# PAUL H. GARDNER

### ATTORNEY AT LAW

801 W. Vesper
Blue Springs, MO 64015-3733
TEL 816-224-3005 FAX 816-229-9196

CELL 816-678-4707 E-Mail: lkgardner@hotmail.com

September 24, 2008

FILED<sup>3</sup>

SEP 2 5 2008

Colleen Dale Secretary Missouri Public Commission 200 Madison Street Jefferson City, MO 65101 Missouri Public Service Commission

RE:

In the matter of the Application of Network Innovations, Inc., for a certificate service authority to provide interexchange telecommunications services and to classify such services and the company as competitive

Dear Ms. Dale:

Enclosed for filing please find an original and eight copies of the Application of Network Innovations, Inc., for a certificate of service authority to provide interexchange telecommunication services in the above referenced matter. Please contact me if you need additional information concerning this application.

Sincerely,

Faul H. Gardner

PHG/cm Enclosures

FILED<sup>3</sup>
SEP 2 5 2008

# BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

Missouri Public Service Commission

In the Matter of the Application of	)	
Network Innovations, Inc., for a certificate	)	Case No.
service authority to provide interexchange	)	
telecommunications services and to classify such	)	
services and the company as competitive	)	

### **APPLICATION**

NETWORK INNOVATIONS, INC., ("Applicant"), an Illinois corporation, files this verified application respectfully requesting that the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Commission") issue an order that:

- (a) grants Applicant a Certificate of Service Authority to provide interexchange telecommunications services pursuant to Chapter 392 of the Missouri Revised Statutes.
- (b) grants competitive status to Applicant, and classifies the Applicant's services as Competitive.
- (c) waives certain Commission rules and statutory provisions pursuant to Section 392.420, RSMo 2000.

In support of its request, Applicant states:

is:

1. The legal name and principal office or place of business of the Applicant

Network Innovations, Inc. 1101 W. Lake Street Chicago, Il 60607

A copy of the Applicant's authority issued by Missouri Secretary of State to transact business in Missouri is attached hereto as Exhibit 1.

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- 2. Applicant is a reseller of telecommunications services. Applicant proposes to provide interexchange telecommunications services within Missouri including T-1 or better, point-to-point private line and Internet access. Applicant respectfully requests authority to provide service to prospective business customers throughout the State of Missouri.
- 3. Applicant has the required experience in the telecommunication industry and technical expertise as demonstrated in the attached Exhibit 2, Key Management Resumes.
- 4. Pursuant to the requirements of 4 CSR 240-3.510(1) (c), attached as Exhibit 3 to their application is a proposed tariff for interexchange telecommunications services bearing a 45 day effective date. The proposed tariff contains the rules and regulations applicable to the Applicant's customers, a description of services offered, and a list of rates associated with such services.
- 5. Applicant requests classification as a competitive telecommunications company within the State of Missouri, and that its services are classified as competitive. Applicant believes that its proposed services will be subject to sufficient competition to justify a lesser degree of regulation. Granting of this applicant is in the public interest as it will allow greater price and service options for telephone users.
- 6. Applicant also respectfully requests, pursuant to Section 392.420 RSMo 2000, that the Commission waive the application of the following rules and statutory provisions as it relates to the regulation of the Applicant.

392.21.2	Establish Uniform Systems of Accounts for Annual
372.21.2	Reports
392.240(1)	Setting Just and Reasonable Rates
392,270	Ascertain property values
392.280	Establish depreciation accounts
392.290	Issuance of securities
392.300.2	Acquisition of stock
392.310	Issuance of stock and debt
392.320	Stock dividend payment
392.330	Issuance of securities, debts and notes
392.340	Reorganization(s)
4 CSR 240-30.040	Uniform System of Accounts
392.340 4 CSR 240-10.020	Reorganization(s) Depreciation fund income

These rules and statutory provisions are principally designed to apply to non-competitive telecommunications carriers. As a result, it would be inconsistent with the goal and purpose of federal and state statutes to apply these rules and statutes to a competitive company such as the Applicant.

- 7. Applicant, pursuant to Section 386.570, RSMo 2000, will comply with all applicable Commission rules those which are specifically waived by the Commission pursuant to a request filed by the Applicant.
- 8. Correspondence or communication pertaining to this Application should be addressed to the following persons:

Paul H. Gardner 801 N.W. Vesper Blue Springs, Missouri 64015 (816) 224-3005 (816) 229-9196 fax starke02@swbell.net

Chris Collier
Director of Regulatory Compliance
Telecom Professionals, Inc.
5909 NW Expressway, Suite 101
Oklahoma city, OK 73132
(405) 755-8177 ext.24
CCollier@telecompliance.net

- 9. The applicant has no pending actions or final unsatisfied judgments or decisions against it from any state or federal agency or court which involve customer service rates, which action, judgment or decision has occurred within three years of the date of this Application. No commission annual reports or assessment fees are overdue.
- availability of competitive telecommunications services in the State of Missouri. In addition, intrastate offering of these services is in the public interest because the services will provide Missouri customers with access to new technologies and service choices, and can permit customers to achieve increased efficiencies and cost savings. In particular, the public will benefit directly, through the use of the competitive services to be offered by Applicant, and indirectly, because the presence of Applicant in this market will increase the incentives for other telecommunications providers to operate more efficiently, offer more innovative services, reduces their prices, and improve their quality of services.

WHEREFORE, Applicant, NETWORK INNOVATIONS, INC., respectfully requests the Missouri Public Service Commission grant it a certificate of service authority to provide interexchange telecommunications services within the State of Missouri. Applicant also requests classification as a competitive telecommunications company and that its services be classified as competitive. In addition, Applicant requests a waiver of the above-referenced rule and statutory provisions.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul H. Gardner #28159

801 N.W. Vesper

Blue Springs, MO 64015

(816) 224-3005

(816) 229-9196

starke02@swbell.net

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the above and foregoing document was sent via U.S. Mail on this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_\_, 2008 to the Office of Public Counsel at 200 Madison Street, Suite 650, P.O. Box 2230, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102.

