

REGULATIONS AND SCHEDULE OF INTRASTATE CHARGES  
GOVERNING THE PROVISION OF INTEREXCHANGE SERVICES  
WITHIN THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

**KENTUCKY DATA LINK, INC.**

3701 Communications Way  
Evansville, IN 47715  
(800) 709-5690

This Tariff applies to Interexchange Telecommunications Services furnished by Kentucky Data Link, Inc., between one or more points within the State of South Carolina. This Tariff is on file with the Public Service Commission, and copies may be inspected, during normal business hours, at the Company's principal place of business, 3701 Communications Way, Evansville, IN 47715.

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Issued: January 10, 2008

Effective:

Issued By: John Greenbank, President  
Kentucky Data Link, Inc.  
3701 Communications Way  
Evansville, IN 47715

CHECK SHEET

The pages of this Tariff are effective as of the date shown. The original and revised pages named below contain all changes from the original tariff and are in effect on the date shown.

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TARIFF FORMAT

1. Page Numbering - Page numbers appear in the upper right corner of the page. Pages are numbered sequentially. However, new pages are occasionally added to the tariff. When a new page is added between pages already in effect, a decimal is added. For example, a new page added between pages 14 and 15 would be 14.A.
2. Page Revision Numbers - Revision numbers also appear in the upper right corner of each page. These numbers are used to determine the most current page version on file with the Commission. For example, the 4th revised Page 14 cancels the 3rd revised Page 14. Because of various suspension periods, deferrals, etc. the Commission follows in its tariff approval process, the most current page number on file with the Commission is not always the tariff page in effect.
3. 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.l.
  - 2.1.1.A.1.a.l.i.
4. Check Sheets - When a Tariff filing is made with the Commission, an updated check sheet accompanies the tariff filing. The check sheet lists the pages contained in the tariff, with a cross reference to the current revision number. When new pages 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 the check sheet if these are the only changes made to it (i.e., the format, etc. remains the same, just revised revision levels on some pages). 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.

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SECTION 1 - EXPLANATION OF SYMBOLS

The following symbols shall be used in this Tariff for the purpose indicated below:

- C - To signify changed regulation.
- D - To signify discontinued rate or regulation.
- I - To signify increased rate.
- M - To signify a move in the location of text.
- N - To signify new rate or regulation.
- R - To signify reduced rate.
- S - To signify reissued matter.
- T - To signify a change in text but no change in rate or regulation.

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SECTION 2 - DEFINITIONS

Certain terms used generally throughout this Tariff are described below.

Advance Payment

Part or all of a payment required before the start of service.

Access Services

The Company's interstate telephone services offered pursuant to this Tariff.

Authorized User

A person, firm, or corporation which is authorized by the customer or joint user to be connected to the service of the customer or joint user, respectively.

Catastrophic Interruption

A complete cable cut, an equipment enclosure fire, an explosion, or any other circumstance of an extraordinary and catastrophic nature.

Commission

The South Carolina Public Service Commission

Company

The term "Company" denotes Kentucky Data Link, Inc.

Customer

The person, firm, or corporation that orders service and is responsible for the payment of charges and compliance with the Company's regulations.

Dedicated or Private Line

A facility or equipment system or subsystem set aside for the sole use of a specific Customer.

End User or User

Any person or entity that obtains the Company's services provided under this Tariff, regardless of whether such person or entity is so authorized by the Customer.

Enhanced Services

Services offered over common carrier transmission facilities that employ computer processing applications that act on the format, content, code, protocol, or similar aspects of the Customer's transmitted information; and/or that provide Customer additional, different, or restructured information; and/or that is transmitted in packet format; and/or that offers the capability for generating, acquiring, storing, transforming, processing, retrieving, utilizing, making available, or interacting with information.

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**SECTION 2 - DEFINITIONS** (Cont'd)**ICB or Individual Case Basis**

A service arrangement in which the regulation, rates and charges are developed based on the specific circumstances of the case. All ICB's will be made available to the ORS upon request.

**LATA**

A Local Access and Transport Area established pursuant to the Modification of Final Judgment entered by the United States District Court for the District of Columbia in Civil Action No. 82-0192; or any other geographic area designated as a LATA in the NATIONAL EXCHANGE CARRIER ASSOCIATION, Inc. Tariff F.C.C. No. 4.

**Network**

Refers to the Company's facilities, equipment, and services provided under this Tariff.

**Network Service**

Intrastate communications service providing one-way and/or two-way information transmissions originating from points within the State of South Carolina.

**Non-Catastrophic Interruption**

All interruptions other than Catastrophic Interruptions.

**ORS**

The South Carolina Office of Regulatory Staff.

**Service Commencement Date**

The first date on which the Company notifies the Customer that the requested service or facility is available for use, unless extended by the Customer's refusal to accept service which does not conform to standards set forth in the Service Order or this Tariff, in which case the Service Commencement Date is the date of the Customer's acceptance. The Company and the Customer may mutually agree on a substitute Service Commencement Date. If the Company does not have an executed Service Order from a Customer, the Service Commencement Date will be the first date on which the service or facility was used by a Customer.

**Service Order**

The written request for dedicated services executed by the Customer and the Company in the format devised by the Company. The signing of a Service Order by the Customer and acceptance by the Company initiates the respective obligations of the parties as set forth therein and pursuant to this Tariff, but the duration of the service is calculated from the Service Commencement Date. Should a Customer use the Company's dedicated service without an executed Service Order, the Company will then request the Customer to submit a Service Order.

**Shared**

A facility or equipment system or subsystem that can be used simultaneously by several Customers.

**User**

A Customer, joint user, or any other person authorized by a Customer to use service provided under this Tariff.

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SECTION 3 - APPLICATION OF TARIFF

- 3.1 This Tariff applies to intrastate, interexchange private line service supplied to Customers.

This Tariff applies only to the extent that services provided hereunder are used by a Customer for the purpose of originating or terminating intrastate communications. A communication is "intrastate" only if all points of origination and termination are located within the State of South Carolina.

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**SECTION 4 - REGULATIONS****4.1 Undertaking of the Company****4.1.1 Scope**

The Company undertakes to furnish dedicated and private line services in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in this Tariff. Applications for initial or additional service made verbally or in writing become a contract upon the establishment of the service or facility.

**4.1.2 Shortage of Facilities**

All service is subject to the availability of suitable facilities. The Company reserves the right to limit the length of communications or to discontinue furnishing services when necessary because of the lack of transmission medium capacity or because of any causes beyond its control.

**4.1.3 Terms and Conditions**

- A. Service is provided on the basis of a minimum period of at least one month, 24-hours per day. For the purpose of computing charges in this Tariff, a month is considered to have 30 days.
- B. Customers may be required to enter into written Service Orders which shall contain or reference a specific description of the service ordered, the rates to be charged, the duration of the services, and the terms and conditions in this Tariff. Customers will also be required to execute any other documents as may be reasonably requested by the Company.
- C. In any action between the parties to enforce any provision of this Tariff, the prevailing party shall be entitled to recover its legal fees and court costs from the non-prevailing party in addition to other relief a court may award.
- D. This Tariff shall be interpreted and governed by the laws of the State of South Carolina, regardless of its choice of laws provision.

