ACCESS SERVICE

6. Switched Access Service (Cont'd)

6.1 General (Cont'd)

6.1.1 Description and Provision of Switched Access Service Arrangements

(A) Description

Switched Access Service is provided in four different Feature Group arrangements which are service categories of standard and optional features. These are differentiated by their technical characteristics, e.g., line side vs. trunk side connection at the Telephone Company first point of switching. They are also differentiated by optional feature availability and the manner in which the end user accesses them in originating calling, e.g., with or without access codes of various lengths and digits.

The provision of each Feature Group requires Local Transport facilities, including an Entrance Facility where required, and the appropriate End Office functions. In addition, Special Access Service may, at the option of the customer, be connected with Feature Groups A, B, C, or D at Telephone Company designated WATS Serving Offices. (T) (T)

There are three specific transmission specifications (i.e., Types A, B and C) that have been identified for the provision of Feature Groups. The specifications provided are dependent on the Interface Group and the routing of the service, i.e., whether the service is routed directly to the end office or via an access tandem. The parameters for the transmission specifications are set forth in 15.1.2 following.

ACCESS SERVICE

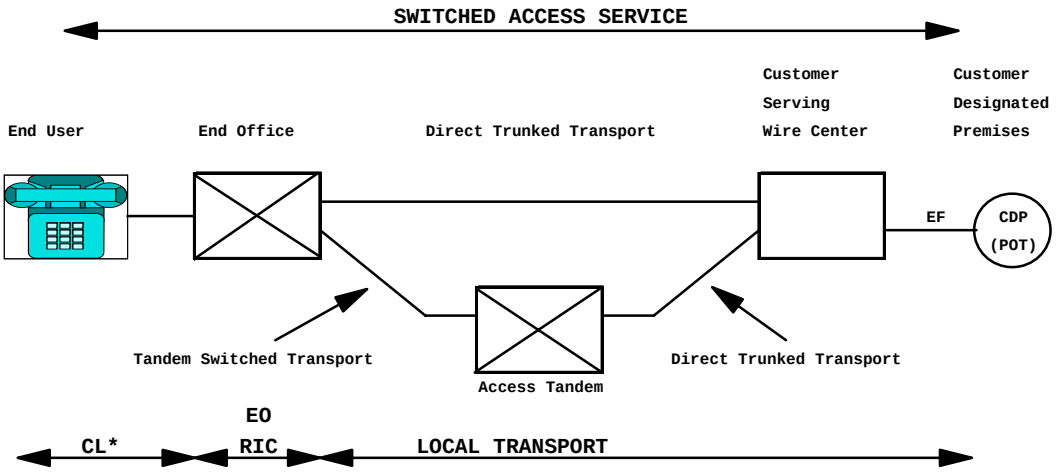
6. Switched Access Service (Cont'd)

6.1 General (Cont'd)

6.1.3 Rate Categories (Cont'd)

The following diagram depicts a generic view of the components of Switched Access Service and the manner in which the components are combined to provide a complete Access Service.

(T)



CL - Common Line
EO - End Office
EF - Entrance Facility
RIC - Residual Interconnection Charge

Direct Trunked Transport
- Direct Trunked Facility
- Direct Trunked Termination
Tandem Switched Transport
- Tandem Switched Facility
- Tandem Switched Termination
- Tandem Switching

*** Common Line Access Service is provided under Section 3. Preceding**

(T)

ACCESS SERVICE

6. Switched Access Service (Cont'd)

6.1 General (Cont'd)

6.1.3 Rate Categories (Cont'd)

(A) Local Transport

The Local Transport rate category establishes the charges related to the transmission and tandem switching facilities between the customer designated premises and the end office switch(es) where the customer's traffic is switched to originate or terminate the customer's communications. For purposes of determining Local Transport Facility measurement, distance will be measured from the wire center that normally serves the customer designated premises to the end office switch(es), which may be a Remote Switching Module(s). Exceptions to the Local Transport Facility measurement rules are set forth in 6.4.6 following and in this section.

