Company shall not be liable for any act or omission concerning the implementation of Presubscription, as defined herein.

2.1.4.16 With respect to Telecommunications Relay Service (TRS), any service provided by Company which involves receiving, translating, transmitting or delivering messages by telephone, text telephone, a telecommunications device for the deaf, or any other instrument over the facilities of Company or any connecting Carrier, Company's liability for the interruption or failure of the service shall not exceed an amount equal to the Company's charge for a one minute call to the called station at the time the affected calls was made.

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.

2.1.6 Provision of Equipment and Facilities

2.1.6.1 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.

2.1.6.2 The Company shall use reasonable efforts to maintain 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.

ACCESS SERVICES

2. REGULATIONS (Cont.)

2.1 Undertaking of the Company (Cont.)

2.1.6 Provisions of Equipment and Facilities (Cont.)

2.1.6.3 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.

2.1.6.4 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 the Company provided it.

2.1.6.5 The Customer shall be responsible for the payment of service charges imposed on the Company by another entity, for visits to the Customer Premises 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.

2.1.6.6 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. Notwithstanding the above, the Company shall not be responsible for:

(a) the transmission of signals by Customer-provided equipment or for the quality of, or defects in, such transmission;

(b) the reception of signals by Customer-provided equipment; or

(c) network control signaling where such signaling is performed by Customer-provided network control signaling equipment.

2.1.6.7 The Company intends to work cooperatively with the Customer to develop network contingency plans in order to maintain maximum network capability following natural or man-made disasters which affect telecommunications services.

2.1.6.8 The Company reserves the reasonable right to assign, designate or change telephone numbers, any other call number designations associated with Access Services, or the Company serving central office prefixes associated with such numbers, when necessary in the conduct of its business.

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 unusual 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.

ACCESS SERVICES

2. REGULATIONS (Cont.)

2.1 Undertaking of the Company (Cont.)

2.1.8 Special Construction

Subject to the arrangement 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 and characterized by one or more of the following:

(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) where facilities are to be installed over a route other than that which the Company would normally utilize in the furnishing of its services;

(d) where facilities are requested in a quantity greater than that which the Company would normally construct;

(e) where installation is on an expedited basis;

(f) on a temporary basis until permanent facilities are available;

(g) installation involving abnormal costs; or

(h) in advance of its normal construction schedules.

Special construction charges for Switched Access Service will be determined as described in Section 7.5.1, following.

2.1.9 Ownership of Facilities

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

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 FPSC regulations, policies, orders, and decisions; and if the reseller intends to provide intrastate services, is certified with the Rhode Island Public Utility Commission.

2.2.3 The Company may require a Customer to immediately shut down its transmission of signals if said transmission is causing interference to others.

2. REGULATIONS (Cont.)

2.3 Obligations of the Customer

2.3.1 The Customer shall be responsible for:

(a) the payment of all applicable charges pursuant to this tariff;

(b) reimbursing the Company for damage to, or loss of, the Company's facilities or equipment caused by the acts or 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. The Company will, upon reimbursement for damages to its facilities or equipment, cooperate with the Customer in prosecuting a claim against the person causing such damage and the Customer shall be subrogated in the Company's right of recovery of damages to the extent of such payment;

(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 Customer Premises, 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 conduit necessary for installation of fiber optic cable and associated equipment used to provide Access 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) above. Any 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 subsection prior to accepting an order for service;

(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 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. friable 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 for obtaining under Section 2.3.1(d) above; and granting or obtaining permission for Company agents or employees to enter the Customer Premises 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; and

(g) not creating or allowing to be placed or maintained any liens or other encumbrances on the Company's equipment or facilities.

ACCESS SERVICES

2. REGULATIONS (Cont.)

2.3 Obligations of the Customer (Cont.)

2.3.2 Claims

With respect to any service or facility provided by the Company; Customer shall indemnify, defend and hold harmless the Company from all claims, actions, damages, liabilities, costs, and expenses, including reasonable attorneys' fees for:

(a) any loss, destruction or damage to property of the Company or any third party, or the death of or injury to persons, including, but not limited to employees or invitees of either the Company or the Customer, to the extent caused by or resulting from the negligent or intentional act or omission of the Customer, its employees, agents, representatives or invitees;

(b) any claim, loss, damage, expense or liability for infringement of any copyright, patent, trade secret, or any proprietary or intellectual property right of any third party, arising from any act or omission by the Customer, including, without limitation, use of the Company's services and facilities in a manner not contemplated by the agreement between the Customer and the Company.

2.3.3 Jurisdictional Reporting

2.3.3.1 Percent Interstate Usage (PIU):

The jurisdictional reporting requirements will be as specified below. When a Customer orders Access Service via an Access Service Request (ASR), the Customer must provide the Company with a report of its Projected Percent Interstate Usage (PIU). In addition, the Customer must provide the Company with an auditable PIU report in each calendar quarter following installation of service. The Customer must provide the PIU report in whole numbers. The PIU report will be used by the Company to apportion the Customer's use and/or charges between interstate and intrastate service. If the Customer fails to provide the required PIU report, the PIU factor will be determined as set forth in 2.3.3.1.1 below and shall not be retroactively adjusted if the Customer provides the factor at a later date.

2.3.3.1.1 Effective on the first of January, April, July and October of each year the Customer shall update the PIU factor and report the result to the Company (Quarterly PIU Report). The Quarterly PIU Report will be based on the Customer's traffic in preceding 3-month period (calendar quarter) ending the last day of December, March, June and September (calendar quarter), respectfully, and shall serve as the basis of the PIU factor to be used for the next calendar quarter.