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**SECTION 4 - REGULATIONS (Cont'd)****4.1 Undertaking of the Company (Cont'd)****4.1.4 Limitations on Liability**

- A. Except as otherwise stated in this section, the liability of the Company for damages arising out of either: (1) the furnishing of its services, including, but not limited to, mistakes, omissions, interruptions, delays, or errors, or other defects, misrepresentations, or use of these services; or (2) the failure to furnish its service, whether caused by acts or omission, shall be limited to the extension of allowances to the Customer for interruptions in service as set forth in this Tariff.
- B. Except for the extension of allowances to the Customer for interruptions in service as set forth in this Tariff, the Company shall not be liable to a Customer or third party for any direct, indirect, special, incidental, reliance, consequential, exemplary or punitive damages, including, but not limited to, loss of revenue or profits, for any reason whatsoever, including, but not limited to, any act or omission, failure to perform, delay, interruption, failure to provide any service or any failure in or breakdown of facilities associated with the service.
- C. The liability of the Company for errors in billing that result in overpayment by the Customer shall be limited 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. All adjustment in Customer billing will conform to SC Reg. 103-622.

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SECTION 4 - REGULATIONS (Cont'd)

4.1 Undertaking of the Company (Cont'd)

4.1.4 Limitations on Liability (Cont'd)

- D. The Company shall not be liable for any claims for loss or damages involving:
1. Any act or omission of: (a) the Customer; (b) any other entity furnishing service, equipment, or facilities for use in conjunction with services or facilities provided by the Company; or (c) common carriers or warehousemen;
  2. Any delay or failure of performance or equipment due to causes beyond the Company's control, including, but not limited to, acts of God, fires, floods, earthquakes, hurricanes, or other catastrophes; national emergencies, insurrections, riots, wars or other civil commotions; strikes, lockouts, work stoppages or other labor difficulties; criminal actions taken against the Company; unavailability, failure or malfunction of equipment or facilities provided by the Customer or third parties; and any law, order, regulation or other action of any governing authority or agency thereof;
  3. Any unlawful or unauthorized use of the Company's facilities and services;
  4. Libel, slander, invasion of privacy or infringement of patents, trade secrets, or copyrights arising from or in connection with the transmission of communications by means of Company-provided facilities or services; or by means of the combination of Company-provided facilities or services with Customer-provided facilities or services;
  5. Breach in the privacy or security of communications transmitted over the Company's facilities;

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SECTION 4 - REGULATIONS (Cont'd)4.1 Undertaking of the Company (Cont'd)4.1.4 Limitations on Liability (Cont'd)

## D. (Cont'd)

6. Changes in any of the facilities, operations, or procedures of the Company that render any equipment, facilities, or services provided by the Customer obsolete, or require modification or alteration of such equipment, facilities, or services, or otherwise affect their use or performance, except where reasonable notice is required by the Company and is not provided to the Customer, in which event the Company's liability is limited as set forth in this Tariff.
7. Defacement of or damage to Customer premises resulting from the furnishing of services or equipment on such premises or the installation or removal thereof;
8. Injury to property or injury or death to persons, including claims for payments made under Workers' Compensation law or under any plan for employee disability or death benefits, arising out of, or caused by, any act or omission of the Customer, or the construction, installation, maintenance, presence, use or removal of the Customer's facilities or equipment connected, or to be connected to the Company's facilities;
9. Any intentional, wrongful act of a Company employee when such act is not within the scope of the employee's responsibilities for the Company and/or is not authorized by the Company;
10. Any representations made by Company employees that do not comport, or that are inconsistent, with the provisions of this Tariff;
11. Any noncompletion of calls due to network busy conditions;
12. Any calls not actually attempted to be completed during any period that service is unavailable;
13. Any non-completion of communications, including, but not limited to, any inability to send, receive, or access enhanced services, such as electronic mail, voice mail, Internet sites, and data or application services.

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SECTION 4 - REGULATIONS (Cont'd)4.1 Undertaking of the Company (Cont'd)4.1.4 Limitations on Liability (Cont'd)

- E. The Company shall be indemnified, defended, and held harmless by the Customer or end user from and against any and all claims, loss, demands, suits, expense, or other action or any liability whatsoever, including attorney fees, whether suffered, made, instituted, or asserted by the Customer or by any other party, for any personal injury to or death of any person or persons, and for any loss, damage, or destruction of any property, including environmental contamination, whether owned by the Customer or by any other party, caused or claimed to have been caused directly or indirectly by the installation, operation, failure to operate, maintenance, presence, condition, location, use, or removal of any Company or Customer equipment or facilities or service provided by the Company.
- F. The Company does not guarantee nor make any warranty with respect to installations provided by it for use in an explosive atmosphere. The Company shall be indemnified, defended, and held harmless by the Customer from and against any and all claims, loss, demands, suits, or other action, or any liability whatsoever, including attorney fees, whether suffered, made, instituted, or asserted by the Customer or by any other party, for any personal injury to or death of any person or persons, and for any loss, damage, or destruction of any property, including environmental contamination, whether owned by the Customer or by any other party, caused or claimed to have been caused directly or indirectly by the installation, operation, failure to operate, maintenance, presence, condition, location, use, or removal of any equipment or facilities or the service.

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SECTION 4 - REGULATIONS (Cont'd)4.1 Undertaking of the Company (Cont'd)4.1.4 Limitations on Liability (Cont'd)

- G. The Company assumes no responsibility for the availability or performance of any cable or satellite systems or related facilities under the control of other entities, or for other facilities provided by other entities used for service to the Customer, even if the Company has acted as the Customer's agent in arranging for such facilities or services. Such facilities are provided subject to such degree of protection or nonpreemptibility as may be provided by the other entities.
- H. Except as otherwise stated in this Tariff, any claim of whatever nature against the Company shall be deemed conclusively to have been waived unless presented in writing to the Company within thirty (30) days after the date of the occurrence that gave rise to the claim.
- I. THE COMPANY MAKES NO WARRANTIES OR REPRESENTATIONS, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED EITHER IN FACT OR BY OPERATION OF LAW, STATUTORY OR OTHERWISE, INCLUDING WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR USE, EXCEPT THOSE EXPRESSLY SET FORTH HEREIN.

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SECTION 4 - REGULATIONS (Cont'd)4.1 Undertaking of the Company (Cont'd)4.1.5 Testing and Adjusting

Upon suitable notice, the Company may make such tests, adjustments, and inspections as may be necessary to maintain the Company's facilities in satisfactory operating condition. No interruption allowance will be credited to the Customer for the period during which the Company makes such tests, adjustments, or inspections.

4.1.6 Provision of Equipment and Facilities

- A. Except as otherwise indicated, Customer-provided station equipment at the Customer's premises for use in conjunction with this service shall be so constructed, maintained, and operated as to work satisfactorily with the facilities of the Company.
- B. The Company shall not be responsible for the installation, operation, or maintenance of any Customer-provided communications equipment. Where such equipment is connected to service furnished pursuant to this Tariff, the responsibility of the Company shall be limited to the furnishing of services under this Tariff and to the maintenance and operation of such services in the proper manner. Subject to this responsibility, the Company shall not be responsible for:
1. the through transmission of signals generated by Customer-provided equipment or for the quality of, or defects in, such transmission; or
  2. the reception of signals by Customer-provided equipment; or
  3. network control signaling where such signaling is performed by Customer-provided network control signaling equipment.

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**SECTION 4 - REGULATIONS (Cont'd)****4.1 Undertaking of the Company (Cont'd)****4.1.7 Special Construction**

Subject to the arrangement of the Company and to all of the regulations contained in this Tariff, special construction of facilities may be undertaken on a reasonable efforts basis at the request of the Customer. Special construction is that construction undertaken:

- A. where facilities are not presently available, and there is no other requirement for the facilities so constructed;
- B. of a type other than that which the Company would normally utilize in the furnishing of its services;
- C. over a route other than that which the Company would normally utilize in the furnishing of its services;
- D. in a quantity greater than that which the Company would normally construct;
- E. on an expedited basis;
- F. on a temporary basis until permanent facilities are available;
- G. involving abnormal costs; or
- H. in advance of its normal construction.