Local Transport is a two-way voice frequency transmission path composed of facilities determined by the Telephone Company. The two-way voice frequency transmission path permits the transport of calls in the originating direction (from the end user end office switch to the customer designated premises) and in the terminating direction (from the customer designated premises to the end office switch), but not simultaneously. The voice frequency transmission path may be comprised of any form or configuration of plant capable of and typically used in the telecommunications industry for the transmission of voice and associated telephone signals within the frequency bandwidth of approximately 300 to 3000 Hz. The customer must specify the choice of facilities (i.e., Voice Grade 2 or 4 wire or High Capacity DS1 or DS3) to be used in the provision of Direct Trunked Transport or Entrance Facility. (N)

The Telephone Company will work cooperatively with the customer in determining (1) whether the service is to be directly routed to an end office switch or through an access tandem switch, and (2) the directionality of the service, (3) the type of Direct Trunked Transport and whether it will overflow to Tandem Switched Transport when service is directly routed to an end office, (4) the type of Entrance Facility, and (5) when multiplexing is required, the hub(s) at which the multiplexing will be provided. Local Transport rates are found in Section 17.2.2. (N)

6. Switched Access Service (Cont'd)

6.1 General (Cont'd)

6.1.3 Rate Categories (Cont'd)

(A) Local Transport (Cont'd)

Additionally, when service is to be routed through a Windstream access tandem switch, the customer must order the facility between the serving wire center and the tandem as Direct Trunked Transport.

When the customer has both Tandem Switched Transport and Direct Trunked Transport at the same end office, the customer will be provided Alternate Traffic routing as set forth in 6.4.6 following.

Direct Trunked Transport is available at all tandems and at all end offices except those identified in NATIONAL EXCHANGE CARRIER ASSOCIATION, INC. TARIFF F.C.C. NO. 4 as not having the capability to provide Direct Trunked Transport. Direct Trunked Transport is not available: (1) from end offices that provide equal access through a centralized equal access arrangement, (2) from end offices that lack recording or measurement capability, and (3) for originating 800/888/877 calls from non-Service Switching Point (SSP) equipped end offices that can not accommodate direct trunking of originating 800/888/877 calls.

Unless otherwise ordered by the F.C.C., where the Telephone Company elects to provide equal access through a centralized equal access arrangement, the Telephone Company will designate the serving wire center. The designated SWC will normally be that wire center which provides dial tone to the telephone company centralized Equal Access tandem office identified in NATIONAL EXCHANGE CARRIER ASSOCIATION, INC. TARIFF F.C.C. NO. 4. When service is provided in cooperation with a non telephone company provider of centralized Equal Access, the SWC will be that wire center which would normally provide dial tone to the telephone company point of interconnection with the non telephone company provider of Centralized Equal Access specified in the tariff of the centralized Equal Access provider. Those Telephone Company offices providing equal access through centralized arrangements are identified in NATIONAL EXCHANGE CARRIER ASSOCIATION, INC., TARIFF F.C.C. NO. 4.

6. Switched Access Service (Cont'd)

6.1 General (Cont'd)

6.1.3 Rate Categories (Cont'd)

(A) Local Transport (Cont'd)

The Local Transport Rate Category includes five classes of rate elements: (1) Entrance Facility, (2) Direct Trunked Transport, (3) Tandem Switched Transport, and (4) Multiplexing.

(1) Entrance Facility

The Entrance Facility recovers a portion of the costs associated with the communications path between a customer designated premises and the serving wire center of that premises. Included as part of the Entrance Facility is a standard channel interface arrangement which defines the technical characteristics associated with the type of facilities to which the access service is to be connected at the customer designated premises and the type of signaling capability, if any.

Three types of Entrance Facility are available:

- Voice Grade 2 or 4 wire (an analog channel with an approximate bandwidth of 300 to 3000 hz),
- High Capacity DS1 (an isochronous serial digital channel with a rate of 1.544 Mbps),
- High Capacity DS3 (an isochronous serial digital channel with a rate of 44.736 Mbps).

The minimum period for which a DS3 Entrance Facility is provided is twelve months.

One charge applies for each Entrance Facility that is terminated at a customer designated premises. This charge will apply even if the customer designated premises and the serving wire center are collocated in a Telephone Company building.

A customer's Local Transport may be connected to the Entrance Facility of another customer, providing the other customer submits a Letter of Authorization for this connection and assumes full responsibility for the cost of the Entrance Facility.

