
SECTION 1 – DEFINITIONS, (CONT'D.)

Operating Company Number (OCN) – a four place alphanumeric code (NNXX), assigned by NECA, that identifies providers of telecommunications services. A separate code is required for each state in which a company provides facility based telecommunication services.

Originating Carrier – The carrier originating a call from an End User.

Originating Direction - the origination of calls from an End User premises.

Originating Point Code - a field within a signaling message that identifies the originating network signaling node.

Other ILEC Areas –designates the rates applicable for areas served by ILECs not specifically named in this tariff.

Percentage of Intrastate IntraLATA Use (PIIU) – Intrastate intraLATA versus intrastate interLATA jurisdictional use of a service as reported by the customer. This percentage is stated as a whole number percentage which is the customer's best estimate of the percentage of the total use of the intrastate service that will be intrastate intraLATA in nature.

Percentage for Interstate Use (PIU) - Interstate jurisdictional use of a service as reported by the customer. This percentage is stated as a whole number percentage which is the customer's best estimate of the percentage of the total use of the service that will be interstate in nature.

Point of Termination - the point of demarcation within a customer-designated premises or point of interconnection at which the Telephone Company's responsibility for the provision of service ends.

Premises - a building, a portion of a building in a multi-tenant building or buildings on continuous property not separated by a public thoroughfare.

SECTION 2 - GENERAL REGULATIONS, (CONT'D.)**2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowances, (Cont'd.)****2.4.7 Ordering, Rating and Billing of Access Services Where More Than One Exchange Telephone Company is Involved**

- (A) When an Access Service is ordered by a customer where one portion of the service is provided by one Exchange Telephone Company and the other portion of the service is provided by another Exchange Telephone Company, the Telephone Company accepts and adheres to the Ordering and Billing Forum guidelines, Multiple Exchange Carrier Access Billing (MECAB) and Multiple Exchange Carrier Ordering and Design (MECOD).
- (B) When the Telephone Company routes traffic to an Alternate Access Tandem, upon request, the Telephone Company will provide recorded usage records, in Exchange Message Interface (EMI) format, to the Alternate Access Tandem service provider.

2.5 Notices

2.5.1 Any notices or other communications required or permitted to be given or the terms of this section shall be in hard-copy writing, unless otherwise specifically provided herein. Such notices or communications shall be sufficiently given if delivered personally, or if delivered by prepaid overnight express service, or if delivered by confirmed facsimile transmission and with a copy delivered thereafter either personally, or by prepaid overnight express service, to the Customer's authorized representative.

2.5.2 Notice shall be given to the Telephone Company's Vice President – Regulatory, 1 South Wacker Drive, Suite 200, Chicago, IL 60606. Facsimile: (312) 346-3276.

A copy of each notice relating to an action, suit, proceeding or claim is to be sent simultaneously to the Telephone Company's General Counsel, 1 South Wacker Drive, Suite 200, Chicago, IL 60606. Facsimile: (312) 346-3276.

2.5.3 Either party may unilaterally change its designated representative and/or address for the receipt of notices by giving seven days' prior written notice to the other party in compliance with this section. Any notice or other communication shall be deemed given when received.

SECTION 3 – SERVICE DESCRIPTIONS, (CONT'D.)

3.1 Access Service

- 3.1.1 Access Service enables Interconnected Carriers or the Company to originate Toll Service to Toll Service providers and Toll Service providers to terminate Toll Services to Interconnected Carriers or the Company. Access Services do not include 911, 411, 976, 311, 611, 500, 950, Directory Assistance, 0+ local, and 0+ operator services.

Access Service for traffic originating to Toll Service providers can be delivered either over a direct connection between the Company and Toll Service provider when the connection exists, or when the connection does not exist, via an Alternate Access Tandem.

Access Service for traffic terminating to Interconnected Carriers or Company End Office can be delivered either over a direct connection between the Company and Toll Service provider when the connection exists, or when the connection does not exist, via an Alternate Access Tandem.

For Access traffic routed from or to Non-Carriers, the Company will function as an End Office provider rather than as an Access Tandem provider.

SECTION 3 – SERVICE DESCRIPTIONS, (CONT'D.)

3.1 Access Service, (Cont'd.)

- 3.1.3 Customer is responsible for compliance with all third party traffic termination arrangements, including primary toll carrier agreements, and optional and/or extended calling area plans.
- 3.1.4 In addition to all applicable nonrecurring and monthly recurring charges, Customer for Access Service will be charged a MOU charge for all Access Service traffic delivered to or from the Telephone Company. The 800 Database Query Charge will apply for each 800 call query received at the Company's (or its provider's) Toll-Free 800 database.
- 3.1.5 Customer for Access Service is the Toll Service provider
- 3.1.6 Access Service shall be on a Meet Point Billing ("MPB") basis, with all applicable carriers billing their respective portions of the charges directly to the Toll Service provider, and Telephone Company will not be required to function as or use a billing intermediary, e.g. clearinghouse.
- 3.1.7 The rates charged for Switched Access elements identified herein are applied in a manner such that the rate charged by the Company reasonably approximates the rate charged by the relevant Incumbent Local Exchange Carrier for each Switched Access element.

SECTION 5 - SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS, (CONT'D.)**5.2 Individual Case Basis (ICB) Arrangements**

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, but in no case will the ICB rates be higher than the tariffed rates. ICB rates will be offered to the Customer in writing and on a non-discriminatory basis.

If the Company and a Customer enter into an ICB arrangement, the ICB arrangement may provide the Customer or the Company with certain rights to terminate the arrangement. If the Customer or the Company exercises such a termination right, then upon the effective date of termination, the ICB rates will no longer apply. Customer may choose to route traffic through the Company at tariff rates, subject to meeting any credit requirements of the Company in this tariff. Regardless, in an effort to preserve uninterrupted termination of traffic and to avoid unnecessary disruptions in PSTN calling, Customer will maintain the existing interconnections for the purpose of receiving traffic from the Company while the Company and Customer negotiate a termination agreement governing the interconnection. The terms of the ICB arrangement applicable to the Customer's acceptance of traffic from the Company will continue to apply until such time as a successor termination agreement becomes effective. The Customer and the Company will use their best endeavors to resolve in good faith all outstanding issues in the renegotiation of a successor agreement and will escalate any disputes to members of senior management. However, if the Customer and the Company are unable to come to a resolution of certain issues during the renegotiation process, either the Customer or the Company may at any time request arbitration, mediation or assistance from the Commission or, if applicable, the Federal Communications Commission, to resolve the remaining issues, in accordance with the applicable commission's procedures.

5.3 Temporary Promotional Programs

The Company may establish temporary promotional programs wherein it may waive or reduce non-recurring or recurring charges, to introduce present or potential Customers to a service not previously received by the Customers.