

February 27, 2017

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 Access Service P.S.C. MO. - No. 26 tariff for Embarq Missouri, Inc. d/b/a CenturyLink. These revisions are filed in accordance with Missouri Public Service Commission Rules and Regulations and electronically submitted with a February 27, 2017 issue date and a proposed effective date of April 1, 2017.

This filing proposes to change the late payment penalty to \$0.000407 per day to gain Company-wide standardization within interstate and intrastate access tariffs, where possible. Customers were notified of these changes.

The list of tariff pages reflecting changes is as follows:

Section 2 Second Revised Page 52

Second Revised Page 53

Section 3 Second Revised Page 99 Section 8 Second Revised Page 491

Should you have questions or need additional information regarding this filing, please contact me at the phone number or email address listed below or Richard Moore at (573) 634-0171.

Sincerely,

Debra Levy

Manager, Regulatory Operations

Jehra Leny

Attachments

MO17-02A

ec: Missouri Office of the Public Counsel (e-mail)

Richard Moore, CenturyLink Ted Hankins, CenturyLink

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ACCESS SERVICE

- 2. <u>General Regulations</u> (Cont'd)
 - 2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowances (Cont'd)
 - 2.4.1 Payment of Rates, Charges and Deposits (Cont'd)
 - (B) (Cont'd)
 - (3) (Cont'd)
 - (b) (Cont'd)
 - (I) the highest interest rate (in decimal value) which may be levied by law for commercial transactions, compounded daily for the number of days from the payment date to and including the date that the customer actually makes the payment to the Telephone Company, or
 - (II) 0.000407 per day, compounded daily for the number of days from the payment date to and including the date that the customer actually makes the payment to the Telephone Company.
 - (c) In the event that a billing dispute concerning any charges billed to the customer by the Telephone Company is resolved in favor of the Telephone Company, any payments withheld pending settlement of the dispute shall be subject to the late payment interest charge set forth in (b) preceding. If the customer disputes the bill on or before the payment date, and pays the undisputed amount on or before the payment date, any late payment charge for the disputed amount will not start until 10 working days after the payment date. If the billing dispute is resolved in favor of the customer, no late payment penalty will apply to the disputed amount.

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(M) Material previously found on this page was moved to Page 53.

ISSUED: February 27, 2017 Gary L. Kepley Director, Regulatory Operations 600 New Century Parkway New Century, Kansas 66031 EFFECTIVE: April 1, 2017

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ACCESS SERVICE

- 2. <u>General Regulations</u> (Cont'd)
 - 2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowances (Cont'd)
 - 2.4.1 Payment of Rates, Charges and Deposits (Cont'd)
 - (B) (Cont'd)
 - (3) (Cont'd)
 - (c) (Cont'd)

In addition, if the customer disputes the billed amount and pays the total amount (i.e., the nondisputed amount and the disputed amount) on or before the payment date and the billing dispute is resolved in favor of the customer, the customer will receive a credit for a disputed amount penalty from the Telephone Company if the bill in dispute is not resolved within 10 working days following the payment date or the date the customer furnishes to the Telephone Company documentation to support its claim plus 10 working days, whichever date is the late date. The disputed amount penalty shall be the disputed amount resolved in the customer's favor times a penalty factor. The penalty factor shall be the lesser of:

- (I) the highest interest rate (in decimal value) which may be levied by law for commercial transactions, compounded daily for the number of days from the first date to and including the last date of the period involved, or
- (II) 0.000407 per day, compounded daily for the number of days from the first date to and including the last date of the period involved.
- (C) When a payment for Access Service Charges billed under this Tariff is due to the Telephone Company from the customer as set forth in (B)(3) preceding on the same payment date that a Purchase of Accounts Receivable net purchase amount is due to the customer from the Telephone Company as set forth in 8.2.2 following, the telephone Company may, with at least 31 days notice to the customer, net the payment for customer Access Service Charges with the net purchase.
- (M) Material moved to this page was previously found on Page 52.

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ACCESS SERVICE

- 3. <u>Carrier Common Line Access Service</u> (Cont'd)
 - 3.5 <u>Payment Arrangements</u> (Cont'd)
 - (A) (Cont'd)

If such payment date falls on a Sunday or on a Holiday which is observed on a Monday, the payment date shall be the first non-Holiday day following such Sunday or Holiday. If such payment date falls on a Saturday or on a Holiday which is observed on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday or Friday, the payment date shall be the last non-Holiday day preceding such Saturday or Holiday.

- (B) Further, if any portion of the Carrier Common Line Access payment is received by the Telephone company after the payment date as set forth in the (A) preceding, or if any portion of the Carrier Common Line Access payment is received by the Telephone company in funds which are not immediately available to the Telephone Company, then a late payment penalty shall be due to the Telephone Company. The late payment penalty shall be the portion of the Carrier Common Line Access payment not received by payment date times a late factor. The late factor shall be the lesser of:
 - (1) the highest interest rate (in decimal value) which may be levied by the law for commercial transactions, compounded daily for the number of days from the payment date to and including the date that the customer actually makes the payment to the Telephone Company or
 - (2) 0.000407 per day, compounded daily for the number of days from the payment date to and including the date that the customer actually makes the payment to the Telephone Company.
- (C) In the event a billing dispute concerning a month's Carrier Common Line Access Billed to the customer by the Telephone Company is resolved in favor of the Telephone Company, any payments withheld pending settlement of the dispute shall be subject to the late payment penalty set forth in (B) preceding. If the customer disputes the bill on or before the payment date, and pays the undisputed amount on or before the payment date, any late payment charge for the disputed amount will not start until 10 days after the payment date. If the billing dispute is resolved in favor

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ACCESS SERVICE

- 8. <u>Billing and Collection Services</u> (Cont'd)
 - 8.2 <u>Billing Service</u> (Cont'd)
 - 8.2.2 Purchase of Accounts Receivable (Cont'd)
 - (C) Payments of Net Purchase Amount to the Customer (Cont'd)
 - (2) (Cont'd)
 - (a) the highest interest rate (in decimal value) which may be levied by law for commercial transactions in the state in which the Telephone Company provides Bill Processing Service to the customer, compounded daily for the number of days from the billed plus date to and including the date that the Telephone Company posts the end user account, or
 - (b) 0.000407 per day, compounded daily for the number of days from the payment date to and including the date that the Telephone Company posts the end user account.

Any late payment penalty will be included with the adjustment made by the Telephone Company to the customer's Total Current Amount Billed.

(D) <u>Netting of Customer Access Service Charges and Net Purchase Amounts</u>

When a payment for customer Access Service Charges under this tariff is due to the Telephone Company from the customer on the same payment date that a net purchase amount is due to the customer from the Telephone Company, the Telephone Company may, with at least a 31 day notice to the customer, net the payment for customer Access Service Charges with the net purchase amount. The Telephone Company will pay the net amount to the customer on the payment date when such net amount is due the customer or require the customer to pay the Telephone Company the net amount when such net amount is due the Telephone Company.

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