Paul H. Gardner

# ATTORNEY VERIFICATION

STATE OF MISSOURI	
COUNTY OF JACKSON	) ss.
that I am local counsel for NE proceeding; that I have read the allegations therein contained a	ng duly sworn, do hereby certify, depose and state TWORK INNOVATIONS, INC., applicant in this he above and foregoing Application and the are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, further state that I am authorized to verify the bove said applicant.  Paul H. Gardner
Subscribed and sworn to before, 2008.	re me, a Notary Public, this day of
	Notary Public

### **VERIFICATION**

STATE OF ILLINOIS	)	
	)	§§.
COUNTY OF COOK	)	

Rick Stern, being duly sworn, states that he is the Chief Executive Officer of Network Innovations, Inc Applicant for a Certificate of Service Authority from the Missouri Public Service Commission to provide Interexchange and Non-switched Local Exchange Telecommunications Services on a resale basis throughout the State of Missouri; that the information contained in the application and attachments are true and correct; that the reseller is familiar with and will comply with all applicable federal and state laws and the rules and orders of the Missouri Public Service Commission.

Dated this 2 Day of November, 2007

Network Innovations, Inc.

Rick Stern, CEC

Subscribed and sworn before me on this 19th day of November, 2007.

OFFICIAL SEAL
LOUISE JOY CAVIRA
NOTARY PUBLIC, STATE OF ILLINOIS
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES 4-16-2011

Notary Public

(Seal)

My Commission Expires: 4-16-2011

# **LIST OF EXHIBITS**

EXHIBIT 1 Authority issued by Missouri Secretary of State

EXHIBIT 2 Resumes of Key Management

EXHIBIT 3 Proposed Tariff

# **EXHIBIT 1**

Authority issued by Missouri Secretary of State

STATE OF MISSOURI



# Robin Carnahan Secretary of State CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY

WHEREAS,

Network Innovations, Inc.

using in Missouri the name

NI Telecom, Inc. F00827329

has complied with the General and Business Corporation Law which governs Foreign Corporations; by filing in the office of the Secretary of State of Missouri authenticated evidence of its incorporation and good standing under the Laws of the State of Illinois.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ROBIN CARNAHAN, Secretary of State of the State of Missouri, do hereby certify that said corporation is from this date duly authorized to transact business in this State, and is entitled to all rights and privileges granted to Foreign Corporations under the General and Business Corporation Law of Missouri.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand and cause to be affixed the GREAT SEAL of the State of Missouri. Done at the City of Jefferson, this 3rd day of July, 2007.

Secretary of State





# State of Missouri

Robin Carnahan, Secretary of State

Corporations Division P.O. Box 778 / 600 W. Main Street, Rm 322 Jefferson City, MO 65102 File Number: F00827329 Date Filed: 07/03/2007 Robin Carnahan Secretary of State

### Application for Certificate of Authority For a Foreign For-Profit Corporation

(Submit with filing fee of \$155.00)

1.	The corporation's name	is Network Innovation	s, Inc.	,		
	and it is organized and e	xisting under the laws	of Illinois	<del></del>		<u>;</u>
2.	The name it will use in	Missouri is NI Telecon	m, Inc.			
3,	The date of its incorpora		,	, and the period of its d	uration is Perpetual	<u> </u>
		mo)	nth/day/year	-		
4.	The address of its princi	pal place of business 1		et, Chicago, IL 60657		<del></del>
			Address ·		City/State/Zip	!
5.	The name and physical					
		m, 120 South Central A	<del></del>	3105		<del>-                                    </del>
	Name		Address		City/State/Zip	•
6.	The specific purpose(s) Telecommunications S activity for which corp		the foregoing, the pur	pose of the corporation i	s to engage in any lawful act or f Missouri.	
7.	The name of its officers	and directors and their	business addresses ar	e as follows:		
Officer	78	Name	Address	•	City/State/Zip	
	President Rick S	Hero	1246 1	bst Georges	t. chicanoIL 601	<u>5</u> 7
			_	•		
	Secretary Rick S	tera		Same as a	bire	
	Treasurer	·				
Board	of Directors	;				
	Director Ricks+	ern	·	same as a	bove	<u>.</u>
	Director Ronal				above	-
	Director					
						,
					-	
Name	and address to return file	d document			State of Missouri	- <del></del>
				Creation - Ger	State of Missouri neral Business - Foreign 3 Page(s)	:
Name Addre	esc.	·		i gamanını		1
	State, and Zip Code:		<del></del>	i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i	T0718456231	
L——				,		

	(Date may not be more	than 90 days after the film	ng date in this of	(Rev)	
In Af (The	firmation thereof, the facts stated above are true and corre undersigned understands that false statements made in this	ot: is filling are subject to	the penalties	provided under Sect	ion 575.040, RSMo
	( Zely Chit OC		Rick Stem	President	6-13-07
	Must be an Officer or Chairman listed in #7, above	Printed Name		Title	Date

# **EXHIBIT 2**

Resumes of Key Management

### RICK ALAN STERN 625 Orchard Pond Drive Lake Zurich, IL 60047 312-543-9249

### Network Innovations, Inc.

### CEO; 2/02 3 - Present

### Roles and Responsibilities:

- Executive Management for Network Innovations, Inc.
- Executive level guidance of company Sales and Marketing efforts
- Responsible for guidance of Finance and Accounting department
- Oversee General back office Operations, Customer Service, Network Operations Center
- Planning and Design of Network service and network infrastructure.

### Attributes:

- Innovative thinker with broad-based expertise in operations, finance, and business development.
- Proven ability to quickly analyze key business drivers and develop strategies to grow the bottom line.
- High-integrity, energetic leadership known for the ability to envision and create successful outcomes in complex situations.
- Diverse industry and functional expertise, with a tenacious commitment to driving sales, profit, and market-share growth.

