



April 30, 2021

Missouri Public Service Commission  
Governor Office Building  
200 Madison  
P.O. Box 360  
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0360

Dear Secretary:

Attached for electronic filing are revisions to the Embarras Missouri, Inc. d/b/a CenturyLink, Access Service Tariff, P.S.C. MO.-No. 26. These revisions are filed, in accordance with Missouri Public Service Commission Rules and Regulations and electronically submitted with an April 30, 2021 issue date and a proposed effective date of May 30, 2021.

This filing eliminates certain language to avoid any potential argument that companies operating under this tariff are subject to territorial restrictions, when providing Switched Access Service, in terms of ultimate originating/terminating call end points. Any potentially relevant legacy territorial restrictions that may have applied in the past have lapsed as a result of past Federal Communication Commission decisions – for example, decisions eliminating such legacy regulatory obligations as the independent ILEC long distance separate affiliate restrictions previously imposed under CFR 64.1903<sup>1</sup>. Additionally, this filing also revises certain language related to the provision of a Single Bill/Multiple Tariff billing option and Multiple Exchange Carrier Access Billing (MECAB) and the Multiple Exchange Carrier Ordering and Design (MECOD) Guidelines – similarly, to provide greater clarity about the Single Bill/Multiple Tariff option available under this tariff.

The following tariff revisions are included in this filing:

Section 2: Second Revised Page 65  
Section 2: Second Revised Page 66  
Section 2: Original Page 66.1  
Section 6: Second Revised Page 143

Should you have questions or need additional information regarding this filing, please contact me at 913-884-1111 or via email.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Christina I. Chushuk".

Christina Chushuk  
Manager – Government Operations

Attachments

Pc: Office of Public Counsel (e-mail)

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<sup>1</sup> See e.g. *Petition of US Telecom for Forbearance Pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 160(c) to Accelerate Investment in Broadband and Next- Generation Networks*, et al., WC Docket No. 18-141, CC Docket No. 00-175, 34 FCC Rcd 2590, Memorandum Opinion and Order, FCC 19-31, ¶¶ 30-41 (2019).

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowances (Cont'd)

2.4.8 Ordering, Rating and Billing of Access Services Where More Than One Exchange Telephone Company or Rate Schedule is Involved (Cont'd)

When an Access Service provided with the use of a Hub is ordered by a customer, the Exchange Telephone Company in whose territory the Hub is located will accept the order for the Access Service from the customer. That Exchange Telephone Company will then determine the charges involved, arrange to provide the Access Service ordered and bill the charges in accordance with its Access Service tariff.

**In accordance with the Federal Communications Commission's Memorandum Opinion and Order in CC Docket No. 86-106, adopted July 20, 1987, the Telephone Company will adhere to the standards set forth in the Multiple Exchange Carrier Access Billing (MECAB) and the Multiple Exchange Carrier Ordering and Design (MECOD) Guidelines when providing access service under Multiple Company (Interconnection Point) Billing arrangements. These documents are available for customer inspection as set forth in the Reference to Other Publications Section of this tariff.**

(N)  
|  
(N)

(B) The Telephone Company will handle ordering, rating and billing of Access Services under this tariff where more than one Exchange Telephone Company or rate schedule is involved in the provision of Access Service as follows:

(1) When Feature Group A and or B Switched Access Service is ordered by a customer where one end of the Transport element is in one Exchange Telephone Company operating territory and the other end is in another Exchange Telephone Company operating territory, the Exchange Telephone Company in whose territory the first point of switching is located will accept the order. In addition, the Exchange Telephone Company in whose territory the customer point of termination is located must also receive a copy of the order from the customer. The Exchange Telephone Company that accepts the order will then determine the charges involved, arrange to provide the Access Service ordered and bill the charges in accordance with its Access Service tariff.

