NEWMAN, COMLEY & RUTH

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May 22, 2003

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The Honorable Dale Hardy Roberts Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge Missouri Public Service Commission P.O. Box 360 Jefferson City, MO 65102-0360 FILED MAY 2 2 2003

Missouri Public Service Commission

Re: Comm South Companies, Inc.

Dear Judge Roberts:

Enclosed for filing on behalf of Comm South Companies, inc. please find an Application for a Certificate of Service Authority to Provide Competitive Interexchange Telecommunications Services. Attached to the application as Exhibit B is a proposed tariff containing a 45-day effective date.

Please call me if there are any questions concerning this filing. Thank you very much.

Very truly yours,

NEWMAN, COMLEY & RUTH P.C.

By:

Comley Mark W. Comley comleym@ncrpc.com

MWC:ab

Enclosure

cc: Office of Public Counsel General Counsel's Office Sheri Pringle

EXHIBIT B

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Tariff

Comm South Companies, Inc. d/b/a Missouri Comm South, Inc.

TITLE SHEET

MISSOURI INTEREXCHANGE TELECOMMUNICATIONS TARIFF

This Tariff contains the descriptions, regulations and rates applicable to the furnishing of service and facilities for telecommunications services provided within the State of Missouri by Comm South Companies, Inc. d/b/a Missouri Comm South, Inc. (hereinafter "Carrier") with principal offices at 6830 Walling Lane, Dallas, Texas 75231. This Tariff is on file with the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Commission"), and copies may be inspected, during normal business hours, at Carrier's principal place of business.

Missouri Comm South, Inc. is a "competitive" telecommunications company under the Revised Statutes of Missouri

Issued: May 22, 2003

By: Sheri Pringle, Director-Regulatory Affairs Comm South Companies, Inc. d/b/a Missouri Comm South, Inc. 6830 Walling Lane Dallas, Texas 75231

WAIVER OF RULES AND REGULATIONS

Missouri Comm South, Inc is classified as a competitive telecommunications company in Missouri for which the follow statutory and regulatory requirements are waived pursuant to Sections 392.361 and 392.420 RSMo.

STATUTES

392.210.2	-	Uniform System of Accounts
392.240(1)	-	Just & Reasonable Rates
392.270	-	Ascertain Property Values
392.280	-	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 & notes
392.340	-	Reorganizations

REGULATIONS

4 CSR 240-10.020	-	Depreciation fund income
4 CSR 240-30.010 (2)(C)	-	Rate schedules should be posted at central office
4 CSR 240-30.040	-	Uniform system of accounts
4 CSR 240-33.030	-	Inform customers of lowest price

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Comm South Companies, Inc. d/b/a Missouri Comm South, Inc.

MO PSC – Tariff No. 2 Original Sheet 2

INTEREXCHANGE SERVICES TARIFF

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TARIFF FORMAT

- A. <u>Sheet Numbering</u>. Sheet numbers appear in the upper-right corner of the sheet. Sheets are numbered sequentially. However, new Sheets are occasionally added to the tariff. When a new Sheet is added, the Sheet appears as a decimal. For example, a new Sheet added between Sheets 14 and 15 would be 14.1.
- B. <u>Sheet Revision Numbers</u>. Revision numbers also appear in the upper-right corner of the Sheet. These numbers are used to determine the most current Sheet version on file with the Commission. For example, the 4th revised Sheet 14 cancels the 3rd revised Sheet 14. Because of various suspension periods, deferrals, etc., the Commission follows in their Tariff approval process, the most current Sheet number on file with the Commission is not always the tariff page in effect.
- C. <u>Paragraph Numbering Sequence</u>. There are nine levels of paragraph coding. Each level of coding is subservient to its next higher level of coding.

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)

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EXPLANATION OF SYMBOLS AND ABBREVIATIONS

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

- D Delete or Discontinue
- I Change resulting in an increase to a Customer's bill
- M Moved from another Tariff location
- N New
- R Change resulting in a reduction to a Customer's bill
- T Change in text or regulation but no change in rate or charge

The following are abbreviations used in this Tariff.