### Mpower, Inc.

### MANAGER AGENT MARKETING; 04/03-11-03

- Responsible for recruiting and managing agents for Chicago area
- Currently manage a base of Master Agents and Agents offering CLEC service to small and mid market accounts.
- Responsible for selling Mpower's first PRI orders in Chicago
- Responsible for selling Mpower's largest single agent order in the country

# Network Innovations, Inc. MASTER Agent Program for Universal Access, Inc. (Independent contractor for UAI.)

### DIRECTOR OF SALES; 2/02-04/03

- Ran national sales efforts encompassing IP, Data, and Dedicated Hosting service
- Responsible for the overall domestic United States sales and marketing effort
- Support a nationwide base of sales agents specifically for our wholesale private line offering
- Instrumental in completing customer MSA for a top five telecom provider
- Established an active client base generating between 30-100 quotes per day for private line service requests

### Universal Access, Inc.

### DIRECTOR, STRATEGIC PROGRAMS; 11/00-2/02

- Responsible for overall sales and account penetration on five C.O.R.E. accounts
- Managed sales efforts for account positioning and penetration on new corporate initiative for National Accounts in the Wholesale segment
- Led and guided team of 5 Account Directors and 10 Account Managers in strategic planning and account strategy
- Played crucial role in securing UAI's first quarter million dollar monthly billing C.O.R.E. account

- Responsible for the design of the Alternate Channel program including but not limited to: Legal
  contracts, financial analysis, cost of sale modeling, design of order process flow, engineering &
  customer support efforts, recruiting & contracting agents / partners, securing new customer
  accounts
- Directly secured 20 plus new partners committing to over \$24,000,000 in annualized revenues
- Established a base of over 75 active quoting agents averaging over \$2,000,000.00 in quotes on a monthly basis

### MCI WorldCom

### MANAGER, AGENT MARKETING; 12/95-11/00.

- Responsible for recruiting, managing, maintaining and training over 200 sales
   Distributors in the Ameritech and US West regions
- Produced over \$3,000,000.00 in new revenues in the year 2000
- Managed an account base of approximately 38 million annually
- Developed Intro to WorldCom marketing kit for new agents
- 2000 Presidents Club Award Winner and #2 Agent Manager at 210%
- 1999 Presidents Club Award Winner and #2 Agent Manager at 208%
- 1998 Presidents Club Award Winner and #1 Agent Manager at 220%
- 1997 Presidents Club Award Winner and #1 Agent Manager at 400%

### REGIONAL HOSPITALITY MANAGER; 6/95-12/95

- Promoted to interim Sales Manager of team of 5 National Account Execs.
- Responsible for managing and training over 250 commercial sales representatives in the Operator Services business segment
- Successfully achieved consistent performance over 175%
- Ranked #1 Sales Manager during tenure in position

### NATIONAL ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE; 5/94-6/95.

- Responsible for Hospitality sales in the Ameritech region
- Managed an account base of over \$2.1 million annually
- Ranked # 1 in Operator services for WORLDCOM in 7/94, 10/94, 3/95

### Sprint, Corp.

### **MAJOR ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE; 8/91-5/94**

- Sold and maintained major accounts in Chicago Loop territory
- Managed an account base of approximately \$1 million annually
- Offered a full range of business products including voice and data
- Consistently sold over 125% during tenure with Sprint

### Allnet Communications, Inc.

### ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE; 7/90-8/91

- Consistently ranked in top 3 sales executives during tenure
- Won Top presenter award for Chicago office
- Sold and maintained commercial accounts in Suburban Chicago
- Sold over 140% of quota during tenure

### **EDUCATION:**

Bachelors of Science; Telecommunications, 1990, University of Florida Harvard Business School; Executive Education Program 2007

### SPECIAL INTERESTS: 1985-Present:

Actively study various martial art styles ranging from Karate 1<sup>st</sup> Degree Black Belt – Brazilian JiuJitsu – Pencak Silat – Muay Thai boxing (Brown Belt equivalent) – 7 Star Praying Mantis Kung Fu (Red Sash level 3)

# RONALD GRASON

**EXPERIENCE** 

997 – Presen

Internet Consultant - Major Accounts VERIO Chicago, IL

- Selling commercial dedicated Internet access (T1/DS3), DSL, collocation, VPNs, ecommerce, and security solutions. Target market from mid-size businesses to Fortune 500. Hardware lines include Cisco, Sun, Paradyne, Netopia, Checkpoint, Watchguard, and Axent.
- Developing channel sales and OEM product line to ISP's, web developers, and system integrators; providing turn-key solutions, from infrastructure to connectivity.
- Integral role in start-up office. Assisted in developing strategic pricing plans, contracts, marketing materials, commission compensation plans, and hiring of sales team.
- President's Club 1998, 1999 (#8 Rep from pool of 200+)

7 - Ongoing

Regional Sales Manager CELNET COMMUNICATIONS Chicago, IL

- Sales manager for the Chicago region. Top producing region in the nation, second quarter '97.
- Products included commercial long distance, dedicated Internet, and proprietary dial-up Internet service.
- Established training programs for sales representatives. Programs included switched and dedicated voice services, frame relay, ATM, Internet, and network/Internet hardware.

996 - 199

Commercial Account Executive WORLDCOM Chicago, IL

- Sold commercial long distance, leased data lines, and UUNET dedicated Internet access at 125% of quota.
- Top producing rep. on team of ten.

991 - 1996

Manager THE MAIN EVENT Chicago, IL

- Managed and initiated new account developments and purchasing. Started wholesale division, increasing revenues 35%.
- Organized and directed marketing campaign, including bulk mailings, radio slots, and television commercials.

**EDUCATION** 

|anuary 1994 LOYOLA UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

Chicago, IL

- BS, Biology.
- Graduated Cum Laude.

## **EXHIBIT 3**

**Proposed Tariff** 

By: Network Innovations, Inc. Rick Stern, CEO 1101 West Lake Street Chicago, IL 60607

### **CHECK SHEET**

The sheets listed below, which are inclusive of this tariff, are effective as of the date shown at the bottom of the respective sheet(s). Original and revised sheets as named below comprise all changes from the original tariff and are currently in effect as of the date indicated below.