Special construction charges will be determined as described herein.

**4.1.8 Ownership of Facilities**

Title to all facilities provided in accordance with this Tariff remains in the Company, its agents, contractors, or suppliers.

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SECTION 4 - REGULATIONS (Cont'd)4.2 Prohibited Uses

- A. The services the Company offers shall not be used for any unlawful purpose or for any use for which the Customer has not obtained all required governmental approvals, authorizations, licenses, consents, and permits.
- B. The Company may require applicants for service who intend to use the Company's offering for resale and/or for shared use to file a letter with the Company confirming that their use of the Company's offering complies with relevant laws and regulations, policies, orders, and decisions.
- C. The Company may require a Customer to immediately shut down its transmission if such transmission is causing interference to others.
- D. A Customer, joint user, or authorized user may not assign, or transfer in any manner, the service or any rights associated with the service without the written consent of the Company. The Company will permit a Customer to transfer its existing service to another entity if the existing Customer has paid all charges owed to the Company for regulated Access Services. Such a transfer will be treated as a disconnection of existing service and installation of new service, and non-recurring installation charges as stated in this Tariff will apply.

4.3 Obligations of the Customer4.3.1 Customer Premises Provisions

- A. The Customer shall provide the personnel, power, and space required to operate all facilities and associated equipment installed on the premises of the Customer.
- B. The Customer shall be responsible for providing Company personnel access to premises of the Customer at any reasonable hour for the purpose of testing the facilities or equipment of the Company.

SECTION 4 - REGULATIONS (Cont'd)4.3 Obligations of the Customer (Cont'd)4.3.2 Liability of the Customer

- A. The Customer will be liable for damages to the facilities of the Company and for all incidental and consequential damages caused by the negligent or intentional acts or omissions of the Customer, its officers, employees, agents, invitees, or contractors where such acts or omissions are not the direct result of the Company's negligence or intentional misconduct.
- B. To the extent caused by any negligent or intentional act of the Customer as described in Subsection A, preceding, the Customer shall indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the Company from and against all claims, actions, damages, liabilities, costs, and expenses, including reasonable attorneys' fees, for: (1) any loss, destruction, or damage to property of any third party; (2) the death of or injury to persons, including, but not limited to, employees or invitees of either party; and (3) any liability incurred by the Company to any third party pursuant to this or any other Tariff of the Company, or otherwise, for any interruption of, interference to, or other defect in any service provided by the Company to such third party.
- C. The Customer shall not assert any claim against any other customer or user of the Company's services for damages resulting in whole or in part from or arising in connection with the furnishing of service under this Tariff including, but not limited to, mistakes, omissions, interruptions, delays, errors or other defects or misrepresentations, whether or not such other customer or user contributed in any way to the occurrence of the damages, unless such damages were caused solely by the negligent or intentional act or omission of the other customer or user and not by any act or omission of the Company. Nothing in this Tariff is intended either to limit or to expand Customer's right to assert any claims against third parties for damages of any nature other than those described in the preceding sentence.

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**SECTION 4 - REGULATIONS (Cont'd)****4.4 Customer Equipment and Channels****4.4.1 Interconnection of Facilities**

In order to protect the Company's facilities and personnel and the services furnished to other customers by the Company from potentially harmful effects, the signals applied to the Company's service shall be such as not to cause damage to the facilities of the Company. Any special interface equipment necessary to achieve the compatibility between facilities of the Company and the channels or facilities of others shall be provided at the Customer's expense.

**4.4.2 Inspections**

- A. The Company may, upon notification to the Customer, at a reasonable time, make such tests and inspections as may be necessary to determine that the requirements regarding the equipment and interconnections are being complied with in respect to the installation, operation and maintenance of Customer-provided equipment and in the wiring of the connection of Customer channels to Company-owned facilities.
- B. If the protective requirements in connections with Customer provided equipment are not being complied with, the Company may take such action as necessary to protect its facilities and personnel and will promptly notify the Customer by registered mail in writing of the need for protective action. In the event that the Customer fails to advise the Company within ten (10) days after such notice is received or within the time specified in the notice that corrective action has been taken, the Company may take whatever additional action is deemed necessary, including canceling service, to protect its facilities and personnel from harm. The Company will upon request 24 hours in advance provide Customer with a statement of technical parameters that the Customer's equipment must meet.

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**SECTION 4 - REGULATIONS (Cont'd)****4.4 Customer Equipment and Channels (Cont'd)****4.4.3 Station Equipment**

- A. Customer-provided terminal equipment on the premises of the Customer or other authorized user, the operating personnel there, and the electric power consumed by such equipment shall be provided by and maintained at the expense of the Customer, authorized user, or joint user.
  
- B. The Customer or other authorized user is responsible for ensuring that Customer-provided equipment connected to Company equipment and facilities is compatible with such equipment and facilities. The magnitude and character of the voltages and currents impressed on Company-provided equipment and wiring by the connection, operation, or maintenance of such equipment and wiring shall be such as not to cause damage to the Company-provided equipment and wiring or injury to the Company's employees or to other persons. Any additional protective equipment required to prevent such damage or injury shall be provided by the Company at the Customer's expense.

**4.4.4 Interconnection Provisions**

Facilities furnished under this Tariff may be connected to Customer-provided terminal equipment in accordance with the provisions of this Tariff.

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SECTION 4 - REGULATIONS (Cont'd)4.5 Customer Deposits and Advance Payments4.5.1 Advance Payments

To safeguard its interests, the Company may require a Customer to make an Advance Payment before services and facilities are furnished. The Advance Payment will not exceed an amount up to two months of estimated monthly usage charges. In addition, where special construction is involved, the Advance Payment may also include an amount equal to the estimated non-recurring charges for the special construction and recurring charges (if any) for a period to be set between the Company and the Customer. The Advance Payment will be credited to the Customer's initial bill. An advance payment may be required in addition to a deposit.

4.5.2 Deposits

A. The Company may require from any customer or prospective customer, a deposit intended to guarantee payment of bills for regulated service if any of the following conditions exist: 1) the customer has had two 30-day arrearages in the past 24 months, or the Customer has been sent two or more late payment notices in the past 9 months; or 2) A new customer cannot furnish either an acceptable co-signor or guarantor who is a customer of the utility within the State of South Carolina to guarantee payment; or 3) the customer's gross monthly billing increases; or 4) A customer has had his service terminated by any telephone utility for non-payment or fraudulent use; or 5) the utility determines, through use of commercially acceptable methods, that the customer's credit and financial condition so warrants. For a new customer, a maximum deposit may be required up to an amount equal to an estimated two (2) months (60 days) total bill (including toll and taxes). For an existing customer, a maximum deposit may be required up to an amount equal to the total actual bills of the highest two (2) consecutive months within the preceding six (6) months.

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SECTION 4 - REGULATIONS (Cont'd)4.5 Customer Deposits and Advance Payments (Cont'd)4.5.2 Deposits (Cont'd)

- B. The Company may request that a maximum of 1/3 of the amount of a requested deposit from any customer be paid within twelve (12) days after the date of the request for deposit. An applicant may be requested to pay no more than 1/3 of the deposit amount prior to the establishment of service. At least two billing periods shall be allowed for the balance of the deposit. A Customer or applicant may, at their option, pay the deposit on a more expedited schedule.
- C. Deposits plus interest will be refunded to the Customer after twelve (12) consecutive months, so long as:
1. the Customer has paid any past due bill for service owed to the Company;
  2. service has not been discontinued for nonpayment;
  3. the Customer has not paid four (4) times; or
  4. the Company has not provided evidence that the Customer used a device or scheme to obtain service without payment.
- D. Interest on the deposit shall be accrued annually and payment of such interest shall be made to the customer at least every two (2) years and at the time the deposit is returned. If the Company does not return a Customer's deposit after twelve (12) months, the Company shall provide the Customer with the reasons the deposit is being retained if the Customer so requests.