LATA - Local Access and Transport Area

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SECTION 1 – DEFINITIONS

<u>Application for Service</u> – A standard order form which includes all pertinent billing, technical and other descriptive information which will enable Carrier to provide telecommunication service as required.

Carrier - Missouri Comm South, Inc. ("Carrier"), unless the context indicates otherwise.

Commission - Missouri Public Service Commission, unless context indicates otherwise.

<u>Customer</u> – The person, firm, corporation, or other entity which orders or uses service and is responsible for the payment of rates and charges and compliance with Tariff regulations.

<u>Disconnection</u> – The disconnection of a circuit, dedicated access line, or port connection being used for existing service.

<u>Holiday</u> – Carrier specified holidays are New Year's Day, Martin Luther King's Birthday (federally observed), President's Day, Memorial Day (federally observed), Independence Day, Labor Day, Columbus Day, Veterans' Day, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas Day.

<u>Premises</u> – The space designated by a Customer as its place or places of business for termination of service (whether for its own communications needs or for its resale Customers). In the case of a non-profit sharing group, this term includes space at each sharer's place or places of business, as well as space at Customer place of business.

Service or Services – The services covered by this Tariff shall include only the State of Missouri.

<u>Terminal Equipment</u> – Telecommunications devices, apparatus, and their associated wiring, such as teleprinters, telephone, and data sets.

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<u>SECTION 2 – RULES AND REGULATIONS</u>

2.1 UNDERTAKING OF THE COMPANY

Carrier is a resale common carrier providing intrastate communications services to Customers for their direct transmission and reception of voice, data, and other types of telecommunications. Service is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, throughout the state.

2.2 LIMITATION OF SERVICE

- 2.2.1 Carrier offers service to all those who desire to purchase service from Carrier consistent with all provisions of this Tariff. Customers or subscribers interested in Carrier's services shall file a service application with Carrier which fully satisfies Carrier and identifies the services required.
- 2.2.2 Service is offered subject to the availability of the necessary facilities and/or equipment and subject to the provisions of this Tariff. Carrier reserves the right not to provide service to or from a location where legally prohibited or the necessary facilities or equipment are not available.
- 2.2.3 Carrier reserves the right to discontinue furnishing service, upon a written notice, when necessitated by conditions beyond its control, or when Customer is using the service in violation of any provision in this Tariff, the rules and regulations of the Commission, or the law.
- 2.2.4 Title to all facilities provided by Carrier under these regulations remain with carrier. Prior written permission from Carrier is required before any assignment or transfer. All regulations and conditions contained in this Tariff shall apply to all such permitted assignees or transferees, as well as all conditions for service.

2.3 START OF BILLING

For billing purposes, the start of service is the day following acceptance by Customer of Carrier's service or equipment. 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 Carrier of notification of cancellation as described in Section 2.7.3 of this Tariff.

2.4 <u>TIMING OF CALLS</u>

2.4.1 <u>When Billing Charges Begin and Terminate for Phone Calls</u>

Customer's long distance usage charge is based on the actual usage of Carrier's network. Usage begins when the called party picks up the receiver (i.e., when two-way communication, often referred to as "conservation time", is possible). When the called party picks up is determined by hardware answer supervision in which the local telephone company sends a signal to the switch or the software utilizing audio tone detection. When software answer supervision is employed, up to 60 seconds of ringing is allowed before it is billed as a usage of the network. A call is terminated when the calling or called party hangs up.

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SECTION 2 – RULES AND REGULATIONS (Cont'd)

2.4.2 Billing Increments

Unless otherwise specified in this Tariff, the minimum call duration for billing purposes is one minute for a connected call. Unless otherwise specified in this Tariff, calls are billed in one minute increments thereafter. Billing will be rounded to the nearest penny for each call.

2.5 CALCULATION OF DISTANCE

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. 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.

Formula:

$$\sqrt{\frac{(v1-v2)^2 + (h1-h2)^2}{10}}$$

2.6 MINIMUM SERVICE PERIOD

The minimum period of service is one month (30 days), unless otherwise stated in this Tariff.