Sheet	Revision
1	Original
2	Original
3	Original
4	Original
5	Original
6	Original
7	Original
8	Original
9	Original
10	Original
11	Original
12	Original
13	Original
14	Original
15	Original
16	Original
17	Original
18	Original
19	Original
20	Original
21	Original
22	Original
23	Original
24	Original
25	Original
26	Original
27	Original
28	Original
29	Original
30	Original
31	Original

<sup>\* =</sup> New/Revised this Issue

lssued:	Effective:

### **SYMBOLS**

The following are the only symbols used for the purposes indicated below:

- **(C)** To signify changed regulation
- **(D)** To signify discontinued rate or regulation
- **(I)** To signify an increase
- To signify matter relocated without change **(M)**
- To signify new rate or regulation (N)
- To signify a reduction (R)
- To signify change in text but not change in rate or regulation **(T)**
- To signify a correction **(Z)**

Issued: Effective:

### **TARIFF FORMAT**

- A. Sheet Numbering - Page numbers appear in the upper right corner of the sheet. Pages are numbered sequentially. However, new pages are occasionally added to the tariff. When a new page is added between existing pages with whole numbers, a decimal is added. For example, a new page added between pages 34 and 35 would be page 34.1.
- В. Sheet Revision Numbering - Revision numbers also appear in the upper right corner of the page. These numbers are used to determine the most current page version on file with the Commission. For example, 4th Revised Page 34 cancels the 3rd Revised Page 34. Consult the check sheet for the page currently in effect.
- C. Paragraph Numbering Sequence - There are nine levels of paragraph coding. Each level of coding is subservient to its next higher level:

2 2.1 2.1.1 2.1.1.A 2.1.1.A.1 2.1.1.A.1.(a) 2.1.1.A.1.(a).I 2.1.1.A.1.(a).I.(i) 2.1.1.A.1.(a).I.(i).(1)

D. Check Sheet - When a tariff is filed with the Commission, an updated check sheet accompanies the tariff filing. The check sheet lists the tariff pages, with a cross reference to the current revision number. When new sheets are added, the check sheet is changed to reflect the revision. All revisions made in a given filing are designated by an asterisk (\*). There will be no other symbols used on this sheet if these are the only changes made. The tariff user should refer to the latest check sheet to find out if a particular page is the most current on file with the Commission.

lssued:	Effective:	

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Effective: \_\_\_\_\_

# Missouri PSC Tariff No. 1

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### **SECTION 1 - TECHNICAL TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS**

### 1.1 <u>Definitions</u>

**Busy Hour** – The two consecutive half hours during which the greatest volume of traffic is handled in the central office.

**Call** – A completed connection between the Calling and Called parties.

Calling Station – The telephone number from which a Call originates.

**Called Station** – The telephone number called.

Carrier Customer - A carrier that orders exchange access or retail services from the Company.

**Commission** – The Missouri Public Service Commission.

**Company or Carrier** – Network Innovations, Inc. unless specifically stated otherwise.

Customer – A person, association, firm, corporation, partnership, governmental agency or other entity, including affiliates or divisions of the Customer, in whose name the telephone number of the Calling Station is registered with the underlying local exchange company. The Customer is responsible for payment of charges to the Company and compliance with all terms and conditions of this tariff.

Digital Signal, Level 1 ("DS1") – Capable of transmitting data at 1.544 Mbps.

Digital Signal, Level 3 ("DS3") – Capable of transmitting data at 44.736 Mbps.

**Day** – The period of time from 8:00 a.m. to (but not including) 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, as measured by local time at the location from which the Call is originated.

**Disconnect** – To render inoperable or to disable circuitry thus preventing outgoing and incoming toll communications service.

Evening – The period of time from 5:00 p.m. to (but not including) 11:00 p.m., Sunday through Friday and any time during a Holiday, as measured by local time at the location from which the Call is originated.

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### SECTION 1 - TECHNICAL TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS (Cont'd)

### 1.1 <u>Definitions</u> (Cont'd)

Individual Case Basis ("ICB") – A determination that the Customer's service requirements can only be satisfied by a complex Customer-Carrier arrangement for which it is difficult or impossible to establish general tariff provisions. ICB rates will be structured to recover the Company's cost of providing service and will be made available to similarly situated customers in a non-discriminatory manner. Terms of the specific ICB contracts will be made available to the Commission staff on a confidential basis upon staff's written request to the Company.

**Incomplete** – Any Call where voice transmission between the Calling and Called station is not established.

**Holiday** – For the purposes of this tariff recognized holidays are New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas Day.

**Message** – A completed telephone call by a Customer or User.

Normal Business Hours – The hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding holidays.

Optical Carrier, Level 3 ("OC3") – A SONET channel capable of transmitting data at 155.52 Mbps.

Optical Carrier, Level 12 ("OC12") – A SONET channel capable of transmitting data at 622.08 Mbps.

Optical Carrier, Level 48 ("OC48") – A SONET channel capable of transmitting data at 2.488 Gbps.

**Premises** – The space occupied by an individual Customer in a building, in adjoining buildings occupied entirely by that Customer, or on contiguous property occupied by the Customer separated only by a public thoroughfare, a railroad right of way, or a natural barrier.

Rate - Money, charge, fee or other recurring assessment billed to Customers for services or equipment.

**Terminal Equipment** – Telephone instruments, including pay telephone equipment, the common equipment of large and small key and PBX systems and other devices and apparatus, and associated wiring, which are intended to be connected electrically, acoustically, or inductively to the telecommunication system.

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### SECTION 1 - TECHNICAL TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS (Cont'd)

1	.1	<u>Definitions</u>	(Cont'	d)

User – Customer or any authorized person or entity that utilizes the Company's services.

**Weekend** – The hours of 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. on Saturday, and 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Sunday, as measured by local time at the location from which the call is originated.

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### SECTION 1 - TECHNICAL TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS (Cont'd)

### 1.2 **Abbreviations**

**CLEC** – Competitive Local Exchange Carrier

CO - Central Office

**CPE** – Customer Premises Equipment

**DS1** – Digital Service, Level 1

**DS3** – Digital Service, Level 3

Gbps – Gigabits per second; one thousand million bits per second transmission speed.