2.3.3.1.1.1 If the Customer does not provide the Company a Quarterly PIU Report, the Company will assume the PIU factor to be the same as specified in the Quarterly PIU Report most recently provided by the Customer. If a Customer has never provided the Company a Quarterly PIU Report or the Customer is a new customer, the Company will assume the PIU factor to be the same as specified in the Access Service Request, except, of the Company can reasonably determine jurisdiction by the Customer's monthly call detail, the Company will determine the Customers' PIU on a monthly basis. If a Customer has never provided the Company a Quarterly PIU Report and has never provided a PIU factor in a Access Service Request, the Company will set the Customer's PIU factor on a default basis as 50 percent interstate and 50 percent intrastate traffic for the next calendar quarter.

ACCESS SERVICES

2. REGULATIONS (Cont.)

2.3 Obligations of the Customer (Cont.)

2.3.3.1 Percent Interstate Usage (PIU) (Cont.)

2.3.3.1.2 Originating Access: Originating access minutes may be based on traffic originating at the State, LATA or Local Switching Center level, provided that the traffic being measured is only traffic originating from the Company Local Switching Center(s). Originating access minutes will be measured as follows, based on type of access:

2.3.3.1.2.1 For Feature Group D Switched Access Service(s), as defined in Section 5.2.1, where the Company can determine jurisdiction by it's call detail, the projected Percent Interstate Usage (PIU) will be developed by the Company on a monthly basis by dividing the measured interstate originating access minutes by the total originating access minutes.

2.3.3.1.2.2 For Feature Group D with 950 Access, as defined in Section 5.5.3.1, the Customer must provide the Company with a projected PIU factor by supplying the Company with an interstate percentage of originating access minutes.

2.3.3.1.2.3 For 500, 700, 8XX, calling card and operator service access, the Customer must provide the Company with a projected PIU factor for each type of access. The Customer who provides a PIU factor shall supply the Company with an interstate percentage of originating access minutes.

ACCESS SERVICES

2. REGULATIONS

2.3 Obligations of the Customer (Cont.)

2.3.3 Jurisdictional Reporting (Cont.)

2.3.3.1 Percent Interstate Usage (PIU) (Cont.)

2.3.3.1.3 Terminating Access: For Feature Group D Switched Access Service(s), the Customer must provide the Company with a projected PIU factor by supplying the Company with an interstate percentage of terminating access minutes on a quarterly basis, as described in Sections 2.3.3.1. If no projected PIU factor is submitted by the Customer, then the projected PIU will be set on a default basis of 50 percent intrastate traffic and 50 percent interstate traffic.

2.3.3.2 Percent Local Usage Usage (PLU): The jurisdictional reporting requirements will be as specfied below. When a Customer orders Access Service via an Access Service Request (ASR), the Customer must provide the Company with a report of its Projected Percent Local Usage (PLU). In addition, the Customer must provide the Company with an auditable PLU report in each calendar quarter following installation of service. The Customer must provide the PLU report in whole numbers. The PLU report will be used by the Company to apportion the Customer's use and/or charges between interstate and intrastate service. If the Customer fails to provide the required PLU report, the PLU will be determined as set forth in 2.3.3.2.1 below and shall not be retroactively adjusted if the Customer provides the factor as a later date.

2.3.3.2.1 Effective on the first of January, April, July and October of each year the Customer shall update the PLU factor and report the result to the Company (Quarterly PLU Report). The Quarterly PLU Report will be based on the Customer's traffic in preceding 3-month period (calendar quarter) ending the last day of December, March, June and September (calendar quarter), respectfully, and shall serve as the basis of the PLU factor to be used for the next calendar quarter.

2.3.3.2.1.1 If the Customer does not provide the Company a Quarterly PLU Report, the Company will assume the PLU factor to be the same as specified in the Quarterly PLU Report most recently provided by the Customer. If a Customer has never provided the Company a Quarterly PLU Report or the Customer is a new customer, the Company will assume the PLU factor to be the same as specified in the Access Service Request, except, of the Company can reasonably determine jurisdiction by the Customer's monthly call detail, the Company will determine the Customers' PLU on a monthly basis. Alternately If a Customer has never provided the Company a Quarterly PLU Report and has never provided a PLU factor in a Access Service Request, the Company may elect to set the Customer's PLU factor on a default basis as 50 percent exchange and 50 percent intrastate traffic for the next calendar quarter.

ACCESS SERVICES

2. REGULATIONS

2.3 Obligations of the Customer (Cont.)

2.3.3.3 Jurisdictional Reports Verification: For Switched Access Service, if a billing dispute arises or a regulatory commission questions the projected PIU factor, the Customer will provide the data issued to determine the projected PIU factor. The Customer will supply the data within 30 days of the Company request.

The Customer shall keep records of call detail from which the percentage of interstate and intrastate use can be ascertained and, upon request of the Company, shall make the records available for inspection as reasonably necessary for purposes of verification of the percentages.

2.3.3.3.1 The Company reserves the right to conduct an audit of the Customer's PIU Report and PLU Report. The Company may request an audit of the PIU Report or the PLU Report within 6 months of the Company's receipt the PIU Report and/or PLU Report, as applicable. Such request must be made on no less than ten days written notice to the other party. Audits shall be conducted during normal business hours at the office of the party being audited. Such audit must be performed by an independent auditor mutually agreed to by the parties. Independent auditor cost will be paid for by the party which requests the audit.

