

ATTACHMENT 20: CLEARINGHOUSE (CH)

WHEREAS, SBC MISSOURI operates a Clearinghouse (CH), as described below, for its own behalf and that of participating facility-based LECs and facility-based CLECs; and,

WHEREAS, facility-based CLEC will participate in the CH on the terms set forth herein;

The Parties agree to the following:

1. CLEARING HOUSE DESCRIPTION

- 1.1 SBC MISSOURI operates a CH for the purpose of facilitating the exchange of certain alternatively billed intrastate intraLATA message toll call records and the reporting of settlement revenues owed by and among participating LECs including SBC MISSOURI and CLEC.

2. QUALIFYING MESSAGE CRITERIA

- 2.1 The only toll call messages that qualify for submission to SBC MISSOURI for CH processing are: (a) intrastate intraLATA sent collect (including calling card, collect and third number) messages which are originated in one LEC or CLEC exchange, exclusively carried by a LEC or CLEC over LEC or CLEC facilities and billed to a customer located in a second LEC's or CLEC exchange within the same state; or (b) intrastate intraLATA sent collect (but limited to calling card and third number) messages originated in one of SBC MISSOURI's operating areas (located in parts of Texas, Arkansas, Kansas, Missouri or Oklahoma), exclusively carried by a LEC or CLEC over LEC or CLEC facilities, and billed to a customer located in a second LEC's or CLEC exchange and not in the originating State.

3. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PARTIES

- 3.1 CLEC agrees that it will provide SBC MISSOURI with billing records for CH processing that are in an industry standard format acceptable to SBC MISSOURI and that at a minimum will display the telephone number of the end user to whom the call is to be billed and data about the call sufficient for a carrier to comply with all applicable state regulatory requirements. For purposes of this Attachment, these records ("CH Records") will detail intraLATA toll calls which were originated by use of the single digit access code (i.e., 0+ and 0-) in one LEC or CLEC exchange but are to be billed to an end user in a second LEC's or CLEC exchange. Such records are referred to as category 92 records for CH processing purposes. The term "CH Record" will mean the call detail attributed to a single completed toll message.
- 3.2 CLEC agrees that all CH Records it generates will display indicators denoting whether category 92 Records should be forwarded to SBC MISSOURI's CH. CLEC will retain its originating records for ninety (90) days such that the category 92 Records can be retransmitted to SBC MISSOURI for CH processing, if needed.
- 3.3 SBC MISSOURI will provide and maintain such systems as it believes are required to furnish the CH service described herein. SBC MISSOURI, in its capacity as operator of the CH, agrees to retain all CH Records processed through the CH for two (2) years.
- 3.4 CLEC will timely furnish to SBC MISSOURI all CH Records required by SBC MISSOURI to provide the CH service in accordance with the Technical Exhibit Settlement Procedures (TESP) dated March 25, 1996, or as otherwise mutually agreed upon by the Parties. SBC MISSOURI will provide the CH service in accordance with the TESP and such modifications as are subsequently agreed upon.
- 3.5 Presently, in operating the CH, SBC MISSOURI relies upon NXX codes to identify messages for transmission to participating billing companies. To the extent any subprocesses are required to settle CH messages due to the use of ported numbers, such subprocessing will be the responsibility of the porting entity.

4. PROCESSING CHARGE

- 4.1 CLEC agrees to pay SBC MISSOURI a processing charge in consideration of SBC MISSOURI's performance of CH services. This charge is identified in Appendix Pricing Schedule.

5. BILLING CHARGE

- 5.1 CLEC agrees to pay per message charge to the LEC responsible for billing the message, including SBC MISSOURI, when SBC MISSOURI bills the message. This charge is identified in Appendix Pricing Schedule.

6. SETTLEMENT REPORT

- 6.1 SBC MISSOURI will issue monthly reports containing the results of the processing of CH Records to each participating LEC and CLEC. These reports list the (a) amounts owed by CLEC for billing messages originated by others; (b) amounts due to CLEC for CLEC-originated messages billed by others; (c) applicable billing charges; and (d) processing charges.