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SECTION 4 - REGULATIONS (Cont'd)4.5 Customer Deposits and Advance Payments (Cont'd)4.5.2 Deposits (Cont'd)

- E. [INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK]
- F. Deposits plus interest shall be returned when service has been terminated for more than thirty (30) days, less the amount of unpaid bills, if any, for that service. A transfer of service from one premise to another within the area served by the Company shall not be deemed a termination of service by the Company if the class of service remains the same. When a deposit plus interest is applied to the liquidation of unpaid bills, the Company will provide the Customer with a statement showing the amount of the unpaid bill(s) liquidated by the deposit plus interest, and the balance remaining due either to the Customer or the Company.
- G. All deposit refunds will be by separate check and not by credits to the Customer's account, unless the deposit is used to pay the Customer's final bill. When a deposit or portion of a deposit is refunded, the Company will issue a cancellation Notice. Refunds of less than one dollar (\$1.00) need not be issued.
- H. Interest shall be paid on all deposits held by the Company. The rate of interest will be paid at six percent (6%) or at such interest rate as set forth by the Commission. In December of each year the Commission shall announce the rate of interest which shall be paid on all deposits held during all or part of the subsequent year. At the request of a Customer, the Company shall compute the accrued interest upon the deposit and pay such amount to the Customer. The Company need not make such payment more often than once in a twelve (12) month period, nor sooner than twelve (12) months after receipt of a deposit.

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SECTION 4 - REGULATIONS (Cont'd)

4.5 Customer Deposits and Advance Payments (Cont'd)

4.5.2 Deposits (Cont'd)

- I. In the event that a Customer pays a bill to the Company and the billing is later found to be incorrect due to an error either in charging more than the published rate, in measuring the quantity or volume of service provided, or in charging for the incorrect class of service, the Company shall refund the overcharge with interest from the date of overpayment by the Customer. All adjustments of customer billing will conform to SC Reg. 103-623.

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**SECTION 4 - REGULATIONS (Cont'd)****4.6 Payment Arrangements****4.6.1 Payment for Service**

The Customer is responsible for the payment of all charges for facilities and services furnished by the Company to the Customer.

**A. Taxes**

The Customer is responsible for payment of any sales, use, gross receipts, excise, access or other local, state and federal taxes, charges or surcharges (however, designated) (excluding taxes on the Company's net income) imposed on or based upon the provision, sale or use of Network Services. All such charges will appear as separate line items on the Customer's bill.

**4.6.2 Billing and Collection of Charges**

The Customer is responsible for payment of all charges incurred by the Customer or other users for services and facilities furnished to the Customer by the Company.

A. Non-recurring charges are due and payable within thirty (30) days after the date of the invoice.

B. The Company shall present invoices for Recurring Charges monthly to the Customer, in advance of the month in which service is provided, and Recurring Charges shall be due and payable within thirty (30) days after the date of the invoice. When billing is based upon Customer usage, usage charges will be billed monthly for the preceding billing period.

C. When service does not begin on the first day of the month, or end on the last day of the month, the charge for the fraction of the month in which service was furnished will be calculated on a pro rata basis. For this purpose, every month is considered to have thirty (30) days.

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SECTION 4 - REGULATIONS (Cont'd)4.6 Payment Arrangements (Cont'd)4.6.2 Billing and Collection of Charges (Cont'd)

- D. Billing of the Customer by the Company will begin on the Service Commencement Date, which is the day on which the Company notifies the Customer that the service or facility is available for use, except that the Service Commencement Date may be postponed by mutual agreement of the parties, or if the service or facility does not conform to standards set forth in this Tariff or the Service Order. Billing accrues through and includes the day that the service, circuit, arrangement or component is discontinued.
- E. If any portion of the payment is received by the Company after the date due, or if any portion of the payment is received by the Company in funds which are not immediately available upon presentment, then a late payment penalty shall be due to the Company. The late payment penalty shall be the portion of the payment not received by the date due, multiplied by a late factor. The late factor shall be the lesser of:
1. a rate of 1.5 percent per month; or
  2. the highest interest rate that may be applied under state law for commercial transactions.
- F. The Customer will be assessed a charge for each check that is submitted by the Customer to the Company that a financial institution refuses to honor. Such charge will be no more than allowed by SC Code Ann. 34-11-70.
- G. If service is disconnected by the Company in accordance with Section 4.6.4 following and later reinstalled, service will be subject to all applicable installation charges. If service is suspended by the Company and later restored, service will be subject to all applicable restoration charges.

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SECTION 4 - REGULATIONS (Cont'd)4.6 Payment Arrangements (Cont'd)4.6.3 Billing DisputesA. General

All bills are presumed accurate, and shall be binding on the Customer unless notice of the disputed charge(s) is received by the Company. For the purposes of this section, "notice" is defined as verbal or written notice to the Company, containing sufficient documentation to investigate the dispute, including the account number under which the bill has been rendered, the date of the bill, and the specific items on the bill being disputed. When a Customer disputes a bill, the Company shall not discontinue service for nonpayment as long as the Customer (1) pays the undisputed portion of the bill; (2) pays all future bills by the due date and (3) enters into discussions with the Company to settle the dispute.

B. Late Payment Charge

1. The undisputed portions of the bill must be paid by the payment due date to avoid assessment of a late payment charge on the undisputed amount as provided in this Tariff.
2. In the event that a billing dispute is resolved by the Company in favor of the Customer, any disputed amount withheld pending resolution of the billing dispute shall not be subject to the late payment charge. No late payment shall be charged on any disputed bill paid within fourteen (14) days of resolution of the dispute if the complaint was filed before the bill became past due.
3. In the event that a billing dispute is resolved in favor of the Company, the Customer shall pay the late payment charge.

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SECTION 4 - REGULATIONS (Cont'd)

4.6 Payment Arrangements (Cont'd)

4.6.3 Billing Disputes (Cont'd)

C. Adjustments or Refunds to the Customer

1. In the event that the Company resolves the billing dispute in favor of a Customer who has withheld payment of the disputed amount pending resolution of the disputed bill, the Company will credit the Customer's account for the disputed amount in the billing period following the resolution of the dispute.
2. In the event that the Company resolves the billing dispute in favor of a Customer who has paid the total amount of the disputed bill, the Company will credit the Customer's account for any overpayment by the Customer in the billing period following the resolution of the dispute.
3. In the event that the Company resolves the billing dispute in favor of a Customer who has paid the total amount of the disputed bill but canceled the service, the Company will issue a refund of any overpayment by the Customer.
4. All adjustments or refunds provided by the Company to the Customer at the Customer's request, or provided by the Company to the Customer by way of compromise of a billing dispute, and which are accepted by the Customer, are final and constitute full satisfaction, settlement, and/or compromise of all of the Customer's claims for the billing period for which the adjustment or refund was issued.

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SECTION 4 - REGULATIONS (Cont'd)

4.6 Payment Arrangements (Cont'd)

4.6.3 Billing Disputes (Cont'd)

D. Unresolved Billing Disputes

In the case of a billing dispute between the Customer and the Company for service furnished to the Customer, which cannot be settled to the mutual satisfaction of the Customer and the Company, the Customer may take the following course of action.