2.7 <u>RESPONSIBILITY OF CUSTOMER</u>

- 2.7.1 All Customers assume general responsibilities in connection with the provisions and use of Carrier's service. When facilities, equipment, and/or communications systems provided by others are connected to Carrier's facilities, Customer assumes additional responsibilities. Customers are responsible for the following:
 - A. Customer is responsible for placing orders for service, paying all charges for service rendered by Carrier, and complying with Carrier's regulations governing the service. Customer is also responsible for assuring that its users comply with regulations.
 - B. When placing an order for service, Customer must provide:
 - 1. The name(s) and address(es) of the person(s) responsible for the payment of service charges; and
 - 2. The name(s), telephone number(s), and address(es) of Customer contact person(s).

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SECTION 2 – RULES AND REGULATIONS (Cont'd)

2.7 <u>RESPONSIBILITY OF CUSTOMER (cont'd)</u>

- 2.7.1 (Continued)
 - C. Customer must pay Carrier for the replacement or repair of Carrier's equipment when the damage results from:
 - 1. The negligence or willful act of Customer or user;
 - 2. Improper use of service; or
 - 3. Any use of equipment or service provided by others.

2.7.2 Availability of Service for Maintenance, Testing, and Adjustment

Upon reasonable notice, the facilities provided by Carrier shall be made available to Carrier for such tests and adjustments as may be necessary to maintain them in satisfactory condition. No interruption allowance will be granted for the time during which such tests and adjustments are made.

- 2.7.3 <u>Cancellation by Customer</u>
 - A. Customer may cancel service any time after meeting the minimum service period. Termination charges will apply if Customer cancels prior to the expiration of a one-year or multi-year service agreement. Such termination charge will be equal to one month's usage as projected in Carrier's proposal for service, or the actual average monthly usage to date, whichever is higher, plus the monthly account charge for the remainder of the contract period.
 - B. If Customer orders service requiring special facilities dedicated to Customer's use and then cancels the order before the service begins, before completion of the minimum service period, or before completion of some other period mutually agreed upon by Customer and Carrier, a charge will be made to Customer for the non-recoverable portions of expenditures or liabilities incurred expressly on behalf of Customer by Carrier and not fully reimbursed by installation and monthly charges. If, based on the order, any construction has either begun or been completed, but no service provided, the nonrecoverable cost of such construction shall be borne by Customer. Such charge will be determined on a case-by-case basis.

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SECTION 2 – RULES AND REGULATIONS (Cont'd)

- 2.7.4 Payment and Charges for Service
 - A. Payment for Service is made in advance by Customer at the time of any of Carrier's prepaid services are initially purchased or are replenished.
 - B. Customer is responsible for payment of all charges for service furnished to Customer or Authorized Users, including, but not limited to all calls originated at Customer's number(s); received at Customer's number(s); billed to Customer's number(s) via thirdparty billing; incurred at the specific request of Customer; or placed using a calling card issued to Customer. If an entity other than Carrier imposes charges on Carrier, in addition to its own internal costs, in connection with a service for which a Carrier Non-Recurring Charge is specified, those charges may be passed on to Customer. The initial billing may include the account set-up charge where applicable. Charges based on actual usage during a month will be billed monthly in arrears. All fixed monthly and non-recurring charges for services ordered will be billed monthly in advance.
 - C. The security of Customer's Authorization Code(s) is the responsibility of Customer. All calls placed using Customer's Authorization Code(s) shall be deducted from Customer's account.
 - D. Customers may pay for service by credit card, an authorized payment agent, or check.
 - E. Customer is liable for all costs associated with collecting past due charges, including all attorney's fees.

2.7.5 Application of Charges

The charges for service are those in effect for the period that service is furnished. If the charge for a period covered by a bill changes after the bill has been rendered, the bill will be adjusted to reflect the new charges.

2.7.6 Deposits

Carrier reserves the right to require a deposit or usage prepayment equal to one month's estimated charge and will administer such deposits and pay interest thereon at 9% interest on residential deposits.

2.7.7 Bad Check Charge

Carrier will bill Customer a one-time charge of \$20.00 if Customer's check for payment of service is returned for insufficient or uncollected funds, closed accounts, or any other insufficiency or discrepancy necessitating return of the check at the discretion of the drawee bank or other financial institution.