ACCESS SERVICES

2. REGULATIONS (Cont.)

2.3 Obligations of the Customer (Cont.)

2.3.3 Jurisdictional Reporting (Cont.)

2.3.3.4 Identification and Rating of VoIP-PSTN Traffic

2.3.3.4.1 Scope

2.3.3.4.1.1 VoIP-PSTN Traffic is defined as traffic exchanged between a Verizon Access end user and the customer in time division multiplexing ("TDM") format that originates and/or terminates in Internet protocol ("IP") format. This section governs the identification of VoIP-PSTN Traffic that is required to be compensated at interstate access rates by the Federal Communications Commission in its Report and Order in WC Docket Nos. 10-90, etc., FCC Release No. 11-161 (Nov. 18, 2011) ("Order"), as modified by its Second Order on Reconsideration, FCC Release No. 12-47 (Apr. 25, 2012), and as codified in 47 C.F.R. § 51.319 ("Reconsideration Order"), and unless Verizon Access and the customer have agreed otherwise. Specifically, this section establishes the method of separating such traffic (referred to in this tariff as "Relevant VoIP-PSTN Traffic") from the customer's traditional intrastate access traffic, so that such Relevant VoIP-PSTN Traffic can be billed in accordance with the FCC Orders.

2.3.3.4.1.2 This section will be applied to the billing of switched access charges to a customer that is a local exchange carrier only to the extent that the customer has also implemented billing of interstate access charges for Relevant VoIP-PSTN Traffic in accordance with the FCC Orders.

2.3.3.4.2 Rating of VoIP-PSTN Traffic
The Relevant VoIP-PSTN Traffic identified in accordance with this tariff Section will be billed at rates equal to the Verizon Access' applicable tariffed interstate switched access rates as specified in Tariff FCC No. 1. Intrastate access minutes of use not required to be billed at interstate rates pursuant to this Section 2.3.3.4 will be billed in accordance with the other rate provisions of this Tariff (absent an agreement between Verizon and the customer on a different compensation mechanism).

2.3.3.4.3 Calculation and Application of Percent-VoIP-Usage Factor
Verizon Access will determine the number of Relevant VoIP-PSTN Traffic minutes of use ("MOU") to which interstate rates will be applied under subsection 2.3.3.4.2, above, through the use of a Percent VoIP Usage ("PVU") factor, which in turn will be based on a PVU-C factor and a PVU-V factor. These factors will be derived and applied as set forth below. The PVU-V and PVU-C factors will be based on information such as the number of Verizon Access' or the customer's retail VoIP subscriptions in the state (e.g., as reported on FCC Form 477), traffic studies, actual call detail, or other relevant and verifiable information.

2.3.3.4.3.1 For the period from December 29, 2011 through July 12, 2012, and for the period on and after July 1, 2014:

(a) The customer will calculate and furnish to Verizon Access a PVU-C factor representing the percentage of the total access MOU that the customer exchanges with Verizon Access in the State that (a) is sent to Verizon Access and that originated in IP format; or (b) is received from Verizon and terminated in IP format. A PVU-C factor for the period December 29, 2011 through July 12, 2012 must be submitted by April 15, 2012, in order to apply retroactively to December 29, 2011. A PVU-C factor for the period on and after July 1, 2014 will be submitted by June 1, 2014.

(b) The Company will, likewise, calculate PVU-V factors for the two periods representing the percentage of Verizon Access' total access MOU in the State that Verizon Access originates or terminates on its network in IP format, and will begin applying those PVU-V factors to the calculation of the PVU factor as of December 29, 2011 and July 1, 2014, respectively.

ACCESS SERVICES

2. REGULATIONS (Cont.)

2.3 Obligations of the Customer (Cont.)

2.3.3 Jurisdictional Reporting (Cont.)

2.3.3.4 Identification and Rating of VoIP-PSTN Traffic (Cont.)

2.3.3.4.3 Calculation and Application of Percent-VoIP-Usage Factor (Cont.)

2.3.3.4.3.2 For the period from July 13, 2012 through June 30, 2014:

(a) The customer will calculate and furnish to Verizon Access, before July 1, 2012, a PVU-C factor representing the percentage of the total access MOU sent by the customer to Verizon Access in the State that the customer originates in IP format. If the customer submitted a PVU-C factor under Section 2.3.3.4.3.1(a) and does not furnish a new factor under this Section 2.3.3.4.3.2(a), Verizon Access will use that previously submitted factor as the PVU-C for purposes of this subsection 2.3.3.4.3.2(a)

(b) Verizon Access will, likewise, calculate a PVU-V factor for this Period representing the percentage of Verizon Access' total terminating access MOU in the State that Verizon Access terminates on its network in IP format, and will begin applying that PVU-V factor to the calculation of the PVU factor as of July 13, 2012.

2.3.3.4.3.3 The PVU factor will be calculated as the sum of: (A) the PVU-C factor and (B) the PVU-V factor times (100% minus the PVU-C factor).

2.3.3.4.3.4 For the period from December 29, 2011 through July 12, 2012 and for the period on and after July 1, 2014, Verizon Access will apply the PVU to the total intrastate access MOU exchanged with the customer to determine the number of such minutes that will be billed at the applicable interstate switched access rates. For the period from July 13, 2012 through June 30, 2014, Verizon Access will apply the PVU factor to the total terminating intrastate access MOU received from the customer, and the resulting number of minutes will be billed at terminating interstate access rates.

Example 1: For February 2013, the PVU-V is 10% and the PVU-C is 40%. The PVU factor is equal to 40% + (10% x 60%) = 46%. Verizon Access will bill 46% of the customer's terminating intrastate access MOU at its tariffed interstate terminating switched access rates.

Example 2: For September 2014, the PVU-V is 10% and the PVU-C is 0%. The PVU factor is 0% + (100% x 10%) = 10%. Verizon Access will bill 10% of the customer's intrastate access MOU at the Verizon Access' tariffed interstate switched access rates (originating or terminating as applicable).