(2) When Feature Group C, and/or D Switched Access Service and/or Directory Assistance Service is ordered by a customer where one end of the Transport element is in the Telephone Company operating territory and the other end is in another Exchange Telephone Company operating territory, the orders shall be received as follows:

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Chantel Bosworth  
Director – Government Operations  
100 CenturyLink Drive  
Monroe, LA 71203

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May 30, 2021

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowances (Cont'd)

2.4.8 Ordering, Rating and Billing of Access Services Where More Than One Exchange Telephone Company or Rate Schedule is Involved (Cont'd)

(B) (2) (Cont'd)

- (a) For Feature Group C Switched Access Service and/or Directory Assistance Service, the Exchange Telephone Company in whose operating territory the end office is located must receive the order from the customer.
- (b) For Feature Group D Switched Access Service ordered to an end office, the Exchange Telephone Company in whose operating territory the end office is located must receive the order from the customer.
- (c) For Feature Group D Switched Access Service ordered to an access tandem, the Exchange Telephone Company in whose territory the access tandem is located must receive the order from the customer.
- (d) For the Service ordered set forth in (a), (b) and (c) preceding, the Exchange Telephone Company in whose territory the customer point of termination is located must also receive a copy of the order from the customer.
- (e) **Single Bill Method: The Exchange Telephone Companies involved will mutually agree upon a "billing company" which will render the bill for the Access Service provided. The designated billing company will perform the "Access Service Coordination" (ASC) function for the service requested, determine the applicable charges, and bill the customer for the entire service in accordance with the applicable Access Service tariff(s). The designated billing company will be billed by the other Exchange Telephone Companies involved for the portion of the Access Service they provide. Available options for the Single Bill option are:**

- 1. Single Bill/Single Tariff
- 2. Single Bill/Multiple Tariff

(N)

(N)

(M) – Material moved to Page 66.1  
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ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowances (Cont'd)

2.4.8 Ordering, Rating and Billing of Access Services Where More Than One Exchange Telephone Company or Rate Schedule is Involved (Cont'd)

(B) (2) (Cont'd)

(f) **Multiple Bill Method: Each Exchange Telephone Company involved will provide the portion of the service in its operating territory and bill the customer in accordance with its Access Service tariff.**

(N)

(N)

Each Exchange Telephone Company will provide the portion of the Transport element in its operating territory to an interconnection point with another Exchange Telephone Company and will bill the charges in accordance with its Access Service tariff. The rate for the Transport element will be determined as set forth in (8) following. All other appropriate charges in each Exchange Telephone Company tariff are applicable.

(M)

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## ACCESS SERVICE

6. Switched Access Service6.1 General

Switched Access Service, which is available to customers for their use in furnishing their services to end users, provides a two-point electrical communications path between a customer's premises and an end user's premises. It provides for the use of common terminating, switching and trunking facilities and common subscriber plant of the Telephone Company. Switched Access Service provides for the ability to originate calls from an end user's premises to a customer's premises, and to terminate calls from a customer's premises to an end user's premises. Specific references to material describing the elements of Switched Access Service are provided in 6.1.1 and 6.1.3 following. (T)

Rates and charges for Switched Access Service depend generally on its use by the customer, i.e., for MTS or WATS services, MTS-WATS equivalent services, or other services (e.g., foreign exchange service), and whether it is provided in a Telephone Company end office that is equipped to provide equal access (Feature Group D Access, described in 6.1.1(D) following). Rates and charges for Switched Access Service are set forth in 6.8 following. The application of rates for Switched Access Service is described in 6.7 following. Rates and charges for services other than Switched Access Service, e.g., a customer's interLATA and intraLATA toll message service, may also be applicable when Switched Access Service is used in conjunction with these other services. Descriptions of such applicability are provided in 6.2.1(A)(7), 6.2.1(B)(4), 6.2.2(A)(5), 6.2.2(B)(4), 6.2.3(A)(5), 6.2.4(A)(4), 6.7.10 and 6.7.12 following.

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