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;;	By:	
	Sheri Pringle, Director-Regulatory Affairs	
,	Comm South Companies, Inc.	
÷.	d/b/a Missouri Comm South, Inc.	
	6830 Walling Lane	
	Dallas, Texas 75231	

SECTION 2 – RULES AND REGULATIONS (Cont'd)

2.8 TAXES AND SURCHARGES

Customer is responsible for the payment of all taxes and surcharges. State, federal, local taxes and surcharges (e.g. federal excise tax, gross receipts tax, sales tax, municipal utilities tax, universal service, dial around compensation and PICC surcharges) are listed as separate line items and are not included in the quoted rates. All charges and surcharges other than taxes and franchise fees must have prior Commission approval.

2.9 INTERCONNECTION

- 2.9.1 Service furnished by Carrier may be interconnected with services or facilities of other authorized communications common carriers and with private systems, subject to the technical limitation established by the Carrier. Service furnished by the Carrier is not part of a joint undertaking with such other Carriers. Any special interface equipment or facilities necessary to achieve compatibility between the facilities of Carrier and other participating carriers shall be provided at Customer's expense.
- 2.9.2 Interconnection with the facilities or services of other Carriers shall be under the applicable terms and conditions of the other carriers' tariffs. Customer is responsible for taking all necessary legal steps for interconnecting his or her customer-provided terminal equipment or communications systems with Carriers' facilities. Customers shall secure all licenses, permits, rights-of-way, and other arrangements necessary for such interconnections.

2.10 <u>USE OF SERVICE</u>

Service may not be used for any unlawful purposes for or for any purpose for which any payment or other compensation is received by Customer, except when Customer is a duly authorized and regulated common carrier. This provision does not prohibit an arrangement between Customer, authorized user, or joint user to share the cost of the service as long as the arrangement generates no profit for any participant in the arrangement.

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SECTION 2 – RULES AND REGULATIONS (Cont'd)

2.11 <u>RESPONSIBILITY OF CARRIER</u>

2.11.1 Fractional Charges

Charges for a fractional part of a month are calculated by counting the number of days remaining in the billing period after service is furnished. Divide that number of days by 30 days (billing period). The result is then multiplied by the applicable monthly service charge to arrive at the appropriate fractional monthly service charge.

2.11.2 Disconnection of Service by Carrier

Disconnection of service shall be governed by the policies and practices of the Missouri Corporation Commission.

- A. Upon non-payment of any amounts owing to the Company, the Company may, by giving requisite prior written notice to the Customer, discontinue or suspend service without incurring any liability.
- B. Upon violation of any of the other material terms or conditions for furnishing service, the Company may by giving requisite prior written notice to the Customer, discontinue or suspend service without incurring any liability if such violation continues during that period.
- C. Upon condemnation of any material portion of the facilities used by the Company to provide service to a Customer or if a casualty renders all or any material portion of such facilities inoperable beyond feasible repair, the Company may, by notice to the Customer, discontinue or suspend service without incurring any liability.
- D. Upon the Customer's insolvency, assignment for the benefit of creditors, filing for bankruptcy or reorganization, failing to discharge an involuntary petition within the time permitted by law, or abandonment of service, the Company may, with prior notice to the customer, discontinue or suspend without incurring any liability.
- E. Upon any governmental prohibition, or required alteration of the services to be provided or any violation of any applicable law or regulation, the Company may, with prior notice to the customer, discontinue or suspend service without incurring any liability.
- F. The Company may discontinue the furnishing of any and/or all service(s) to a Customer, without incurring any liability:
 - 1. Immediately and without notice if the Company deems that such action is necessary to prevent or to protect against fraud or to otherwise protect its personnel, agents, facilities or services. The Company may discontinue service pursuant to Section 2.11.2.F.1(a)-(d) if:

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SECTION 2 – RULES AND REGULATIONS (Cont'd)