Example 3: For a period after December 29, 2011 and prior to July 13, 2012, the PVU-C is 100%. No matter what the PVU-V factor is, the PVU is 100%. Verizon Access will bill 100% of the customer's intrastate access MOU at Verizon Access' tariffed interstate switched access rates (originating or terminating, as applicable).

ACCESS SERVICES

2. REGULATIONS (Cont.)

2.3 Obligations of the Customer (Cont.)

2.3.3 Jurisdictional Reporting (Cont.)

2.3.3.4 Identification and Rating of VoIP-PSTN Traffic (Cont.)

2.3.3.4.4 Initial PVU Factor and PVU Factor Changes

2.3.3.4.4.1 If the PVU factor for the period from December 29, 2011 to July 12, 2012, is not available and/or cannot be implemented in Verizon Access' billing systems by December 29, 2011, once that factor is available and can be implemented Verizon Access will adjust the customer's bills to reflect that PVU retroactively to December 29, 2011. In calculating the initial PVU, to be applied from December 29, 2011 to July 12, 2012, Verizon Access will take the customer-specified PVU-C into account retroactively to December 29, 2011, *provided that* the customer provides the factor to the Company no later than April 15, 2012.

2.3.3.4.4.2 The customer may submit an updated factor quarterly using the methodology set forth in subsection 2.3.3.4.3.1 or 2.3.3.4.3.2, above, as applicable. If the customer chooses to submit such updates, it shall forward to Verizon Access, no later than 15 days after the first day of January, April, July and/or October of each year, a revised PVU-C factor based on data for the prior three months, ending the last day of December, March, June and September, respectively. Verizon Access will use the revised PVU-C to calculate a revised PVU. The revised PVU factor will apply prospectively and serve as the basis for billing until superseded by a new PVU.

2.3.3.4.5 PVU Factor Verification

Not more than twice in any year, Verizon Access may ask the customer to verify the PVU-C factor furnished to Verizon Access and customer may ask Verizon Access to verify the PVU-V factor and the calculation of the PVU factor. The party so requested shall comply, and shall reasonably provide the records and other information used to determine the respective PVU-C and PVU-V factors.

ACCESS SERVICES

2. REGULATIONS (Cont.)

2.4 Customer Equipment and Channels

2.4.1 In General
A Customer may transmit or receive information or signals via the facilities of the Company.

2.4.2 Station Equipment

2.4.2.1 The Customer is responsible for providing and maintaining any terminal equipment on the Customer Premises. The electric power consumed by such equipment shall be provided by, and maintained at the expense of, the Customer. All such terminal equipment must be registered with the FCC under 47 C.F.R., Part 68 and all wiring must be installed and maintained in compliance with those regulations. The Company will, where practicable, notify the Customer that temporary discontinuance of the use of a service may be required; however, where prior notice is not practicable, nothing contained herein shall be deemed to impair the Company's right to discontinue forthwith the use of a service temporarily if such action is reasonable under the circumstances. In case of such temporary discontinuance, the Customer will be promptly notified and afforded the opportunity to correct the condition which gave rise to the temporary discontinuance. During such period of temporary discontinuance, credit allowance for service interruptions as set forth in Section 2.6 following is not applicable.

2.4.2.2 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 other persons. Any additional protective equipment required to prevent such damage or injury shall be provided by the Company at the Customer's expense.

2.4.3 Interconnection of Facilities

2.4.3.1 Any special interface equipment necessary to achieve compatibility between the facilities and equipment of the Company used for furnishing Access Services and the Channels, facilities, or equipment of others shall be provided at the Customer's expense.

2.4.3.2 Access 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 which are applicable to such connections.

2.4.4 Inspections

2.4.4.1 Upon reasonable notification to the Customer, and at reasonable times, 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 2.4.2.2 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. No credit will be allowed for any interruptions occurring during such inspections.

2.4.4.2 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. The Company will, upon request 24 hours in advance, provide the Customer with a statement of technical parameters that the Customer's equipment must meet.

2.5 Payment Arrangements

2.5.1 Payment for Service
The Customer is responsible for payment of all charges for services and facilities furnished by the Company to the Customer or its Joint or Authorized Users.

ACCESS SERVICES

2. REGULATIONS (Cont.)

2.5 Payment Arrangements (Cont.)

2.5.1 Payment for Service (Cont.)

2.5.1.1 Taxes

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 Company's net income imposed on or based upon the provision, sale or use of Access Services. All such taxes shall be separately designated on the Company's invoices. 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. If an entity other than the Company (e.g. another carrier or a supplier) imposes charges on the Company, in addition to its own internal costs, in connection with a service for which the Company's Non-Recurring Charge is specified, those charges will be passed on to the Customer. It shall be the responsibility of the Customer to pay any such taxes that subsequently become applicable retroactively.

2.5.1.2 A surcharge is imposed on all charges for service originating at addresses in states which levy, or assert a claim of right to levy, a gross receipts tax on the Company's operations in any such state, or a tax on interstate access charges incurred by the Company for originating access to telephone exchanges in that state.[1] This surcharge is based on the particular state's receipts tax and other state taxes imposed directly or indirectly upon the Company by virtue of, and measured by, the gross receipts or revenues of the Company in that state and/or payment of interstate access charges in that state. The surcharge will be shown as a separate line item on the Customer's monthly invoice.