6. Switched Access Service (Cont'd)

6.1 General (Cont'd)

6.1.3 Rate Categories (Cont'd)

(A) Local Transport (Cont'd)

(2) Direct Trunked Transport

The Direct-Trunked Transport rate elements recover a portion of the cost associated with a communications path on circuits dedicated to the use of a single customer between:

- the serving wire center and an end office,
- the serving wire center and a tandem,
- the serving wire center and a hub,
- a hub and an end office,
- the serving wire center where add/drop multiplexing functions are performed,

Direct Trunked Transport is required at all tandems and is available to all end offices except those identified in NATIONAL EXCHANGE CARRIER ASSOCIATION, INC. TARIFF F.C.C. NO. 4, WIRE CENTER INFORMATION as not having the capability to provide Direct Trunked Transport.

Direct Trunked Transport is not available: (1) from end offices that provide equal access through a centralized equal access arrangement, (2) from end offices that lack recording or measurement capability, and (3) for originating 800/888/877 calls from non-Service Switching Point (SSP) equipped end offices that can not accommodate direct trunking of originating 800/888/877 calls.

Three types of Direct-Trunked Transport are available:

(1) Voice Grade (an analog channel with an approximate bandwidth of 300 to 3000 Hz),
(2) High Capacity DS1 (an isochronous serial digital channel with a rate of 1.544 Mbps),
(3) High Capacity DS3 (an isochronous serial digital channel with a rate of 44.736 Mbps),

The minimum period for which a High Capacity DS3 is provided is twelve months.

6. Switched Access Service (Cont'd)

6.1 General (Cont'd)

6.1.3 Rate Categories (Cont'd)

(A) Local Transport (Cont'd)

(2) Direct Trunked Transport

High Capacity DS3 Direct Trunked Transport can not be terminated at end offices that are not identified as hub offices that provide DS3 to DS1 multiplexing. Additionally, DS1 Direct Trunked Transport can not be terminated at end offices that are not identified as hub offices that provide DS1 to Voice Grade multiplexing or are not electronic end offices. Offices that provide multiplexing are identified in NATIONAL EXCHANGE CARRIER ASSOCIATION, INC. TARIFF F.C.C. NO. 4, WIRE CENTER INFORMATION.

Direct Trunked Transport rates consist of a Direct Trunked Facility rate which is applied on a per mile basis and a Direct Trunked Termination rate which is applied at each end of each measured segment of the Direct Trunked Facility (e.g., at the end office, hub, tandem and serving wire center). When the Direct Trunked Facility mileage is zero, neither the Direct Trunked Facility rate nor the Direct Trunked Termination rate will apply.

The Direct Trunked Facility rate recovers a portion of the costs of the transmission facilities, including intermediate transmission circuit equipment, between the end points of the interoffice circuits.

The Direct Trunked Termination rate recovers a portion of the costs of the circuit equipment that is necessary for the termination of each end of the Direct Trunked Facility.

(3) Tandem Switched Transport

The Tandem Switched Transport rate elements recover a portion of the costs associated with the communications path between the tandem and the end office on circuits that are switched at a tandem switch. Tandem Switched Transport consists of circuits used in common by multiple customers from the tandem to the end office.

Tandem Switched Transport rates consist of a Tandem Switching rate, a Tandem Switched Facility rate and a Tandem Switched Termination rate.

6. Switched Access Service (Cont'd)

6.1 General (Cont'd)

6.1.3 Rate Categories (Cont'd)

(A) Local Transport (Cont'd)

(3) Tandem Switched Transport (Cont'd)

The Tandem Switching rate recovers a portion of the costs of switching traffic through an access tandem. The Tandem Switching rate specified in 17.2.2 following is applied on a per access minute per tandem basis for all originating and all terminating minutes of use switched at the tandem. Tandem locations are identified in NATIONAL EXCHANGE CARRIER ASSOCIATION, INC. TARIFF F.C.C. NO. 4, WIRE CENTER INFORMATION.

The Tandem Switched Facility rate recovers a portion of the costs of the transmission facilities, including intermediate transmission circuit equipment, between the end points of the interoffice circuits. The Tandem Switched Facility rate specified in 17.2.2 following is applied on a per access minute per mile basis for all originating and terminating minutes of use routed over the facility

The Tandem Switched Termination rate recovers a portion of the costs of the circuit equipment that is necessary for the termination of each end of the Tandem Switched Facility. The Tandem Switched Termination rate specified in 17.2.2 following is applied on a per access minute basis (for all originating and terminating minutes of use routed over the facility) at each end of each measured segment of Tandem Switched Facility (e.g., at the end office, Feature Group A dial tone office, host office, remote office, tandem, and serving wire center). When the Tandem Switched Facility mileage is zero, neither the Tandem Switched Facility rate nor the Tandem Switched Termination rate will apply.