2.11 RESPONSIBILITY OF CARRIER (Cont'd)

- 2.11.2 Disconnection of Service by Carrier (Cont'd)
 - F. (Continued)
 - 1. (Continued)
 - (a) Customer provides false information to the Company regarding the Customer's identity, address, past or current use of common carrier communications services, or its planned use of the Company's service(s); or
 - (b) The Customer uses, or attempts to use, service with the intent to avoid the payment, either in whole or in part, of the tariffed charges for the service by:
 - I. Using or attempting to use service by rearranging, tampering with, or making connections to the Company's service not authorized by this tariff; or
 - II. Using tricks, schemes, false or invalid numbers, false credit devices, electronic devices; or
 - III. Any other fraudulent means or devices; or
 - (c) Use of service in such a manner as to interfere with the service of other users; or
 - (d) Use of service for unlawful purposes.
 - 2. After sending the Customer requisite prior written notice of noncompliance with any provision of this tariff if the noncompliance is not corrected within the notice period; or
 - 3. The suspension or discontinuance of service(s) by Carrier pursuant to this Section does not relieve Customer of any obligation to pay Carrier for charges due and owing for service(s) furnished during the time of or up to suspension or discontinuance. Upon Carrier's discontinuance of service to Customer under this Section, all applicable charges shall become due. This is in addition to all other remedies that may be available to the Company at law or in equity or under any other provision of this tariff.

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SECTION 2 – RULES AND REGULATIONS (Cont'd)

2.11 RESPONSIBILITY OF CARRIER (Cont'd)

2.11.3 Credit with Cancellation of Service

Where Carrier cancels a service and the final service period is less than the monthly billing period, a credit will be issued for any amounts billed in advance, prorated at 1/30th of the monthly recurring charge for each day after the service was discontinued. This credit will be issued to Customer or applied against the balance remaining on Customer's account.

2.12 INTERRUPTION OF SERVICE

Credit allowance for interruption of service which is not due to the negligence of Customer or to the failure of channels, equipment, and/or communications systems provided by Customer and other carriers are subject to the general liability provisions set forth in Section 2.14 herein. It shall be the obligation of Customer to notify Carrier immediately of any interruption in service for which a credit allowance is desired by Customer. Before giving such notice, Customer shall ascertain that the trouble is not being caused by any action or omission of Customer within his or her control., or it is not in wiring or equipment, if any, furnished by Customer and connected to Carrier's terminal.

2.12.1 Credit Allowances

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- A. Credit for failure of service or equipment will be allowed only when failure is caused by or occurs in facilities or equipment owned, provided and billed for, by Carrier.
- B. Credit allowances for failure of service or equipment starts when Customer notifies Carrier of the failure or when Carrier becomes aware of the failure and ceases when the operation has been restored and an attempt has been made to notify Customer.
- C. Customer shall notify Carrier of failures of service or equipment and make reasonable attempts to ascertain that the failure is not caused by Customer provided facilities, any act or omission Customer, or in wiring or equipment connected to the terminal.
- D. Only those portions of the service or equipment disabled will be credited. No credit allowances will be made for:
 - 1. interruptions of service resulting from Carrier performing routine maintenance;
 - 2. interruptions of service for implementation of a Customer order for a change in the service;
 - 3. interruptions caused by negligence of Customer or his authorized user; or
 - 4. interruptions of service because of the failure of service or equipment provided by Customer, authorized user, or other Carriers.

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SECTION 2 – RULES AND REGULATIONS (Cont'd)

2.12 INTERRUPTION OF SERVICE (Cont'd)

2.12.1 Calculation of Credit Allowance

Pursuant to limitations set forth in Section 2.12.1, when service is interrupted the credit allowance will be computed on the following basis:

- A. No credit shall be allowed for an interruption of less than two hours.
- B. Customer shall be credited for an interruption of two hours or more for as long as the interruption continues.
- C. ^f When a minimum usage charge is applicable and Customer fails to meet the minimum usage charge because of a service interruption, a credit shall be applied against that minimum usage charge in the following manner. For each period of two hours that the interruption continues the credit shall equal 1/360th of the monthly minimum charge. Note: In this instance a fractional period of more than one hour shall be treated as a two hour period.
- D. If notice of a dispute as to charges is not received in writing by Carrier within 30 days after billing is received by Customer, the invoice shall be considered correct and binding on Customer, unless extraordinary circumstances are demonstrated.

2.13 RESTORATION OF SERVICE

The use and restoration of service in emergencies shall be in accordance with the priority system specified in Part 64, Subpart D of the Rules and Regulations of the Federal Communications Commission.