1. First, the Customer may request and the Company will provide an in-depth review of the disputed amount.
2. Second, if after investigation and review by the Company, a disagreement remains as to the disputed amount, the Customer may file an appropriate complaint with:

South Carolina Office of Regulatory Staff  
Consumer Services Division  
1441 Main Street, Suite 300  
Columbia, SC 29201  
(803) 737-5230  
1-800-922-1531 (toll free)

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**SECTION 4 - REGULATIONS (Cont'd)****4.6 Payment Arrangements (Cont'd)****4.6.4 Discontinuance of Service for Cause**

A. Service may be discontinued after the Company has mailed or delivered by other means a written notice of discontinuance. Service will not be discontinued until at least five (5) days after delivery of this notice or eight (8) days after the postmark date on a mailed notice. The notice of discontinuance shall be delivered separately from any other written matter or bill. The Company, after notice in writing to the Customer and after having given the Customer an appropriate opportunity to respond to such notice, may terminate service for the following reasons:

1. For failure of the Customer to pay a bill for Company service when due. Service will be terminated only Monday through Thursday between the hours of 8:00 am and 4:00 pm, unless provisions have been made to have someone available to accept payment and reconnect service.
2. For failure of the Customer to meet the Company's deposit and credit requirements;
3. For Customer's violation of any of the Company's rules on file with the Commission;
4. For failure of the Customer to provide the Company reasonable access to its equipment and property;
5. For Customer's breach of the contract for service between the Company and the Customer;

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SECTION 4 - REGULATIONS (Cont'd)

4.6 Payment Arrangements (Cont'd)

4.6.4 Discontinuance of Service for Cause (Cont'd)

A. (Cont'd)

6. For failure of the Customer to furnish such service, equipment, and/or rights-of-way necessary to serve said Customer as shall have been specified by the Company as a condition of obtaining service; or

7. When necessary for the Company to comply with any order or request of any governmental authority having jurisdiction.

B. The Company shall not use any credit reports other than those reflecting the purchase of the Company's services to determine the adequacy of a Customer's credit history without the permission in writing of the Customer. The Company shall not disconnect service on the basis of general cases of bankruptcy and insolvency that are unrelated to the use of the Company's services.

C. The Company may immediately disconnect service without notice in the case of tampering with the Company's equipment, hazardous conditions, or Customer use of equipment that adversely affects the Company's equipment or service.

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**SECTION 4 - REGULATIONS (Cont'd)****4.6 Payment Arrangements (Cont'd)****4.6.4 Discontinuance of Service for Cause (Cont'd)**

- D. Service shall not be disconnected on any Friday, Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday, or at any time when the Company's business offices are not open to the public, except where an emergency exists.
- E. In the event of fraudulent use of the Company's Network, the Company must obtain an injunction before disconnecting service. The Customer will be liable for all related costs. The Customer will also be responsible for payment of any reconnection charges.
- F. Upon the Company's discontinuance of service to the Customer under this section, the Company, 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, may declare all future monthly and other charges which would have been payable by the Customer during the remainder of the term for which such services would have otherwise been provided to the Customer to be immediately due and payable (discounted to present value at six percent).

**4.6.5 Notice to Company for Cancellation of Service**

Customer may cancel service by providing five (5) days notice to the Company. Customer may cancel service by notifying the Company in person, by telephone message, or in a written notice. However, the Company will need a signed written statement for official documentation purposes.

SECTION 4 - REGULATIONS (Cont'd)4.6 Payment Arrangements (Cont'd)4.6.6 Customer Overpayment

The Company will pay interest on a Customer overpayment. Customer overpayment shall mean a payment to the Company in excess of the correct charges for service when caused by erroneous billing by the Company. The rate of interest shall be the unadjusted interest rate paid on Customer deposits or the late payment penalty rate, whichever is greater. Interest shall be paid from the date when the Customer overpayment was made, adjusted for any changes in the deposit interest rate or late payment penalty rate, and compounded monthly, until the date when the overpayment is refunded. No interest shall be paid on Customer overpayments that are refunded within thirty (30) days after such overpayment is received by the Company.

4.6.7 Cancellation of Application for Service

- A. The Customer may cancel an application for service prior to installation of the equipment provided that the Customer immediately pay the Company any out of pocket expenses incurred by the Company plus a cancellation fee of two times the applicable monthly recurring service charge.
- B. Out of pocket expenses include but are not limited to the cost of the equipment, facilities, and material, the cost of installation, engineering, labor, and supervision, general and administrative expense, other disbursements, depreciation, maintenance, taxes, provision for return on investment, and any other costs associated with the special construction or arrangements.

4.7 Back Billing

Company shall be entitled to revise bills previously rendered to adjust for previously rendered unbilled service, or adjust upward a bill previously rendered in accordance with the Commission.

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**SECTION 4 - REGULATIONS (Cont'd)****4.8 Allowances for Interruptions in Service****4.8.1 General**

- A. A credit allowance will be given when service is interrupted, except as specified below. A service is interrupted when it becomes inoperative to the Customer, e.g., the Customer is unable to transmit or receive, because of a failure of a component furnished by the Company under this Tariff.
- B. An interruption period begins when the Customer reports a service, facility or circuit to be inoperative and, if necessary, releases it for testing and repair. An interruption period ends when the service, facility or circuit is operative.
- C. If the Customer reports a service, facility or circuit to be interrupted 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.

**4.8.2 Limitations of Allowances**

No credit allowance will be made for any interruption in service:

- A. 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 common carriers connected to the service of the Company;
- B. Due to the failure of power, equipment, systems, connections or services not provided by the Company;
- C. Due to circumstances or causes beyond the control of the Company;

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**SECTION 4 - REGULATIONS (Cont'd)****4.8 Allowances for Interruptions in Service (Cont'd)****4.8.2 Limitations of Allowances (Cont'd)**

- D. During any period in which the Company is not given full and free access to its facilities and equipment for the purposes of investigating and correcting interruptions;
- E. During any period in which the Customer continues to use the service on an impaired basis;
- F. During any period when the Customer has released service to the Company for maintenance purposes or for implementation of a Customer order for a change in service arrangements;
- G. That occurs or continues due to the Customer's failure to authorize replacement of any element of special construction;
- H. That was not reported to the Company within thirty (30) days of the date that service was affected; and
- I. That occurs during the course of routine maintenance, testing and/or adjustment of the Network or facilities related to the provisions of service.

**4.8.3 Use of Another Means of Communications**

If the Customer elects to use another means of communications during the period of interruption, the Customer must pay the charges for the alternative service used.

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SECTION 4 - REGULATIONS (Cont'd)

4.8 Allowances for Interruptions in Service (Cont'd)

4.8.4 Application of Credits for Interruptions in Service

- A. Credits for interruptions in service that is provided and billed on a flat rate basis for a minimum period of at least one month, beginning on the date that billing becomes effective, shall in no event exceed an amount equivalent to the proportionate charge to the Customer for the period of service during which the event that gave rise to the claim for a credit occurred. A credit allowance is applied on a pro rata basis against the rates specified hereunder and is dependent upon the length of the interruption. Only those facilities on the interrupted portion of the circuit will receive a credit.
- B. For calculating credit allowances, every month is considered to have thirty (30) days.

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SECTION 4 - REGULATIONS (Cont'd)

4.8 Allowances for Interruptions in Service (Cont'd)

4.8.4 Application of Credits for Interruptions in Service (Cont'd)

- C. No credit allowance will be given for an interruption of eight (8) hours or less in the case of a Catastrophic Interruption, or of three (3) hours or less in the case of a Non-Catastrophic Interruption. Customer shall be credited for an interruption in excess of eight (8) hours or three (3) hours, as the case may be, at the rate of 1/1440 of the monthly charges applicable to Customer's service which is subject to the interruption for each half hour or major fraction thereof that an interruption continues, such interruption to be measured from (i) the time of notice by Customer to Company that an interruption has occurred to (ii) the time of restoration. No more than thirty (30) days credit will be allowed for any one-month period.