[1]Pending the conclusion of any challenge to a jurisdiction's right to impose a gross receipts tax the Company may elect to impose and collect a surcharge covering such taxes, unless otherwise constrained by court order or direction, or it may elect not to impose and collect the surcharge. If it has collected a surcharge and the challenged tax is found to have been invalid and unenforceable, the Company, in its sole discretion, will either reduce service rates for a fixed period of time in the future in order to flow - through to Customers an amount equivalent to the funds collected or it will credit or refund such amounts to affected Customers (less its reasonable administrative costs), if the funds collected were retained by the Company or if they were delivered over to the taxing jurisdiction and later returned to the Company, or negotiate an arrangement with the taxing jurisdiction that benefits Customers in the jurisdiction in the future.

ACCESS SERVICES

2. REGULATIONS (Cont.)

2.5 Payment Arrangements (Cont.)

2.5.2 Billing and Collection of Charges

The Company shall bill on a current basis all charges incurred by, and credits due to, the Customer under this tariff attributable to services established, provided, or discontinued during the preceding billing period. All bills for services provided to or on behalf of the Customer by the company are due in immediately funds.

2.5.2.1 Non-Recurring Charges are payable when the service for which they are specified has been performed. Recurring Charges which are not dependant on usage will be billed in advanced of the month in which service is provided. The Company bill Non-Recurring Charges and Recurring Charges monthly to the Customers.

2.5.2.2 All Charges are due and payable within 30 days after the invoice date.

2.5.2.2.1 If the payment due date would cause payment to be due on a Saturday, Sunday or Holiday (New Year's Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, or any day which is a legally observed Federal government Holiday), the payment due date shall be as follows:

2.5.2.2.1.1 If the payment due date falls on a Sunday or on a Holiday which is observed on Monday, the payment date shall be the first non-Holiday day following that day, and;

2.5.2.2.1.2 If the payment due date falls on a Saturday or on a Holiday which is observed on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday or Friday, the payment date shall be the last non-Holiday day following such Saturday or Holiday.

2.5.2.3 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, based on a thirty-day month.

2.5.2.4 Billing of the Customer by the Company will begin on the Service Commencement Date. Billing accrues through and includes the day that the service, circuit, arrangement or component is discontinued.

ACCESS SERVICES

2. REGULATIONS (Cont.)

2.5 Payment Arrangements (Cont.)

2.5.2 Billing and Collection of Charges

2.5.2.5 Amounts not paid within 30 days after the date of invoice will be considered past due and subject to the following late payment provisions.

2.5.2.5.1 Late Payment Charges: If (i) no payment is received by the Company from the Customer, (ii) a partial payment of the amount due is received by the Company after the payment due date and/or (iii) payment is received by the Company in funds that are not immediately available to the Company, a late payment charge shall be applied. The late payment charge will be a amount equal to the lessor of the following:

2.5.2.5.1.1 The highest interest rate which may be levied by law for commercial transactions, compounded daily for each day from the payment due date through and including the date the Customer makes payment to the Company; or,

2.5.2.5.1.2 .0005 percent of the amount due compounded daily, for each day from the payment due date through and including the date the Customer makes payment to the Company. Calculation by this method yields an 18 percent annual percentage rate.

Interest shall not be assessed on any previously assessed late payment charges.

If the Company becomes concerned at any time about the ability of a Customer to pay its bills, the Company may require that the Customer pay its bills within a specified number of days less than 30 days after the date of the invoice and make such payments in cash or the equivalent of cash.

If a service is disconnected by the Company in accordance with Section 2.5.5 following and later restored, restoration of service will be subject to all applicable installation charges.

ACCESS SERVICES

2. REGULATIONS (Cont.)

2.5 Payment Arrangements (Cont.)

2.5.2 Billing and Collection of Charges (Cont.)

2.5.2.6 Billing Dispute: The Customer shall notify the Company of any disputed items on an invoice within 90 days of receipt of the invoice. If the Customer and the Company are unable to resolve the dispute to their mutual satisfaction, the Customer may file a complaint with the Rhode Island Public Utility Commission in accordance with the Commission's rules of procedure. If the customer disputes a bill, the Customer must document its claim to the Company in writing. For purposes of this tariff, the dispute date is the date on which the Customer presents sufficient documentation to support a claim.

2.5.2.6.1 Sufficient documentation consists of, but is not limited to, the following information, where such information is relevant to the dispute and available to the Customer:

- The nature of the dispute (i.e., alleged incorrect rate, alleged incorrect minutes of use, etc.), including the basis for the Customer's belief that the bill is incorrect;
- The type of usage (i.e., originating or terminating);
- The Company end office where the minutes of use originated or terminated (if applicable);
- The number of minutes in dispute;
- The billing account number(s) (BANs) assigned by the Company;
- The dollar amount in dispute;
- The date of the bill(s) in question;
- Circuit number or complete system identification and DS3 system identification if the dispute concerns a Connecting Facility Assignment (CFA) on a DS1. Line number, trunk number and Two Six Code (TSC) should also be provided;
- Purchase Order Number (PON) and dates involved (due date or as-of date) for disputes involving order activity and what the Customer believe is incorrect (e.g. non-recurring charge, mileage, circuit identification) and why they believe it to be incorrect (not received, not ordered, incorrect rate, etc.) For order activity disputes documentation should include traffic reports, billing cycle, and, is the service is shared, both main and shared service BANs. Line number, trunk number and Two Six Code as well as end-office identification should also be provided; and/or,
- Any other information necessary to facilitate dispute resolution.

If additional information from the Customer would assist in resolving the dispute, the Customer may be requested to provide this information. This data may include, but is not limited to, summarized usage data by time of day. The request for such additional information shall not affect the dispute date established by this section.

2.5.2.6.2 The date of resolution shall be the date on which the Company completes its investigation of the dispute, notifies the Customer of the disposition and, if the billing dispute is resolved in favor of the Customer, applies the credit for the amount of the dispute resolved in the Customer's favor to the Customer's bill, including the disputed amount interest credit, as appropriate.