2.14 LIABILITIES OF CARRIER

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2.14.1 The liability of the Carrier for damages arising out of the furnishing of its services, including but not limited to mistakes, omissions, interruptions, delays, errors, or defects in any service, facility, or transmission provided under the Tariff, or representations by the Carrier, or use of these services or damages arising out of the failure to furnish the service whether caused by acts or omission, shall not exceed an amount equivalent to the proportionate charge to Customer for the period of service or the facility provided during which such mistake, omission, interruption, delay, error, or defect occurs. For the purpose of computing this amount, a month is considered to have thirty (30) days. The extension of such allowances for interruption shall be the sole remedy of Customer and the sole liability of the Carrier for any direct, indirect, incidental, special, consequential, exemplary or punitive damages, or for any lost profits, even if advised of the possibility of the same as a result of any Company service, equipment or facilities, or the acts or omissions of negligence of the Company's employees or agents.

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By: Sheri Pringle, Director-Regulatory Affairs Comm South Companies, Inc. d/b/a Missouri Comm South, Inc. 6830 Walling Lane Dallas, Texas 75231

SECTION 2 – RULES AND REGULATIONS (Cont'd)

2.14 <u>LIABILITIES OF CARRIER (Cont'd)</u>

- 2.14.2 Carrier's liability for willful misconduct, if established as a result of judicial or administrative proceedings, is not limited by this Tariff. With respect to any other claim or suit, by a Customer or by others, for damages associated with the ordering (including the reservation of any specific number for use with a service), installation (including delays thereof), provision, termination, maintenance, repair, interruption or restoration of any service or facilities offered under this Tariff, and subject to the provisions of this Section, Carrier's liability, if any, shall be limited as provided herein.
- 2.14.3 The entire liability of the Company for any claim, loss, damage or expense from any cause whatsoever shall in no event exceed sums actually paid to the Company by Customer for the specific services giving rise to the claim, and no action or proceeding against the Company shall be commenced more than one year after the service is rendered.
- 2.14.4 Carrier shall not be liable for any claim of loss, expense, or damage, due to any interruption, delay, error, omission, or other defect in service, facility, or transmission provided under this Tariff, if caused by any person or entity other than Carrier, any malfunction of any service or facility provided by any other carrier, act of God, fire, war, civil disturbance, act of government, or by any other cause beyond Carrier's control.
- 2.14.5 The Carrier shall not be liable for any act or omission of any other company or companies furnishing a portion of the service, or for damages associated with service, channels, or equipment which it does not furnish, or for damages which result from the operation of Customer-provided systems, equipment, facilities or services which are interconnected with Carrier services.
- 2.14.6 The Carrier shall not be liable for any defacement of or damage to Customer premises resulting from the furnishing of services of equipment on such premises or the installation or removal thereof, unless such defacement or damage is caused by gross negligence or willful misconduct of the Carrier's agents or employees. No agents or employees of other participating carriers shall be deemed to be agents or employees of the Carrier.
- 2.14.7 The Company shall not be liable for any delay or failure of performance or equipment due to causes beyond its control, including but not limited to: acts of God, fire, flood, explosion or other catastrophes; and law, order, regulation, direction, action or request of the United States government or of any other government, including state and local governments having or claiming jurisdiction over Carrier, or of any department, agency, commission, bureau, corporation or other instrumentality of any one or more of these federal, state, or local governments, or of any military authority, preemption of existing service in compliance with national emergencies; insurrections, riots; wars; unavailability of rights-of-way or materials, or strikes, lockouts, work stoppages, or other labor difficulties.

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<u>SECTION 2 – RULES AND REGULATIONS (Cont'd)</u>