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**SECTION 4 - REGULATIONS (Cont'd)****4.8 Allowances for Interruptions in Service (Cont'd)****4.8.5 Cancellation For Service Interruption**

Cancellation or termination for service interruption is permitted only if any circuit experiences a single continuous outage of eight hours or more or cumulative service credits equaling 16 hours in a continuous 12-month period. The right to cancel service under this provision applies only to the single circuit that has been subject to the outage or cumulative service credits.

**4.8.6 Cancellation of Service/Termination Liability**

If a Customer cancels a Service Order or terminates services before the completion of the term for any reason whatsoever other than a service interruption, Customer agrees to pay to Company termination liability charges, which are defined below. These charges shall become due and owing as of the effective date of the cancellation or termination and be payable within the period set forth in this Tariff.

**4.8.7 Termination Liability**

Customer's termination liability for cancellation of service shall be equal to:

1. all unpaid Non-Recurring charges reasonably expended by Company to establish service to Customer, plus;
2. any disconnection, early cancellation or termination charges reasonably incurred and paid to third parties by Company on behalf of Customer, plus;
3. all Recurring Charges specified in the applicable Service Order for the balance of the then current term discounted at the prime rate announced in the Wall Street Journal on the third business day following the date of cancellation;
4. minus a reasonable allowance for costs avoided by the Company as a direct result of Customer's cancellation.

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SECTION 4 - REGULATIONS (Cont'd)4.9 Customer Liability for Unauthorized Use of the Network4.9.1 Unauthorized Use of the Network

- A. Unauthorized use of the Network occurs when: (1) a person or entity that does not have actual, apparent, or implied authority to use the Network, obtains the Company's services provided under this Tariff; or (2) a person or entity that otherwise has actual, apparent, or implied authority to use the Network, makes fraudulent use of the Network to obtain the Company's services provided under this Tariff, or uses specific services that are not authorized.
- B. The following activities constitute fraudulent use:
1. Using the Network to transmit a message, locate a person, or otherwise give or obtain information, without payment for the service;
  2. Using or attempting to use the Network with the intent to avoid payment, either in whole or part, of any of the Company's tariffed charges by either rearranging, tampering with, or making connections not authorized by this Tariff to any service components used to furnish the Company's services or using fraudulent means or devices, tricks, schemes, false or invalid numbers, false credit devices or electronic devices;
  3. Using fraudulent means or devices, tricks, schemes, false or invalid numbers, false credit devices or electronic devices to defraud or mislead callers.
- C. Customers are advised that use of telecommunications equipment and services, including that provided under this Tariff, carries a risk of various forms of telecommunications fraud (including, but not limited to, toll and PBX fraud perpetrated by Users who gain access to a Customer's facilities, account numbers, security or authorization codes, etc.). Customers should take all necessary steps to restrict access to their facilities, including the equipment and services provided hereunder, and to detect and prevent unauthorized use of the equipment and services provided by the Company under this Tariff.

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**SECTION 4 - REGULATIONS (Cont'd)****4.9 Customer Liability for Unauthorized Use of the Network (Cont'd)****4.9.2 Liability for Unauthorized Use**

- A. Except as provided for elsewhere in this Tariff, the Customer is responsible for payment of all charges for services provided under this Tariff furnished to the Customer or User. This responsibility is not changed due to any use, misuse, or abuse of the Customer's service or Customer-provided equipment by Users or other third parties, the Customer's employees, or the public.
- B. The Customer is liable for all costs incurred as a result of unauthorized use of the Network, including service charges and any direct, indirect, special, incidental, reliance, consequential, exemplary or punitive charges.
- C. The Customer is responsible for payment of any charges related to the suspension and/or termination of service, and any charges for reconnection of service, incurred as a result of unauthorized use of the Network.

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**SECTION 5 - SERVICE DESCRIPTIONS****5.1 General**

The various types of Company service offerings are described below. Company services are billed at predetermined monthly rates. Recurring charges are billed in advance of the month in which service is performed. In addition, the optional features and any extraordinary installation costs other than recurring and non-recurring charges may apply as described herein. Customers requesting these services may subscribe to services on a month-to-month basis, or on an individual case basis as described in Section 5.7. The Company concurs in the maps and legal descriptions of BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. on file with the Commission.

**5.2 Service Configurations**

There are two types of service configurations over which Company's services are provided: point-to-point and multipoint service.

**5.2.1 Point-To-Point Service**

Point-To-Point Service connects two Customer-designated premises, either on a directly connected basis, or through a hub where multiplexing functions are performed.

**5.2.2 Multipoint Service**

Multipoint Services connect three or more Customer designated premises through a Company hub. There is no limitation on the number of locations connected via multipoint service. However, when more than three points are provided in tandem, the quality of service may be degraded. Multipoint service may be provided where technically possible. If Company determines that the requested characteristics for a multipoint service are not compatible, the Customer will be advised and given the opportunity to change the order within sixty (60) days.

SECTION 5 - SERVICE DESCRIPTIONS (Cont'd)5.3 Service Descriptions and Technical Specifications

The following service descriptions and technical specifications will apply to Company's services.

5.3.1 DS-1 Service

DS-1 Service, or Digital Signal Level 1 Service, is a channel for the transmission of 1.544 Mbps or 2.048 Mbps data. Intermediate bit rate channels in multiple increments of either 56 kbps or 64 kbps up to 1.544 Mbps are also available. The actual bit rate and framing format is a function of the channel interface selected by the Customer. DS-1 Channels are provided between Customer designated locations and between Customer designated locations and a Company's hub.

5.3.2 DS-3 Service

DS-3 Service, or Digital Signal Level 3 Service, is a channel for the transmission of 44.736 Mbps data or higher. The actual bit rate and framing format is a function of the channel interface selected by the Customer. DS-3 Channels are provided between Customer designated locations and/or between Customer designated locations and a Company's hub. DS-3 service is provided with an electrical interface.

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SECTION 5 - SERVICE DESCRIPTIONS (Cont'd)5.3 Service Descriptions and Technical Specifications (Cont'd)5.3.3 Fractional DS-1 Service (NOC)

Fractional DS-1 service consists of two to 24 DS-0 or DDS channels between two Customer designated locations, utilizing DS-1 level facilities, and multiplexing arrangements.

5.3.4 M13 Multiplexing (ICB)

An arrangement that converts a 44.736 Mbps into 28 DS-1 channels using digital time division multiplexing.

5.3.5 DS-1 to DS-0 Multiplexing

An arrangement that converts a 1.544 Mbps channel into 24 channels for use with Voice Grade Facilities or DDS.

5.3.6 Standard Long Distance Service:

Standard Long Distance Service is available to customers for outbound calling between any two intrastate locations within South Carolina. Calls are billed in six (6) second increments after a minimum call duration of eighteen (18) seconds. Rates are not time-of-day sensitive or mileage sensitive.

Rates are based on the Customer's estimated monthly billing. Should the Customer not meet the monthly estimated usage for an extended period of time, the Company and the Customer will determine whether the Customer has subscribed to the plan most suitable to their calling pattern. In any case, the Customer will not be billed the minimum usage should the estimated monthly billing not be met.