ACCESS SERVICES

2. REGULATIONS (Cont.)

2.5 Payment Arrangements (Cont.)

2.5.2 Billing and Collection of Charges (Cont.)

2.5.2.6 Billing Dispute (Cont.)

2.5.2.6.3 Application of Late Payment Charges and Interest Credits to Disputed Amounts: Any payments withheld pending settlement of the dispute shall be subject to the late payment charges set forth in Section 2.5.2.5 preceding. The Company will resolve the dispute and assess interest credits or late payment charges to the Customer as follows:

2.5.2.6.3.1 If the dispute is resolved in favor of the Company and the Customer has paid the disputed amount on or before the payment due date no interest credits or late payment charges will apply to the disputed amounts.

2.5.2.6.3.2 If the dispute is resolved in favor of the Company and the Customer has withheld the disputed amount, any payments withheld pending settlement will be subject to the late payment charge set forth in Section 2.5.2.5.

2.5.2.6.3.3 If the dispute is resolved in favor of the Customer and the Customer has paid the disputed amount, the Customer will receive a credit from the Company for the disputed amount plus interest at a rate of .0005 percent, compounded daily from the date of payment to the resolution date.

2.5.2.6.3.4 If the dispute is resolved in favor of the Customer and the Customer has withheld the disputed amount, no interest credits or late payment

2.5.2.7 Ordering, Rating and Billing of Access Services Where More Than One Exchange Carrier is Involved. All Recurring and Non-Recurring Charges for services provided by each Exchange Carrier are billed under each Company's applicable tariffs. Under a Meet Point Billing arrangement, the Company will only bill for charges for traffic carried between the Company Local Switching Center and the End User.

The multiple billing arrangement described in this section is subject to the provisions of the Multiple Exchange Carrier Access billing Guidelines (MECAB) and the Multiple Exchange Carrier Ordering and Design Guidelines (MECOD), except that the Company will not bill for local transport as described in MECAB. The Company will bill the Tandem Connect (as defined in Section 5.3.3.1.1) rate elements as specified in this Tariff.

The Company must notify the Customer of: 1) the meet point option that will be used; 2) the Carrier(s) that will render the bill(s); 3) the Carrier(s) to whom payment should be remitted; and 4) the Carrier(s) that will provide the bill inquiry function. The Company shall provide such notification at the time orders are placed for Access Service. Additionally, the Company shall provide this notice in writing 30 days in advance of any changes in the arrangement.

2. REGULATIONS (Cont.)

2.5 Payment Arrangements (Cont.)

2.5.2 Billing and Collection of Charges (Cont.)

2.5.2.7 Ordering, Rating and Billing of Access Services Where More Than One Exchange Carrier is Involved (Cont.)

The Company will handle the ordering, rating and billing of Access Services under this tariff where more than one Exchange Carrier is involved in the provision of Access Services, as follows:

(1) The Company must receive an order for Feature Group D (FGD) Switched Access Service, as defined herein, ordered to the Company's Local Switching Center through a switch operated by another Exchange Carrier.

(2) In addition, for FGD Switched Access Service ordered to the Company's Local Switching Center through a switch operated by another Exchange Carrier with whom the Company has an agreement, the Customer may be required to submit an order as specified by the Exchange Carrier which operates the switch.

(3) Separate bills will be rendered by the Exchange Carrier for FGD access service.

(4) Rating and Billing of Service: Each company will provide its portion of access service based on the regulations, rates and charges contained in its respective Access Service tariff, subject to the following rules, as appropriate:

(a) The application of non-distance sensitive rate elements varies according to the rate structure and the location of the facilities involved:

(i) when rates and charges are listed on a per minute basis, the Company's rates and charges will apply to traffic originating from the Customer's Premises and terminating at the End User's premises, and vice versa.

ACCESS SERVICES

2. REGULATIONS (Cont.)

2.5 Payment Arrangements (Cont.)

2.5.3 Advance Payments

For Access Service, to safeguard its interests, the Company may require in its sole discretion 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 estimated usage 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 by agreement between the Company and the Customer. The Advance Payment will be credited to the Customer's initial bill. The advanced payment is due 10 business days following the date the Company confirms acceptance of the order, or on the application date, whichever is late. If the advance payment is not received by such payment date, the order may be cancelled. When the Customer cancels an access service request, the order will be withdrawn. Any advanced payment made will not be credited or refunded.

2.5.4 Deposits

2.5.4.1 Before the service or facility is furnished to a Customer whose credit has not been duly established, the Company may at it's sole discretion require a Customer to make a deposit to be held as a guarantee for the payment of charges. A deposit does not relieve the Customer of the responsibility for the prompt payment of bills on presentation. The deposit will not exceed an amount equal to:

(a) an amount in excess of two and one-half twelfths of the estimated charge for the service for the ensuing twelve months; or

2.5.4.2 In the Company's sole discretion, a deposit may be required in addition to an advance payment.

2.5.4.3 The Company shall pay interest on a deposit at the rate of seven (7) percent per annum. Interest on a deposit shall accrue annually and, if requested, shall be annually credited to the customer by deducting such interest from the amount of the next bill for service following the accrual date.

2.5.4.4 The charges set forth in this tariff contemplate installations made in normal locations and under normal working conditions. Any installations to be made under other circumstances are subject to additional charges.

2.5.4.5 When a service or facility is discontinued, the amount of a deposit, if any, will be applied to the Customer's account and any credit balance remaining will be refunded. Before the service or facility is discontinued, the Company may, at its option return the deposit or credit the Customer's account.