2.14 LIABILITIES OF CARRIER (Cont'd)

- 2.14.8 The Company shall not be liable for any act or omission of any entity furnishing Carrier or the Carrier's Customers facilities or equipment used for or with the services Carrier offers or for the acts of or omissions of other common carriers or warehousemen.
- 2.14.9 The Carrier shall not be liable for any act or omission of any other company or companies furnishing a portion of the service, or for damages or losses associated with service, channels, or equipment which it does not furnish, or for damages or losses which result from the operation of Customer-provided systems, equipment, facilities or services.
- 2.14.10 Carrier shall not be liable for and shall be fully indemnified, held harmless, and defended by Customer or by others authorized by it to use the service against any claim of loss, expense, or damage, including indirect, special, or consequential damage for:
 - A. Defamation, libel, slander, invasion of privacy, infringement of copyright or patent, unauthorized use of trademark, trade name, or service mark, unfair competition; interference with or misappropriation, or violation of any contract, proprietary or creative right, or any other injury to any proprietary or creative right, or any other injury to any person, property, or entity arising from the material, data, information, or content, revealed to, transmitted, processed, handled, or used by Carrier under this Tariff;
 - B. All other claims arising out of any act or omission of Customer or others, in connection with any service provided by the Company pursuant to this Tariff.
 - C. Connecting, combining, or adapting Carrier's facilities with Customer's apparatus or systems;
 - D. Any act or omission of Customer or others, in connection with any service provided by Carrier pursuant to this Tariff; or
 - E. any personal injury or death of any person or for any loss of or damage to Customer's premises or any other property, whether owned by Customer or others, caused directly or indirectly by the installation, maintenance, location, condition, operation, failure, presence, use, or removal of equipment or wiring provided by Carrier, if not caused by gross negligence of Carrier.
- 2.14.11 Customer shall indemnify and hold the Company harmless from any and all loss, claims, demands, suits or other action, or any liability whatsoever, whether suffered, made, instituted, or asserted by any other party or person(s), and for any loss, damage, or destruction of any property, whether owned by the Customer or others, caused or claimed to have been caused directly or indirectly by the installation, operation, failure to operate, maintenance, removal, condition, location or use of any installation provided by Carrier. Carrier reserves the right to require each Customer to sign an agreement acknowledging acceptance of the provisions of this section as a condition precedent to such installations.

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SECTION 2 – RULES AND REGULATIONS (Cont'd)

2.14 LIABILITIES OF CARRIER (Cont'd

- 2.14.12 Carrier shall not be liable for any damages, including usage charges, that Customer may incur as a result of the unauthorized use of its Authorization Code(s) by others. The unauthorized use of Customer Authorization Codes(s) includes, but is not limited to, the placement of calls using Customer's Authorization Code(s) without the authorization of Customer. Customer shall be fully liable for all such usage charges.
- 2.14.13 No agent of employee of any other carrier shall be deemed to be an agent or employee of Carrier.
- 2.14.14 CARRIER MAKES NO WARRANTY REGARDING THE PROVISION OF SERVICE PURSUANT TO THIS TARIFF, INLCUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE.

Issued: May 22, 2003

By: Sheri Pringle, Director-Regulatory Affairs Comm South Companies, Inc. d/b/a Missouri Comm South, Inc. 6830 Walling Lane Dallas, Texas 75231 Effective: July 6, 2003

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Comm South Companies, Inc. d/b/a Missouri Comm South, Inc.

SECTION 3 – SERVICES AND RATES

3.1 SERVICE OFFERINGS

3.1.1 <u>Prevaid Long Distance Service</u>

Prepaid Long Distance Service provides an outbound voice grade communications service for calls charged to the Customer's account. The Service allows Customers to dial an 800 number to place direct-dialed interexchange calls to terminating locations from their home telephone. All calls must be charged against an account that has a sufficient available balance. At the point in which only 60 seconds of service remain, an audible signal will be given to the user to alert them only so much time is left for long distance service. The Customer may increase the available minutes of use by making additional incremental payments.

3.1.2 Prepaid Card Service

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Prepaid Card Service provides an outbound voice grade communications service for calls charged to ε Prepaid Card. Prepaid Card Service allows Customers to place direct-dialed interexchange calls to terminating locations by dialing a Customer-provided access number and a Customer-provided authorization number.

All calls must be charged against a Prepaid Card that has a sufficient available balance. The Customer will be notified in advance of the exhaustion of the card via an interactive voice prompt.

The following types of calls may not be completed with the Prepaid Card Service:

- Calls to 700 numbers
- Calls to toll free numbers
- Calls to 900 numbers
- Directory Assistance calls
- All Operator Service calls
- Busy Line Verification and Interrupt Service
- Calls requiring the quotation of time and charges
- Air-to-Ground calls

Except as may be specifically referenced therein, calls made using Prepaid Card Services are not included in any other Carrier services or promotions.