ICB - Individual Case Basis

**ILEC** – Incumbent Local Exchange Carrier

Mbps – One million bits per second data transmission speed

**NPA** – Numbering Plan Area (Area Code)

OC3 – Optical Carrier, Level 3

OC12 – Optical Carrier, Level 12

OC48 – Optical Carrier, Level 48

**PBX** – Private Branch Exchange

**PIC** – Primary or Preferred Interexchange Carrier

POP - Point of Presence

**V&H** – Vertical and Horizontal Coordinates

Issued:	Effective:

### **SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS**

### 2.1 <u>Undertaking of the Company</u>

- 2.1.1 The Company installs, operates and maintains the communications services provided herein in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in this tariff. When authorized by the Customer, the Company may act as the Customer's agent for ordering access connection facilities provided by other carriers or entities to allow connection of a Customer's location to the Company's network. The Customer shall be responsible for all charges due for such service arrangements.
- 2.1.2 The Company's services are provided on a monthly basis, unless otherwise stated in this tariff. Services are available twenty-four (24) hours per day, seven (7) days per week.
- 2.1.3 The Company's customer service representatives for billing and service inquiries may be reached, toll-free, at 866-892-0915. Customers wishing to communicate with the Company in writing may send correspondence to: 1101 W. Lake Street, Chicago, IL 60607

ssued:	•	Effective:	

### 2.2 <u>Limitations of Service</u>

- 2.2.1 Service is offered subject to the availability of facilities and provisions of this tariff.
- 2.2.2 Service is furnished to the User for any lawful purpose. Service shall not be used for any unlawful purpose, nor used in such a manner as to interfere unreasonably with the use of service by any other Users.
- 2.2.3 The use of the Company's services without payment for service or attempting to avoid payment for service by fraudulent means or devices, false or invalid numbers, or false calling or credit cards is prohibited.
- 2.2.4 The Company's services may be denied for noncompliance with any of the Commission's regulations, or for other violations of the terms and conditions set forth in this tariff.
- 2.2.5 The use of the Company's services to send data transmissions or make telephone calls which might reasonably be expected to frighten, abuse, torment, or harass another is prohibited.
- 2.2.6 Service temporarily may be refused or limited because of system capacity limitations.
- 2.2.7 Service is subject to transmission limitations caused by natural (including atmospheric, geographic or topographic) or artificial conditions adversely affecting transmission.
- 2.2.8 Service to any or all Customers may be temporarily interrupted or curtailed due to equipment modifications, upgrades, relocations, repairs and similar activities necessary for proper or improved operations.
- 2.2.9 The Company reserves the right to discontinue furnishing service where the Customer is using the service in violation of the law or the provisions of this tariff.

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### 2.3 <u>Limitations of Liability</u>

- 2.3.1 Because the Company has no control of communications content transmitted over its system, and because of the possibility of errors incident to the provision and use of its service, service furnished by the Company is subject to the terms, conditions and limitations herein specified.
- 2.3.2 The Company is not liable to Users for interruptions in service except as set forth in Section 2.5 of this tariff.
- 2.3.3 The liability of the Company for errors in billing that result in overpayment by the Customer shall be limited, unless otherwise ordered by the Commission, to a credit equal to the dollar amount erroneously billed or, in the event that payment has been made and service has been discontinued, to a refund of the amount erroneously billed.
- 2.3.4 The Company shall not be liable for and the User shall indemnify and hold the Company harmless against any claims for loss or damages involving:
  - 2.3.4.A Any act or omission of: (i) the User; or (ii) any other entity furnishing service, equipment or facilities for use in conjunction with services or facilities provided by the Company;
  - 2.3.4.B Interruptions or delays in transmission, or errors or defects in transmission, or failure to transmit when caused by or as a result of acts of God, fire, war, riots, government authorities or causes beyond the Company's control;
  - 2.3.4.C Any unlawful or unauthorized use of the Company's facilities and services;
  - 2.3.4.D Libel, slander or infringement of copyright arising directly or indirectly from content transmitted over facilities provided by the Company;
  - 2.3.4.E Infringement of patents arising from combining apparatus and systems of the User with facilities provided by the Company;

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### 2.3 Limitations of Liability (Cont'd)

- 2.3.4.F Claims arising out of any act or omission of the User in connection with service provided by the Company.
- 2.3.4.G Breach in the privacy or security of communications transmitted over the Company's facilities;
- 2.3.4.H Changes in any of the facilities, operations or procedures of the Company that: (1) render any equipment, facilities or services provided or utilized by the User obsolete; (2) require modification or alteration of such equipment, facilities or services; or (3) otherwise affect use or performance of such equipment, facilities or services except where reasonable notice is required by the Company and is not provided to the Customer.
- 2.3.4.I Defacement of or damage to the Customer's Premises or personal property resulting from the furnishing of services or equipment on such Premises or the installation or removal thereof.
- 2.3.4.J Any wrongful act of a Company employee where such act is not authorized by the Company and is not within the scope of the employee's responsibilities for the Company;
- 2.3.4.K Any non-completed Calls due to network busy conditions; and
- 2.3.4.L Any Calls not actually attempted to be completed during any period that service is unavailable.
- 2.3.5 The User shall reimburse the Company for all costs, expenses and attorney's fees incurred by the Company in its defense against claims set forth in Section 2.3.4.

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### 2.3 <u>Limitations of Liability</u> (Cont'd)

- 2.3.6 The Company assumes no responsibility for the availability or performance of any facilities under the control of other entities that are used to provide service to the User, even if the Company has acted as the User's agent in arranging for such facilities or services.
- 2.3.7 Any claim against the Company shall be deemed waived unless presented to the Company within thirty (30) days after the date of the occurrence that gave rise to the claim.
- 2.3.8 The Company makes no express representations or warranties regarding the service and disclaims any implied warranties, including, but not limited to, warranties of title or implied warranties of merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose. The Company does not authorize anyone to make a warranty of any kind on its behalf and the User should not rely on any such statement.
- 2.3.9 Any liability of the Company for loss or damages arising out of mistakes, omissions, interruptions, delays, errors or defects in the service, the transmission of the service, or failures or defects in facilities furnished by the Company, occurring in the course of furnishing service shall in no event exceed an amount equivalent to the proportionate fixed monthly charge to the Customer for service, during the period of time in which such mistakes, omissions, interruptions, delays, errors or defects in the service, its transmission or failure or defect in facilities furnished by the Company occurred, unless the Commission orders otherwise.