ACCESS SERVICES

2. REGULATIONS (Cont.)

2.5 Payment Arrangements (Cont.)

2.5.5 Refusal and Discontinuance of Service

2.5.5.1 Upon nonpayment of any regulated amounts owing to the Company, the Company may, by giving requisite prior written notice to the Customer discontinue or suspend service without incurring any liability.

2.5.5.2 Upon violation of any of the other material terms or conditions for furnishing service the Company may, by giving 30 days' prior notice in writing to the Customer, discontinue or suspend service without incurring any liability if such violation continues during that period.

2.5.5.3 Upon condemnation of any material portion of the facilities used by the Company to provide service to a Customer or if a casualty renders all or any material portion of such facilities inoperable beyond feasible repair, the Company, by notice to the Customer, may discontinue or suspend service without incurring any liability.

2.5.5.4 Upon any governmental prohibition, or required alteration of the services to be provided or any violation of an
applicable law or regulation, the Company may immediately discontinue service without incurring any liability.

2.5.5.5 Upon the Company's discontinuance of service to the Customer under Section 2.5.5.1 or 2.5.5.2 above, the Company, in addition to all other remedies that may be available to the Company at law or in equity or under any other provision of this tariff, may declare all future monthly and other charges which would have been payable by the Customer during the remainder of the term for which such services would have otherwise been provided to the Customer to be immediately due and payable.

2.5.5.6 When Access Service is provided by more than one Company, the companies involved in providing the joint service may individually or collectively deny service to a Customer for nonpayment. Where the Company(s) affected by the nonpayment is incapable of effecting discontinuance of service without cooperation from the other joint providers of Switched Access Service, such other Company(s) will, if technically feasible, assist in denying the joint service to the Customer. Service denial for such joint service will only include calls originating or terminating within, or transiting, the operating territory of the Company initiating the service denial for nonpayment. When more than one of the joint providers must deny service to effectuate termination for nonpayment, in cases where a conflict exists in the applicable tariff provisions, the tariff regulations of the company whose Local Switching Center serves the Customer shall apply for joint service discontinuance.

2. REGULATIONS (Cont.)

2.5 Payment Arrangements (Cont.)

2.5.5 Refusal and Discontinuance of Service (Cont.)

2.5.5.7 The Company may discontinue the furnishings of any and/or all service(s) to a Customer, without incurring any liability:

2.5.5.7.1 Immediately and without notice if the Company deems that such action is necessary to prevent or to protect against fraud or to otherwise protect its personnel, agents, facilities or services. The Company may discontinue service pursuant to this sub-section 2.5.5.7.1.(a-f), if:

(a) The Customer refuses to furnish information to the Company regarding the Customer's credit-worthiness, its past or current use of Common Carrier communications services or its planned use of service(s); or

(b) The Customer provides false information to the Company regarding the Customer's identity, address, credit-worthiness, past or current use of Common Carrier communications services, or its planned use of the Company's service(s); or

(c) The Customer states that it will not comply with a request of the Company for security for the payment for service(s) in accordance with Section 2.5.4.1 above; or

(d) The Customer has been given written notice by the Company of any past due amount (which remains unpaid in whole or in part) for any of the Company's other Common Carrier communications services to which the Customer either subscribes or had subscribed or used; or

(e) The Customer uses service to transmit a message, locate a person or otherwise give or obtain information without payment for the service; or

(f) The Customer uses, or attempts or use, service with the intent to void the payment, either in whole or in part, of the tariffed charges for the service by:

(1) Using or attempting to use service by rearranging, tampering with, or making connections to the Company's service not authorized by this tariff; or

(2) Using tricks, schemes, false or invalid numbers, false credit devices, electronic devices; or

(3) Any other fraudulent means or devices; or

2. REGULATIONS (Cont.)

2.5 Payment Arrangements (Cont.)

2.5.5 Refusal and Discontinuance of Service (Cont.)

2.5.5.7 (Cont.)

2.5.5.7.2 Immediately upon written notice to the Customer of any sum thirty (30) days past due;

2.5.5.7.3 Immediately upon written notice to the Customer, after failure of the Customer to comply with a request made by the Company for security for the payment of service in accordance with Section 2.5.4.1, above; or

2.5.5.7.4 Seven (7) days after sending the Customer written notice of noncompliance with any provision of this tariff if the noncompliance is not corrected within that seven (7) day period. The discontinuance of service(s) by the Company pursuant to this Section does not relieve the Customer of any obligation to pay the Company for charges due and owing for service(s) furnished up to the time of discontinuance.

2.5.5.8 In the event the Company incurs fees or expenses, including attorney's fees, in collecting, or attempting to collect, any charges owed the Company, the customer will be liable to the Company for the payment of all such fees and expenses reasonably incurred.

2.5.6 Cancellation of Application for Service

2.5.6.1 Applications for service are noncancellable unless the Company otherwise agrees. Where the Company permits the 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 as may be specified in this Section and Section 3.2.3.

2.5.6.2 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 the Company incurred, 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 begun.

2.5.6.3 The special charges described in 2.5.6.1 through 2.5.6.2 will be calculated and applied on a case-by-case basis.

ACCESS SERVICES

2. REGULATIONS (Cont.)

2.6 Allowances for Interruptions in Service

Interruptions in service which 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 2.6.1 for the part of the service that the interruption affects.

2.6.1 Credit for Interruptions

2.6.1.1 A credit allowance will be made when an interruption occurs because of a failure of any component furnished by the Company under this tariff. An interruption period begins when the Customer reports a service, facility or circuit, to be interrupted and releases it for testing and repair. An interruption period ends when the service, facility, or circuit is operative. If the Customer reports a service, facility or circuit to be inoperative but declines to release it for testing and repair, it is considered to be impaired, but not interrupted.