The number of available Prepaid Card is subject to technical limitations. Such cards will be offered to Customers on a first come, first served basis. Prepaid cards are available in various unit denominations as determined by the Carrier. Prepaid Cards will be sold at prices rounded to the nearest cent. The Prepaid Card Service rate does not include federal excise tax or those state and local taxes, which are required to be paid at the point of sale. The tariffed rate does include those state and local taxes, which are required to be paid to be paid on the usage of the underlying telecommunications service when that service originates and terminates within a particular tax jurisdiction.

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i Li	6830 Walling Lane	
ł	Dallas, Texas 75231	
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SECTION 3 – SERVICES AND RATES

3.1 <u>SERVICE OFFERINGS (Cont'd)</u>

3.1.3 Directory Assistance Service

The Company does not provide directory assistance and blocks access to directory assistance. Charges will apply in the event that a Customer utilizes Directory Assistance. The rate for each call to Directory Assistance is \$1.50. Up to two requests for numbers may be made on each call to Directory Assistance. The Directory Assistance charge applies whether or not the Directory Assistance bureau furnishes the requested telephone number(s).

Residential customers are entitled to three (3) free directory assistance calls per monthly billing cycle. Call allowances are not transferable between separate accounts of the same Customer.

Charges will not be levied for Directory Assistance where Customer has been affirmed in writing as unable to use a telephone directory because of a visual, physical or reading handicap.

3.2 SPECIAL PRICING ARRANGEMENTS – INDIVIDUAL CASE BASIS (ICB)

In lieu of the rates otherwise set forth in this Tariff, rates and charges, including installation, special construction and recurring charges, may be established at negotiated rates on an ICB, taking into account such factors as the nature of the facilities and services, the costs of construction and operation, the volume of traffic commitment, and the length of service commitment by the Customer, as long as the rates and charges are not less than Carrier's costs of providing the service. Such arrangements shall be considered special pricing arrangements, the terms of which will be set forth in individual contracts or Customer term agreements. Specialized pricing arrangement rates or charges will be made available to similarly-situated Customers on comparable terms and conditions. Upon reasonable request, Carrier will make the terms of these contracts available to the Commission and its staff for review on a confidential and proprietary basis. The rates will be made a part of this Tariff.

3.3 **PROMOTICNS**

Carrier may, from time to time, engage in national and/or intrastate promotional offerings or trials, designed to attract new Customers, to stimulate Customer usage, to test potential new services, and/or to increase existing Customer awareness of Carrier services. These offerings may be limited to certain services, dates, times of day and/or locations determined by Carrier. National offerings, the terms of which are set forth in the applicable interstate tariffs governing such programs, may include without limitations, discounts, redeemable points, or cash rewards to Customers. The Commission will be notified prior to the effective date of promotions. To the extent that these programs extend to intrastate services, the terms of these national offerings are incorporated by reference, herein.

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SECTION 4 – RATES AND CHARGES

\$0.15

\$0.25

4.1 SERVICE OFFERINGS

4.1.1 <u>Prepaid Long Distance Service</u> Price Per Unit (measured in one minute increments)
4.1.2 <u>Prepaid Card Service</u> Price Per Unit (measured in one minute increments)

4.1.3 Directory Assistance Service

Rate per Directory Assistance Call: \$1.50

4.2 OPERATOR SERVICE CHARGES

<u>></u>	Call Placement Charge or Connection Fee
Station-to-Station	\$ 3.95
Person-to-Person	\$ 4.90
Collect Station-to-Station	\$ 3.95
Collect Person-to-Person	\$ 4.90
Third-Party Billing	
Station-to-Station	\$ 3.95
Person-to-Person	\$ 4.90
Operator-Dialed Surcharge	\$ 1.15

4.3 <u>RETURNED CHECK CHARGES</u>

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Carrier will bill Customer a one-time charge of \$25.00 if Customer's check for payment of service is returned for insufficient or uncollected funds, closed accounts, or any other insufficiency or discrepancy necessitating return of the check at the discretion of the drawee bank or other financial institution.

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