(4) Multiplexing

Multiplexing provides an arrangement for converting a single, higher capacity or bandwidth circuit to several lower capacity or bandwidth circuits.

When a derived channel is itself multiplexed to derive additional channels with a lesser capacity, this is referred to as cascade multiplexing. When cascade multiplexing occurs, a charge for the additional multiplexing is performed at different dubbing locations, Direct Trunked Transport charges also apply between the hubs.

ACCESS SERVICE

6. Switched Access Service (Cont'd)

6.1 General (Cont'd)

6.1.3 Rate Categories (Cont'd)

(A) Local Transport (Cont'd)

(4) Multiplexing (Cont'd)

DS3 to DS1 Multiplexing charges apply when a High Capacity DS3 Entrance Facility or Direct Trunked Facility is connected with High Capacity DS1 Direct Trunked Transport. The DS3 to DS1 multiplexer will convert a 44.736 Mpbs channel to 28 DS1 channels using digital time division multiplexing.

DS1 to Voice Grade Multiplexing charges apply when a High Capacity DS1 Entrance Facility or High Capacity DS1 Direct Trunked Facility is connected with Voice Grade Direct Trunked Transport. A DS1 to Voice Grade Multiplexing charge does not apply when a High Capacity DS1 Direct Trunked Facility is terminated at an electronic end office and only Switched Access Service is provided over the DS1 facility (i.e., Voice Grade Special Access channels are not derived). The DS1 to Voice multiplexer will convert a 1.544 Mbps channel to 24 Voice Grade channels.

Multiplexing is only available at wire centers identified in NATIONAL EXCHANGE CARRIER ASSOCIATION, INC. TARIFF F.C.C. NO. 4, WIRE CENTER INFORMATION.

6. Switched Access Service (Cont'd)

6.1 General (Cont'd)

6.1.3 Rate Categories (Cont'd)

(A) Local Transport (Cont'd)

(5) Interface Groups (T)

Ten Interface Groups are provided for terminating the Local Transport at the customer's designated premises. Technical specifications concerning the available interface groups are set forth in 15.1 following.

(6) Nonchargeable Optional Features (T)

Where transmission facilities permit, the individual transmission path between the customer's designated premises and the first point of switching may at the option of the customer be provided with the following optional features as set forth and described in 15.1.1(E) following.

- Supervisory Signaling
- Customer Specified Entry Switch Receive Level
- Customer Specification of Local Transport Termination

When a customer utilizes the CCS network at appropriately equipped Telephone Company end offices, the following optional features are made available and are described in 6.10.1 following.

- SS7 Signaling
- Calling Party Number
- Carrier Selection Parameter
- Charge Number Parameter

6. Switched Access Service (Cont'd)

6.1 General (Cont'd)

6.1.3 Rate Categories (Cont'd)

(A) Local Transport (Cont'd)

(7) Chargeable Optional Features (T)

800/888/877 Database Access Service is provided to all customers in conjunction with FGC and FGD switched access service. A Basic or Enhanced Query charge, as set forth in 17.2.2(D) following, is assessed for each completed query returned from from the 800/888/877 data base whether or no the actual call is delivered to the customer. The query is considered completed whin the appropriate call routing information is returned to the Service Switching Point (SSP) that launched the query. The Basic Query provides the identification of the customer to whom the call will be delivered and includes area of service routing which allows routing of 800/888/877 calls by telephone companies to different interexchange carriers based on the Local Access Transport Area (LATA) in which the call originates. The Enhanced Query provides this same customer identification function in addition to vertical features which may include: (1) call validation (ensuring that calls originate from subscribed service areas); (2) POTS translation of 800/888/877 numbers (which is generally necessary for the routing of 800/888/877 calls); (3) alternate POTS translation (which allows subscribers to vary the routing of 800/888/877 calls based on factors such as time of day, place of origination of the call, etc.); and (4) multiple carrier routing (which allows subscribers to route to different carriers based on factors similar to those in (3)).