2.6.1.2 For calculating credit allowances, every month is considered to have 30 days. A credit allowance is applied on a pro-rata basis against the rates specified hereunder and is dependent upon the length of the interruption. Only those facilities on the interrupted portion of the circuit will receive a credit.

ACCESS SERVICES

2. REGULATIONS (Cont.)

2.6 Allowances for Interruptions in Service (Cont.)

2.6.1 Credit for Interruptions (Cont.)

2.6.1.4 For Switched Access Service, no credit will be allowed for an interruption of less than 24 hours. After the first 24 hour period, a credit equal to 1/30 of the Direct Connect facilities charges will be applied to each interruption which is in excess of twelve hours and up to 24 hours.

2.6.2 Limitations on Allowances

No credit allowance will be made for:

(a) interruptions due to the negligence of, or noncompliance with the provisions of this tariff by, the Customer, Authorized User, Joint-User, or other Common Carrier providing service connected to the service of Company;

(b) interruptions due to the negligence of any person other than the Company, including, but not limited to, the Customer or other Common Carriers connected to the Company's facilities;

(c) interruptions due to the failure or malfunction of non-Company equipment;

(d) interruptions of service during any period in which the Company is not given full and free access to its facilities and equipment for the purpose of investigating and correcting interruptions;

(e) interruptions of service during a period in which the Customer continues to use the service on an impaired basis;

(f) interruptions of service during any period when the Customer has released service to the Company for maintenance purposes or for implementation of a Customer order for a change in service arrangements;

(g) interruption of service due to circumstances or causes beyond the control of the Company.

2.6.2.1 Use of Alternative Service Provided by the Company: Should the Customer elect to use an alternative service provided by the Company during the period that a service is interrupted, the Customer must pay the tariffed rates and charges for the alternative service used.

ACCESS SERVICES

2. REGULATIONS (Cont.)

2.6 Allowances for Interruptions in Service (Cont.)

2.6.3 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 which has been subject to the outage or cumulative service credits.

2.7 Cancellation of Service

2.7.1 If a Customer cancels services before the completion of the term for any reason whatsoever other than a service interruption (as defined in Section 2.6.1 above), the Customer agrees to pay to the Company the following sums which shall become due and owing as of the effective date of the cancellation or termination and shall be payable within the period set forth in Section 2.5.2: all costs, fees, and expenses reasonably incurred in connection with 1) all Non-Recurring Charges reasonably expended by Company to establish service to Customer, plus 2) any disconnection, early cancellation or termination charges reasonably incurred and paid to third parties by Company on behalf of Customer, plus 3) all Recurring Charges specified in the applicable tariff for the balance of the then current term.

The terms and conditions specified in Section 3.2.3 will apply for cancellation of an Access Service Request.

2.8 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 (a) to any subsidiary, parent Company or affiliate of the Company (b) 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.

2.9 Notices and Communications

2.9.1 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.

2.9.2 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 the Company may designate a separate address, on each bill for service, to which the Customer shall mail payment on that bill.

2.9.3 All notices or other communications required to be given pursuant to this tariff shall 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 deposit 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.

2.9.4 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.

ACCESS SERVICES

2. REGULATIONS (Cont.)

2.10 Billing Name and Address

Billing Name and Address (BNA) provides the billing name and address of an end user who has an Automatic Number Identification recorded by the customer (interexchange carriers, operator service providers, enhanced service providers and any other provider of interstate telecommunications services) for telecommunications services rendered by the customer to its end user. The receipt of this information will allow the customer to provide its own billing to end users who may not have established a formal relationship with the customer.

BNA is provided for the sole purpose of permitting the Customer to bill its telephonic communications services to its end users and may not be resold or used for any other purpose, including marketing activity such as market surveys or direct marketing by mail or by telephone. The Customer may not use BNA information to bill for merchandise, gift certificates, catalogs or other services or products.

2.10.1 Undertaking of the Company

A) All requests for information will be by facsimile.

B) The Company will specify the format in which requests are to be submitted.

C) The BNA information will be provided for the calling number furnished to the extent a billing name and address exists in the Company's records. BNA information will not be provided for those end users who have requested that their BNA not be disclosed for collect and bill to third party calls.

D) The Company will provide the most current BNA information resident in its data base. Due to normal end user account activity, there may be instances where the BNA information provided is not the BNA that was applicable at the time the message originated.

2.10.2 Obligations of the Customer

A) With each order for BNA Service, the customer shall identify the authorized individual, the address, and or the facsimile to receive the BNA information.

B) The customer shall institute adequate internal procedure to insure the BNA information, including that related to "confidential" non-published and non-listed telephone numbers, is used only for the purpose set forth in this Tariff and that BNA information is available only to those customers personnel or agents with a need to know the information.

C) The customer shall not publicize or represent to others that the Company jointly participates with the customer in the development of the customer's end user records accounts, databases or market data, records files and databases or other systems it assembles through the use of BNA Service.

2.10.3 Usage Rates

Billing Name and Address (BNA) Customers will be assessed a per record rate for each BNA record requested. This rate is billed to the customer on a monthly basis. The BNA per record rate applies regardless of whether the requested telephone number is available in the Telephone Company's information database.

2.10.3.1 Per Request Rate $0.75

ACCESS SERVICES

2. REGULATIONS (Cont.)

2.11 Individual Case Basis (ICB) Arrangements

Rates for ICB Arrangements will be developed on a case-by-case basis in response to a bona fide request from a Customer or prospective Customer to develop a competitive bid for a service 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 non-discriminatory basis.