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### 2.4 Responsibilities of the Customer

- 2.4.1 The Customer is responsible for placing any necessary orders, complying with tariff regulations and assuring that Users comply with tariff regulations. The Customer shall ensure compliance with any applicable laws, regulations, orders or other requirements of any governmental entity relating to services provided by the Company to the Customer or made available by the Customer to another User. The Customer also is responsible for the payment of charges for all Calls originated at the Customer's numbers which are not collect, third party, calling card, or credit card calls.
- 2.4.2 The Customer is responsible for charges incurred for special construction and/or special facilities which the Customer requests and which are ordered by the Company on the Customer's behalf.
- 2.4.3 If required for the provisioning of the Company's services, the Customer must provide the Company, free of charge, with any necessary equipment space, supporting structure, conduit and electrical power.
- 2.4.4 The Customer is responsible for arranging access to its Premises at times mutually agreeable to the Company and the Customer when required for Company personnel to install, repair, maintain, program, inspect or remove equipment associated with the provision of the Company's services.
- 2.4.5 The Customer must pay the Company for replacement or repair of damage to the Company's equipment or facilities caused by negligent or improper use on the part of the Customer, Users, or others.
- 2.4.6 The Customer must indemnify the Company for the theft of any Company equipment or facilities installed at the Customer's Premises.

The Customer agrees to release, indemnify and hold harmless the Company against any and all loss, claims, demands, suits or other action or any liability whatsoever, whether suffered, made, instituted or asserted by the Customer or by any other party or person, for any service interruption or loss of or damage to any property, whether owned by the Customer or others. The Customer shall reimburse the Company for all costs, expenses and fees (including reasonable attorneys' fees) incurred by the Company in its defense against such actions.

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### 2.5 Allowances for Interruptions in Service

### 2.5.1 General

- 2.5.1.A A service is interrupted when it becomes unusable to the User, e.g., the User is unable to transmit or receive communications due to the failure of a component furnished by the Company under this tariff.
- 2.5.1.B An interruption period begins when the User reports a service, facility or circuit to be inoperative and releases it for testing and repair. An interruption period ends when the service, facility or circuit is operative.
- 2.5.1.C If the User reports a service, facility or circuit to be inoperative but declines to release it for testing and repair, the service, facility or circuit is considered to be impaired but not interrupted. No credit allowances will be made for a service facility or circuit considered by the Company to be impaired.

### 2.5.2 Application of Credits for Interrupted Services

- 2.5.2.A At the Customer's request, a credit allowance for a continuous interruption of service for more than twenty-four (24) hours will be made in an amount to be determined by the Company on a case-by-case basis.
- 2.5.2.B Any such interruption will be measured from the time it is reported to or detected by the Company, whichever occurs first.
- 2.5.2.C In the event the User is affected by such interruption for a period of less than twenty-four (24) hours, no adjustment will be made. No adjustments will be earned by accumulating non-continuous periods of interruption.

### 2.5.3 Limitations on Allowances

- 2.5.3.A No credit allowance will be made for any interruption of service:
  - 2.5.3.A.1 due to the negligence of, or noncompliance with the provisions of this tariff by, any person or entity other than the Company, including but not limited to the Customer or other entities or carriers connected to the service of the Company;
  - 2.5.3.A.2 due to the failure of power, equipment, systems or services not provided by the Company;

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### 2.5 Allowances for Interruptions in Service (Cont'd)

### 2.5.3. <u>Limitations on Allowances</u> (Cont'd)

### 2.5.3.A. (Cont'd)

- 2.5.3.A.3 due to circumstances or causes beyond the control of the Company;
- 2.5.3.A.4 during any period in which the Company is not given full and free access to the Customer's or Company's facilities and equipment for the purpose of investigating and correcting the interruption;
- 2.5.3.A.5 during any period in which the User continues to use the service on an impaired basis;
- 2.5.3.A.6 during any period in which the Customer has released service to the Company for maintenance purposes or for implementation of a Customer order for a change in service arrangements;
- 2.5.3.A.7 that occurs or continues due to the Customer's failure to authorize replacement of any element of special construction; and
- 2.5.3.A.8 that was not reported to the Company within thirty (30) days of the date that service was affected.

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#### 2.6 Termination of Service

- 2.6.1 A Customer may terminate service, with or without cause, by giving the Company notice. If the Customer has a term contract, early termination charges may apply. The Company may terminate service with ten (10) business days' written notice to the Customer for any of the following occurrences:
  - 2.6.1.A Failure of the Customer to pay a non-disputed delinquent account;
  - 2.6.1.B Failure of the Customer to make satisfactory arrangements to pay arrearages or meet the requirements of a payment agreement;
  - 2.6.1.C Failure of the Customer to permit the Company to have reasonable access to its equipment, facilities, service connections or other property;
  - 2.6.1.D Failure of the Customer to provide the Company with adequate assurances that an unauthorized use or practice will cease;
  - 2.6.1.E Customer non-compliance with Commission regulations;
  - 2.6.1.F Customer fraud or material misrepresentation of identity for purpose of obtaining telephone service
  - 2.6.1.G Failure of the Customer to adhere to contractual obligations with the Company.
- 2.6.2 The Company may terminate service without written notice to the Customer for any of the following occurrences:
  - 2.6.2.A Customer's maintenance or operation of its equipment in such a manner as to adversely affect the Company's equipment or service to others;
  - 2.6.2.B Customer non-compliance with any provision of this tariff which results in threatening the safety of a person or the integrity of the service delivery system of the Company;
  - 2.6.2.C Customer tampering with the Company's equipment or service;
  - 2.6.2.D Customer's unauthorized or illegal use of the Company's service or equipment.