6. Switched Access Service (Cont'd)

6.4 Rate Regulations (Cont'd)

6.4.1 Description and Application of Rates and Charges (Cont'd)

(B) Nonrecurring Charges (Cont'd)

(1) Installation of Service

(C)

A Local Transport nonrecurring installation charge, as set forth in 17.2.2 following, will be applied at the serving wire center for each Entrance Facility installed. Additionally, a nonrecurring trunk activation charge as set forth in 17.2.1 following, will be applied at each end office on a per order per end office basis or at the tandem when ordered to the tandem for each group of 24 Direct Trunked Transport trunks or fraction thereof that is activated (i.e., designated by the customer to be used to carry switched access). A maximum of 24 trunks can be activated on a DS1 facility and a maximum of 672 trunks can be activated on a DS3 facility.

For example, if a customer orders a DS1 Entrance Facility and requests activation of 18 of the available circuits, the customer will be charged one Local Transport High Capacity DS1 Installation nonrecurring charge at the serving wire center and one Direct Trunked Transport Activated nonrecurring charge at the end office. If at a later date the customer requests the activation of three more circuits, the customer will then be charged an additional Direct Trunked Transport Activated nonrecurring charge. These charges are in addition to the Access Order Charge as specified in 17.4 following. (C)

(2) Interim NXX Translation Optional Feature

This nonrecurring charge applies to the initial order for the installation of the Interim NXX Translation optional feature with Feature Group C or Feature Group D Switched Access Service and for each subsequent order received to add or change NXX translation codes. This charge, if applicable, applies whether this optional feature is installed coincident with or at any time subsequent to the installation of Switched Access Services. This charge is applied by the Telephone Company per order, per LATA or Market Area. When it is necessary for multiple telephone companies to provide the translation function, the nonrecurring charge is assessed only by the Telephone Company that provides the final translation function which identifies the customer's traffic and this traffic is then delivered to the customer's point of termination without any further translation.

ACCESS SERVICE

6. Switched Access Service (Cont'd)

6.4 Rate Regulations (Cont'd)

6.4.2 Minimum Monthly Charge

Switched Access Service is subject to a minimum monthly charge. The minimum charge applies for the total capacity provided. The minimum monthly charge is calculated as follows.

For the Local Transport and End Office rate elements, the minimum monthly charge is the sum of the recurring charges set forth in 17.2.2 and 17.2.3 following for either the actual measured usage or the assumed usage prorated to the number of days or major fraction of days based on a 30 day month.

(N)

For flat rated Local Transport rate elements, the minimum monthly charge is the sum of the recurring charges set forth in 17.2.2 following prorated to the number of days or major fraction of days on a 30 day month. (N)

ACCESS SERVICE

6. Switched Access Service (Cont'd)

6.5 Description and Provision of Feature Group A (FGA) (Cont'd)

6.5.1 Description (Cont'd)

(H) (Cont'd)

for (1) an operator surcharge, as set forth in the local exchange tariffs, for local operator assistance (0- and 0+) calls, (2) calls to certain community information services, for which rates are applicable under Telephone Company exchange service tariffs, e.g., 976 (DIAL IT) Network Services, and, (3) calls from a FGA line to another customer's service in accordance with that customer's applicable service rates when the Telephone Company performs the billing function for that customer.

(I) When a FGA switching arrangement for an individual customer (a single line or entire hunt group) is discontinued at an end office, an intercept announcement is provided. This arrangement provides, for a limited period of time, an announcement that the service associated with the number dialed has been disconnected.

(J) FGA will be provisioned over an Entrance Facility from the customer's premises to the customer's serving wire center. (N)

FGA service, when used in the originating direction, will be provisioned as Direct Trunked Transport from the first point of switching (i.e., the end office switch where FGA switching dial tone is provided) to the customer's serving wire center.

FGA service, when used in the terminating direction, will be provisioned as Direct Trunked Transport from the customer's serving wire center to the first point of switching and provisioned as Tandem Switched Transport from the first point of switching to the terminating end office. (N)

ACCESS SERVICE

6. Switched Access Service (Cont'd)

6.8 Description and Provision of Feature Group D (FGD) (Cont'd)

6.8.3 Design and Traffic Routing

For Feature Group D, the Telephone Company shall design and determine the routing of Switched Access Service, including the selection of the first point of switching and the selection of facilities from the interface to any switching point and to the end offices where busy hour minutes of capacity are ordered. The Telephone Company shall also decide if capacity is to be provided by originating only, terminating only, or two-way trunk groups. Finally, the Telephone Company will decide whether trunk side access will be provided through the use of two-wire or four-wire trunk terminating equipment.