7. RETROACTIVE AND LOST MESSAGES

- 7.1 The Parties agree that processing of retroactive messages through the CH is acceptable, if such messages utilize the industry standard format for call records, pursuant to Section 3 of this Attachment. The Parties agree that lost messages are the complete responsibility of the originating LEC or CLEC. If messages are lost by any Party, and cannot be recreated or retransmitted, the originating LEC or CLEC will estimate messages, minutes, and associated revenues based on the best available data. No estimate will be made for messages which are more than two years old at the time the estimate is made. The estimates will be off-line calculations (i.e., not part of the routine CH processing) and will be included as a supplement to the monthly settlement report.

8. LIMITATION OF LIABILITY

- 8.1 By agreeing to operate the CH, SBC MISSOURI assumes no liability for any LEC's or CLEC's receipt of appropriate revenues due to it from any other entity. CLEC agrees that SBC MISSOURI will not be liable to it for damages (including, but not limited to, lost profits and exemplary damages) which may be owed to it as a result of any inaccurate or insufficient information resulting from any entity's actions, omissions, mistakes, or negligence and upon which SBC MISSOURI may have relied in preparing settlement reports or performing any other act under this Attachment.
- 8.2 CLEC agrees to indemnify and hold SBC MISSOURI harmless against and with respect to any and all third party claims, demands, liabilities or court actions arising from any of its actions, omissions, mistakes or negligence occurring during the course of SBC MISSOURI's performance of CH processing pursuant to this Attachment.
- 8.3 SBC MISSOURI will not be liable for any losses or damages arising out of errors, interruptions, defects, failures, or malfunction of the CH services provided pursuant to this Attachment, including those arising from associated equipment and data processing systems, except such losses or damages caused by the sole negligence of SBC MISSOURI. Any losses or damage for which SBC MISSOURI is held liable under this Attachment will in no event exceed the amount of processing charges incurred by CLEC for the CH services provided hereunder during the period beginning at the time SBC MISSOURI receives notice of the error, interruption, defect, failure or malfunction, to the time service is restored.

9. DISCLAIMER OF WARRANTIES

- 9.1 SBC MISSOURI MAKES NO REPRESENTATIONS OR WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO ANY WARRANTY AS TO MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR INTENDED OR PARTICULAR PURPOSE WITH RESPECT TO SERVICES PROVIDED HEREUNDER. ADDITIONALLY, SBC MISSOURI ASSUMES NO RESPONSIBILITY WITH REGARD TO THE

CORRECTNESS OF THE DATA SUPPLIED BY CLEC WHEN THIS DATA IS ACCESSED AND USED BY A THIRD PARTY.

10. APPLICABILITY OF OTHER RATES, TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- 10.1 Every interconnection, service and network element provided hereunder, shall be subject to all rates, terms and conditions contained in this Agreement which are legitimately related to such interconnection, service or network element. Without limiting the general applicability of the foregoing, the following terms and conditions of the General Terms and Conditions are specifically agreed by the Parties to be legitimately related to, and to be applicable to, each interconnection, service and network element provided hereunder: definitions; interpretation, construction and severability; notice of changes; general responsibilities of the Parties; effective date, term and termination; fraud; deposits; billing and payment of charges; non-payment and procedures for disconnection; dispute resolution; audits; disclaimer of representations and warranties; limitation of liability; indemnification; remedies; intellectual property; publicity and use of trademarks or service marks; no license; confidentiality; intervening law; governing law; regulatory approval; changes in End User local exchange service provider selection; compliance and certification; law enforcement; no third party beneficiaries; disclaimer of agency; relationship of the Parties/independent contractor; subcontracting; assignment; responsibility for environmental contamination; force majeure; taxes; non-waiver; network maintenance and management; signaling; transmission of traffic to third parties; customer inquiries; expenses; conflicts of interest; survival; scope of agreement; amendments and modifications; and entire agreement.