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2.6	<b>Termination</b>	of Service (	(Cont'd)

2.6.3 The Customer is responsible for all charges incurred to the Calling Station regardless of which party terminates the service. The Customer shall reimburse the Company for all costs, expenses and fees (including reasonable attorneys' fees) incurred by the Company in collecting such charges.

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## 2.7 Payment of Charges

- 2.7.1 The Customer is responsible for payment of all charges for service furnished to the User.
- 2.7.2 The Company reserves the right to assess late payment charges for Customers whose account(s) carries principal owing from the prior billing period. Any charges not paid in full by the due date indicated on the billing statement may be subject to a late fee of 1.5% per month. This late fee of 1.5% may not include previously-accrued late payment charges.
- 2.7.3 Recurring monthly charges may be invoiced one month in advance. Invoicing cycles are approximately thirty (30) days in length. A Customer's bill will be due and payable twenty (20) days from the date of the postmark on the bill.

#### 2.8 Deposits

- 2.8.1 The Company may require a Customer to make a deposit to be held as a guarantee for payment of charges. The Company's credit and deposit policies will be equitable and non-discriminatory throughout its service area without regard to the economic character of the area or any part thereof. The Company will inform the Customer, in writing, of the reasons for the deposit request and the process by which service can be received without posting a deposit. The deposit shall not exceed an amount equal to two-twelfths of the estimated charge for this service for the ensuing twelve months.
- 2.8.2 Upon discontinuance of service, the Company shall promptly and automatically refund the Customer's deposit plus accrued interest, or the balance, if any, in excess of the unpaid bills, including any penalties assessed for service furnished by the Company.
- 2.8.3 Interest on deposits will accrue at the rate of 6% per annum or the rate of the average of 1-year US Treasury bill for the months of September, October and November of the previous year.
- 2.8.4 The Company shall annually and automatically refund the deposits of customers who have paid bills for twelve consecutive months without having had service discontinued for nonpayment, or had more than one occasion on which a bill was not paid within the prescribed period and are not delinquent in payment.
- 2.8.5 If a Customer's service or facility is discontinued, deposits will be returned in accordance with Commission regulations.

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### 2.9 Advance Payments

The Company may require advance payments from Customers for the following services:

- (1) The construction of facilities and furnishing of special equipment; or
- (2) Temporary Service for short-term use.

#### 2.10 Contested Charges

All bills are presumed accurate, and shall be binding on the Customer unless objection is received either orally or in writing before actual suspension or termination of service. Suspension or Termination is prohibited until resolution of the dispute. In the event that a billing dispute between the Customer and the Company for service furnished to the Customer cannot be settled with mutual satisfaction, the Customer may take the following course of action:

2.10.1 First, the Customer may request, and the Company will provide, an in-depth review of the disputed amount. The undisputed portion and subsequent bills must be paid on a timely basis or the service may be subject to disconnection.

Second, if there is still a disagreement about the disputed amount after investigation and review by the Company, the Customer, within ten days of the notification or mailing of the Company's written summary of the findings or resolution of the dispute, an informal complaint may be filed with the Missouri Public Service Commission, Governor Office Building, 200 Madison Street, Jefferson City, MO 65102, telephone (573) 751-3234 in accordance with the Commission rules of procedure. The Missouri Public Service Commission shall have primary jurisdiction over customer complaints.

### 2.11 Taxes

State and local sales, use and similar taxes, including gross receipts taxes, are billed as separate items and are not included in the quoted rates for local exchange telecommunications service.

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## **SECTION 3 - DESCRIPTION OF SERVICE**

### 3.1 <u>Timing of Calls</u>

- 3.1.1 The Customer's monthly usage charges for the Company service are based upon the total number of minutes the Customer uses and the service options to which the Customer subscribes. Chargeable time begins at the time a connection is established and ends when either party terminates the connection.
- 3.1.2 No charges apply if a connection is not established.
- 3.1.3 For billing purposes, all Calls are rounded up to the nearest minute and billed in increments of one minute. The minimum call duration is one (1) minute for a connected call.
- 3.1.4 Where applicable, charges will be rounded up to the nearest penny.
- 3.1.5 Usage begins when a connection is established (*i.e.* when two-way communication is possible). A Call is terminated when the calling or called party terminates the connection. Any Call for which the duration exceeds sixty (60) seconds shall be presumed to have been answered and becomes billed usage.

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## 3.2 Start of Billing

For billing purposes, the start of service is the day following acceptance by the Customer of the Company's service or equipment, or another date mutually agreed-upon by the Customer and the Company. The end of service date is the last day of the minimum notification of cancellation or any portion of the last day, after receipt by the Company of notification of cancellation as described in Section 2 of this tariff.

# 3.3 Calculation of Distance

- 3.3.1 Where applicable, usage charges for all mileage sensitive products are based on the airline distance between rate centers associated with the originating and terminating points of the call.
- 3.3.2 Where applicable, the airline mileage between rate centers is determined by applying the formula below to the vertical and horizontal coordinates associated with the rate centers involved. The Company uses the rate centers that are produced by Bell Communications Research in their NPA-NXX V&H Coordinates Tape and Bell's NECA Tariff No. 4.
  - 3.3.2.A The airline distance between any two (2) rate centers is determined as follows:
  - 3.3.2.B Obtain the "V" (vertical) and "H" (horizontal) coordinates for each Rate Center from the above-referenced document.
    - 3.3.2.B.1 Compute the difference between the "V" coordinates of the two (2) rate centers; and the difference between the two (2) "H" coordinates (X1-X2=V; Y1-Y2=H).
    - 3.3.2.B.2 Square each difference obtained in Section 3.3.2.B.1 above  $(V^2; H^2)$ .
    - 3.3.2.B.3 Add the square of the "V" difference and the square of the "H" difference obtained in Section 3.3.2.B.2 above  $(V^2 + H^2 = S)$ .

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### 3.3 Calculation of Distance (Cont'd)

3.3.2 (Cont'd)

3.3.2.B. (Cont'd)

3.3.2.B.4 Divide the sum of the squares by 10 (S/10 = M).