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SECTION 5 - SERVICE DESCRIPTIONS (Cont'd)5.3 Service Descriptions and Technical Specifications (Cont'd)5.3.6 Dark Fiber Services

Dark Fiber facilities shall normally be installed using single mode, fiber optic facilities suitable for provisioning point-to-point communications, transmitting at Customer specified bandwidths. Multimode fiber, at the Customer's request, may be used depending upon facilities availability. These Dark Fiber facilities are available only where sufficient facilities are provided in Company's network, and charges will be provided on an ICB, as filed with the Commission. Dark Fiber will be offered in capacities of one strand and above, with the fiber terminating on a standard optical patch panel. As Company does not provide the electronics, Company cannot test and monitor the facilities. When available, pricing will be on a per strand per mile basis.

When provided, the type of facility and the route of the facility will be determined by Company. Company makes no guarantee or warranty of the suitability of Dark Fiber for purposes intended by the Customer.

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SECTION 5. SERVICE DESCRIPTIONS (Cont'd)5.3 Service Descriptions and Technical Specifications (Cont'd)5.3.7 OC-n Point-to-Point Service

Company OC-n Point-to-Point Service provides high speed synchronous optical fiber-based full duplex data transmission capabilities. This service provides optical data transmission with the following characteristics:

- Company OC-3 Service provides channels operating at the terminating bit rate of 155.52 Mbps
- Company OC-12 Service provides channels operating at the terminating bit rate of 622.08 Mbps
- Company OC-48 Service provides channels operating at the terminating bit rate of 2488.32 Mbps

Company OC-n channels may be used to connect:

- A customer-designated premises to another customer-designated premises with Add/Drop Multiplexing capability at wire center locations between the two premises, or a customer-designated premises to another customer-designated premises without the Add/Drop Multiplexing capability.
- A customer-designated premises to a Company location where Add/Drop Multiplexing, Add/Drop Functions, and/or cross-connections are performed.

Company OC-n channels may be connected by:

- Using the appropriate OC-n Add/Drop Multiplexer (mux) along with the Add/Drop Function to Company DS1 and/or Company DS3 at suitably equipped wire centers, or
- Using the full bandwidth premises to premises.

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SECTION 5. SERVICE DESCRIPTIONS (Cont'd)5.3 Service Descriptions and Technical Specifications (Cont'd)5.3.8 OC-n Dedicated Ring Service

Company OC-n Dedicated Ring Service provides a customer a dedicated custom network. The network is in a ring architecture designed to provide increased reliability and functionality connecting multiple customer-designated locations and specified Company wire centers via self healing network designs.

Company OC-n Dedicated Ring Service is an alternative to Company OC-n Point-to-Point Service between multiple customer locations.

The ring will provide connectivity to multiple customer-designated locations (nodes). However, a ring must have a minimum of two nodes, excluding sub-ring nodes. At least one node must be a Company wire center node. A maximum of 16 nodes including regenerators will be allowed per ring.

5.3.8.1 OC-48 Add/Drop Capability

This provides the capability to add/drop lower speed channels from Company OC-48 Dedicated Ring node location via OC-12, OC-3 or DS3 ports. OC-48 Add/Drop Capability at an OC-48 Dedicated Ring Service node location will support one quarter of the port capability of OC48 ring bandwidth. Up to four OC-48 Add/Drop Capability options may be provided at a node with each option supporting one OC-12 port, up to four OC-3 ports, up to 12 DS3 ports, or equivalent combination of OC-3 and DS3 ports.

5.3.8.2 OC-192 Add/Drop Capability

This provides the capability to add/drop lower speed channels from Company OC-192 Dedicated Ring node location via OC-48, OC-48c, OC-12, OC-12c, or OC-3, OC-3c ports. OC-192 Add/Drop Capability at an OC-192 Dedicated Ring Service node location will support up to four OC-48 or OC-48c ports, or up to 16 OC-12 or OC-12c ports, or up to 64 OC-3 or OC-3c ports, or any combination not to exceed 192 STS equivalents.

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SECTION 5. SERVICE DESCRIPTIONS (Cont'd)5.3 Service Descriptions and Technical Specifications (Cont'd)5.3.9 OC-n Add/Drop Multiplexing

An arrangement that allows Company OC-n channel operating at a terminating speed of 155.52 Mbps, 622.08 Mbps, and 2488.32 Mbps, respectively, to add/drop a lower speed channel by using this feature along with the Add/Drop Function as stated below.

OC-3 Add/Drop Multiplexing at a Company wire center will provide the capability to support the full Add/Drop Function capacity of OC-3 Service bandwidth with up to three DS3 Add/Drop Functions or equivalently up to three groups of 28 DS1 Add/Drop Functions.

OC-12 Add/Drop Multiplexing at a Company wire center will provide the capability to support the full Add/Drop Function capacity of OC-12 Service bandwidth with up to four OC-3 Add/Drop Functions or up to 12 DS3 Add/Drop Functions or equivalent combinations of OC-3 and DS3 Add/Drop Functions.

OC-48 Add/Drop Multiplexing at a Company wire center will provide the capability to support one quarter of the Add/Drop Function capacity of OC-48 Service bandwidth. Up to four OC-48 Add/Drop Multiplexing options may be provided with each supporting one OC-12 Add/Drop Function, or up to four OC-3 Add/Drop Functions or up to 12 DS3 Add/Drop Functions or equivalent combination of OC-3 and DS3 Add/Drop Functions.

5.3.10 Customer Provided Equipment

Customer provided terminating equipment such as CSUs, multiplexers, and other terminating equipment may, at the Customer's request, be provided by the Customer, at the Customer's expense. Company makes no guarantees or warranties as to the performance of Customer provided equipment.

SECTION 5 - SERVICE DESCRIPTIONS (Cont'd)5.4 Rate Categories

There are six rate categories that may apply to Company's Services.

5.4.1 Channel Terminations

The Channel Termination Rate Category provides for the communications path between a Customer designated premises, and another Customer designated premises. Included as part of the Channel Termination is a standard channel interface arrangement which defines the technical characteristics associated with the type of facilities to which the Company's service is to be connected, and the type of signaling capability (if any). One channel Termination charge applies per Customer designated premises at which the service is terminated.

5.4.2 Channel Mileage

The Channel Mileage Rate Category provides for the transmission facilities between two or more Customer designated premises. The Channel Mileage Rate Category is not applied to services that are less than one V&H computed mile (as described in Section 5.6 of this Tariff), unless specified. Channel Mileage is portrayed in mileage bands. There are two rates that apply for each band, i.e., a flat rate per band and a rate per mile.

5.4.3 Optional Features and Functions

The Optional Features and Functions Rate Category provides for optional services which may be added to a Company's service to improve its quality or characteristics to meet specific communications requirements. These services are not necessarily identifiable with specific equipment, but rather represent the end result in terms of performance characteristics that may be obtained. These characteristics may be derived using various combinations of equipment.

SECTION 5 - SERVICE DESCRIPTIONS (Cont'd)5.4 Rate Categories (Cont'd)5.4.4 Extraordinary Charges

From time to time, Customers may request special services not addressed specifically by rate elements in this Tariff, or services to locations that may cause Company to incur extraordinary expenses not contemplated in the provision of standard service offerings. These costs include, but are not limited to:

- Additional construction costs
- Building space rental or rights-of-way costs
- Additional equipment
- Special facilities routing

In these cases, the Customer will be billed additional charges computed on an ICB. Any Special Service Arrangements between the Customer and the Company will be provided to the ORS upon request.

5.4.5 Volume Discounts

Discounts for specified dollar volumes of traffic to a specific location or aggregate dollar volumes may apply, as specified in this Tariff, to Customers that subscribe to substantial volumes of Company's services.