For Feature Group D Direct Trunked Transport service, the Telephone Company will determine the routing of switched access service from the point of interface to the first point of switching or, if the customer specifies one or more hub locations for multiplexing, from the point of interface to the hub location, from one hub location to another hub location, and/or from a hub location to the first point of switching. (N)

Selection of facilities and equipment and traffic routing of the service are based on standard engineering methods, available facilities and equipment, and the Telephone Company traffic routing plans. If the customer desires routing or directionality different from that determined by the Telephone Company, the Telephone Company will work cooperatively with the customer in determining (1) whether the service is to be routed directly to an end office or through an access tandem switch and (2) the directionality of the service.

6.8.4 Measuring Access Minutes

Customer traffic to end offices will be recorded at end office switches or access tandem switches. Originating and terminating calls will be measured or imputed to determine the basis for computing chargeable access minutes. In the event the customer message detail is not available because the Telephone Company lost or damaged tapes or incurred recording system outages, the Telephone Company will estimate the volume of lost customer access minutes of use based on previously known values.

ACCESS SERVICE

17. Rates and Charges

17.1 Common Line Access Service

17.1.1 Carrier Common Line Access Service

Regulations concerning Carrier Common Line Access are set forth in Section 3 preceding.

	Originating Rate	Terminating Rate	
(A) Interlata - Applied Per Access Minute	$0.039916	$0.000000	(R)
(B) Intralata - Applied Per Access Minute	$0.016521	$0.000000	(R)

4001 Rodney Parham Rd.
Little Rock, Arkansas 72212

ACCESS SERVICE

17. Rates and Charges (Cont'd)

17.2 Switched Access Service (Cont'd)

17.2.2 Local Transport

(A) Local Transport

Regulations concerning Local Transport are set forth in 6.1.3(A) preceding.

	Rate	
(1) Per minute	$0.000000	(R)

(B) Network Blocking Per Blocked Call

Regulations concerning Network Blocking are set forth in 6.8.6 preceding. Network Blocking applies to FGD only.

Monthly Charge	N/A

(C) Carrier Identification Parameter (CIP)

Per Trunk	Rate
- Voice Grade	$2.94
- DS1	$70.56
- DS3	$1,975.68

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ACCESS SERVICE

17. Rates and Charges (Cont'd)

17.2 Switched Access Service (Cont'd)

17.2.2 Local Transport (Con't)

(E) Entrance Facility Per Termination

	Monthly Charge	Nonrecurring Charge
Voice Grade 2 Wire	$ 13.96	$215.00
Voice Grade 4 Wire	22.34	215.00
DS1	110.97	303.00
DS3	1149.55	333.00

(F) Direct Trunk Transport

	Facility Per Mile	Termination Per Termination
Voice Grade	$ 0.63	$ 8.28
DS1	9.38	11.36
DS3	84.99	908.66

(G) Multiplexing Per Arrangement

	Monthly Charge
DS1 - Voice	$149.70
DS3 – DS1	302.10

(H) Tandem Switched Transport

	Rate
Tandem Switched Facility per minute per mile	$0.005000
Tandem Switched Termination per Minute	$0.009098
Tandem Switching per Minute	$0.009256

ACCESS SERVICE

17. Rates and Charges (Cont'd)

17.2 Switched Access Service (Cont'd)

17.2.3 End Office

(A) Local Switching

Regulations concerning Local Switching are contained in 6.1.3(B)(1) preceding.

(1) Rates		Rate per Access Minute	
(a)	LS1 - Originating and Terminating access minutes for Feature Groups A & B except: Feature Group B utilized for the provision of MTS/WATS service. Feature Groups A and B when utilized for the provision of terminating inward WATS and WATS-type services at an equal access WATS Serving Office.	$0.019601	(R)
(b)	LS2 - Originating and Terminating access minutes for Feature Groups C & D including: Feature Group B utilized for the provision of MTS/WATS service. Feature Groups A and B when utilized for the provision of terminating inward WATS and WATS-type services at an equal access WATS Serving Office.	$0.019601	(R)

ACCESS SERVICE

17. Rates and Charges (Cont'd)

17.2 Switched Access Service (Cont'd)

17.2.3 End Office

(B) Reserved for Future Use

(C) Directory Assistance Information Surcharge

Regulations concerning Information Surcharge are contained in 6.1.3(B)(3) preceding.	Rate per 100 Access Minutes	
The Information Surcharge is applied per 100 Access Minutes.	$0.0000	(R)