3.3.2.B.5 Obtain the square root of the whole number result obtained above. Round to the next higher whole number if any fraction is obtained. This is the airline mileage.

# 3.4 Minimum Call Completion Rate

The Customer can expect a Call completion rate of at least ninety percent (90%) of all Calls attempted, within three (3) seconds of the attempt, during peak use periods for all Feature Group D (1+) services. The Company will engineer its switching systems on the basis that at least ninety percent (90%) of the Customers accessing their system will be served during the Busy Hour.

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### 3.5 Service Offerings

The Company offers data telecommunications and leased line services. The Customer's total use of the Company's service is charged at the applicable rates set forth herein, in addition to any monthly service charges. None of the service offerings are time-of-day sensitive.

For leased line telecommunications services, the Company offers rates on a "month to month" basis, and on a term agreement contract basis. Rates are based on a number of factors, including Customer commitment to a volume of service for a fixed term of months.

The following services are available from the Company, where technically and economically feasible:

## 3.5.1 Leased Line Service

A leased line is a private, dedicated point-to-point connection between a Company POP and another point on the Company's fiber-optic network specified by the Customer. Leased Line service is provided to Customers on a nationwide basis with transmission speeds of either DS1 (1.544 Mbps), DS3 (44.736 Mbps), OC3 (155.52 Mbps), OC12 (622.08 Mbps) and OC48 (2,488.32 Mbps). A local access line may be necessary to connect the Customer network or premise with the Company POP. This local access line may be provided to the Customer by the Customer's local exchange carrier.

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#### 3.6 <u>Miscellaneous Services</u>

#### 3.6.1 Order Change

An Order Change is a change in the Customer's service requested subsequent to installation.

### 3.6.2 Bad Check Charge

If payment for Service is made by a check, draft, or similar instrument (collectively "Check") that is returned to the Company unpaid by a bank or another financial institution for any reason, the Company will bill the Customer a returned check charge. In addition, the Customer may be required to replace the returned Check with a payment in cash or equivalent to cash, such as cashier's check, certified check or money order.

#### 3.6.3 Reconnection

Reconnection charges occur where service to an existing Customer has been discontinued for proper cause, and the Customer desires to resume service with the Company. Where a Customer desires reconnection, the Customer will be charged a fee to cover the cost to the Company of restoring service to the Customer.

### 3.7 Promotions

The Company may make promotional offerings of its tariffed services which may include reducing or waiving applicable charges for the promoted service. No individual promotional offering will exceed six months in duration, and any promotional offering will be extended on a non-discriminatory basis to any customer similarly classified who requests the specific offer. At the Company's option, a letter outlining the promotion may be filed with the Commission Staff in lieu of filing language in the tariff.

### 3.8 Individual Case Basis Arrangements ("ICB")

A determination that the Customer's service requirements can only be satisfied by a complex Customer-Carrier arrangement for which it is difficult or impossible to establish general tariff provisions. ICB rates will be structured to recover the Company's cost of providing service and will be made available to similarly situated customers in a non-discriminatory manner. Terms of the specific ICB contracts will be made available to the Commission staff on a confidential basis upon staff's written request to the Company.

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## **SECTION 4 - RATES AND CHARGES**

4.1	Service	<b>Offerings</b>

4.1.1 <u>Leased Line Service</u> – Base Rates for Recurring Charges

Transmission Speed				
	12	18	24	36
DS1	\$699.00	\$649.00	\$599.00	\$549.00

<u>Note</u>: The foregoing rates are per circuit, per month. Contracts over 36 months will be priced ICB.

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# **SECTION 4 - RATES AND CHARGES (Cont'd)**

### 4.1 Service Offerings (Cont'd)

# 4.1.2 <u>Leased Line Service</u> – Volume Discount Percentages by Contract Term

<u>Volume</u>	Term of Contract in Months			
	12	18	24	36
\$1,000.00	5%	7%	9%	11%
\$2,000.00	7%	9%	11%	13%
\$3,000.00	9%	11%	13%	15%
\$4,000.00	11%	13%	15%	17%
\$5,000.00	13%	15%	17%	19%
\$6,000.00	15%	17%	19%	21%
\$7,000.00	17%	19%	21%	23%
\$8,000.00	19%	21%	23%	25%
\$9,000.00	21%	23%	25%	27%
\$10,000.00	23%	25%	27%	29%

<u>Note</u>: All Volume Discounts are applied when the End User reaches the specified level. Volume amounts over the next lower increment will be rounded down to that lower increment. Volume discounts are based on the gross monthly cost of service and are applied to the base rate per circuit, per month.

Example: End User orders 8 DS1 circuits on a 36 month contract.

Base Rate per DS1 for a 36 Mo. Contract = \$549.00

Multiplied by 8 circuits, Gross Monthly Cost = \$4392.00

Volume Discount to apply at the \$4,000.00 level = 17%

Net Monthly Cost after discounts = \$3645.36 or \$455.67 per DS-1

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# **SECTION 4 - RATES AND CHARGES (Cont'd)**

## 4.2 <u>Installation Charges</u>

DS1 IP

NRC
\$250
\$250
\$250

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### SECTION 4 - RATES AND CHARGES (Cont'd)

### 4.3 **Miscellaneous Services** 3.8.1 Order Change \$600.00 Per Change: 3.8.2 Bad Check Charge Per Check: \$25.00 3.8.3 Reconnection Per Reconnection: \$600.00 3.10.4 Monthly Billing Fee \$8.00 3.10.5 NOC Service Fee Per Hour \$75,00 3.10.6 Move Order \$600.00 3.10.7 Early Termination Fee \$3,600.00 3.10.8 Expedite Fee \$2,250.00 3.9 **Maintenance Visit Charges** Mon-Sat, 8 am-5 pm: Initial 15 minutes or fraction thereof \$45.00 \$10.00 Each additional 15 minutes Sun and Mon-Sat, excluding 8 am-5 pm: Initial 15 min. or fraction thereof \$55.00 Each additional 15 minutes or fraction thereof \$15.00 Holidays: Initial 15 minutes or fraction thereof \$55.00 Each additional 15 min. or fraction thereof \$15.00

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