5.4.6 Term Discounts

Customers will be eligible for discounts for executing agreements for services for one to seven years, as specified in this Tariff.

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**SECTION 5 - SERVICE DESCRIPTIONS (Cont'd)****5.5 Application of Rate Elements**

The rate categories described in Section 5.4 of this Tariff will be applied as follows:

**5.5.1 Point-To-Point Services**

- Channel Terminations (when applicable)
- Channel Mileage (when applicable)
- Optional Features and Functions (when applicable)
- Extraordinary Charges (when applicable)
- Volume Discounts (when applicable)
- Term Discounts (when applicable)

**5.5.2 Multipoint Services**

- Channel Terminations (one per designated Customer location)
- Channel Mileage (when applicable)
- Optional Features and Functions (when applicable)
- Extraordinary Charges (when applicable)
- Volume Discounts (when applicable)
- Term Discounts (when applicable)

**5.6 Regulations and Computations of Mileage**

Airline mileage, used in connection with determining rates for the Channel Mileage element, is obtained by using the "V" and "H" coordinates assigned to each point as set forth in the National Exchange Carrier Association Tariff FCC No. 4. To determine the airlines distance between any two locations, proceed as follows:

1. Utilize the "V" and "H" coordinates for each Customer designated location.
2. Obtain the difference between the "V" coordinates of each of the locations. Obtain the difference between the "H" coordinates.
3. Square each difference obtained in step 5.6.2 above.
4. Add the square of the "V" difference and the "H" difference obtained in step 3 above.
5. Divide the sum of the square by 10. Round to the next higher whole number if any fraction is obtained.

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SECTION 5 - SERVICE DESCRIPTIONS (Cont'd)5.7 Contract Rates - Special Pricing Arrangements - ICB

5.7.1 In lieu of the rates, terms, and conditions set forth in this Tariff, rates and charges, including minimum usage, installation, special construction and recurring charges for Company's services may be established at negotiated rates on an ICB, taking into account the nature of the facilities and services, the costs of construction and operation, the volume of traffic, the length of service commitment by the Customer, and use of facilities by other Customers. Such arrangements shall be considered Special Pricing Arrangements, the terms of which will be set forth in individual Customer contracts. Special Pricing Arrangements need not be filed with the Commission, but are made available to the ORS upon request. Unless otherwise specified in the individual Customer contract, the terms, conditions, obligations, and regulations set forth in this Tariff shall be incorporated into, and become a part of, said contract, and shall be binding on Company and Customer. In the event of a conflict between the terms and conditions of this Tariff and an individual Customer contract, the terms and conditions from the individual Customer contract shall apply. Specialized rates or charges will be made available to similarly situated customers on a non-discriminatory basis.

5.7.2 In addition to any rate or charge established by the Company, the Customer will also be responsible for any recurring or non-recurring charges imposed by local exchange telephone companies incurred by or on behalf of the Customer in establishing and maintaining service. Such charges may be billed by the Company or directly by the local exchange company, at the Company's option.

5.8 Taxes5.8.1 Sales, Use, and Excise Taxes

In addition to all recurring, non-recurring, usage or special charges, Customer shall also be responsible for and shall pay all applicable federal, state and local sales, use and excise taxes. All such taxes will appear as separate line items on the Customer's bill.

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**SECTION 5 - SERVICE DESCRIPTIONS (Cont'd)****5.9 Temporary Promotional Programs**

The Company may establish temporary promotional programs wherein it may waive or reduce recurring or non-recurring charges, to introduce a present or potential Customer to a service not previously subscribed to by the Customer. Such promotional service offerings will be filed with the Commission for approval with copies provided to the ORS, subject to the requirements of applicable law.

**5.10 Marketing Practices**

As a telephone utility under the regulation of the Public Service Commission of South Carolina, the Company hereby asserts and affirms that as a reseller of intrastate telecommunications service, the Company will not indulge or participate in deceptive or misleading telecommunications marketing practices to the detriment of consumers in South Carolina, and the Company will comply with those marketing procedures, if any, set forth by the Public Service Commission. Additionally, the Company will be responsible for the marketing practices of its contracted telemarketers for compliance with this provision. The Company understands that violation of this provision could result in a rule to Show Cause as to the withdrawal of its certification to complete intrastate telecommunications traffic within the State of South Carolina.

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**SECTION 6 - RATES AND CHARGES****6.1 General Regulations**

6.1.1 Except as specifically indicated, the rates set forth in this section are for private line services where the originating and terminating points are on Company's existing network. In all other situations, special construction charges may apply in order to connect locations to Company's network.

6.1.2 Services may be provided using one, or a combination of rate elements as outlined in this Tariff.

6.1.3 Unless otherwise indicated, rates apply uniformly in all areas served by Company.

6.1.4 Services for which a rate of "NOC" is listed are not offered currently.

**6.2 Charges for Changes to Pending Orders, Service Rearrangements and Expedite Charges**

From time to time, customers may request changes to pending orders, rearrangements to existing service, and order completion to standard intervals. In these cases, the Customer will be required to reimburse Company for the increased expenses incurred on an ICB.

**6.3 Nonrecurring Charge**

Nonrecurring charges will be charged on a time and materials basis.

**6.4 Special Construction****6.4.1 Basis for Rates and Charges**

Rates and charges for special construction will be based on the costs incurred by the Company and may include: (1) nonrecurring type charges; (2) recurring type charges; (3) termination liabilities; or (4) combinations thereof.

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**SECTION 6 - RATES AND CHARGES (Cont'd)****6.4 Special Construction (Cont'd)****6.4.2 Basis for Cost Computation**

The costs referred to in Section 6.4.1 may include one or more of the following items to the extent that they are applicable:

- A. cost installed of the facilities to be provided, including estimated costs for the rearrangements of existing facilities. Cost installed includes the cost of:
  - 1. equipment and materials provided or used,
  - 2. engineering, labor and supervision,
  - 3. transportation, and
  - 4. rights-of-way;
- B. cost of maintenance;
- C. depreciation on the estimated cost installed of any facilities provided, based on the anticipated useful service life of the facilities with an appropriate allowance for the estimated net salvage;
- D. administration, taxes and uncollectible revenue on the basis of reasonable average costs for these items;
- E. license preparation, processing and related fees;
- F. tariff preparation, processing and related fees;
- G. any other identifiable costs related to the facilities provided; or
- H. an amount for return and contingencies.

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SECTION 6 - RATES AND CHARGES (Cont'd)6.5 Rates6.5.1 Point-To-Point and Multipoint Services6.5.1.1 DS1 - 1.544 Mbps

	<u>Monthly</u>	<u>NRC</u>
1. Local Distribution Channel		
1 Year	\$150.00	\$600.00
3 Years	\$125.00	\$500.00
5 Years	\$125.00	\$125.00
2. Interoffice Channel		
1 Year	\$440.00	\$600.00
3 Years	\$380.00	\$400.00
5 Years	\$325.00	\$300.00

6.5.1.2 DS3 - 44.736 Mbps

	<u>Monthly</u>	<u>NRC</u>
1. Local Distribution Channel		
1 Year	\$1100.00	\$1000.00
3 Years	\$1000.00	\$500.00
5 Years	\$900.00	\$500.00
2. Multiplexing	\$375.00	\$200.00
Mux Ports	\$5.00	\$100.00
3. Interoffice Channel		
1 Year	\$5450.00	\$2000.00
3 Years	\$4950.00	\$2000.00
5 Years	\$4450.00	\$2000.00

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SECTION 6 - RATES AND CHARGES (Cont'd)6.5 Rates (Cont'd)6.5.2 Dark Fiber ServicesRecurring Charges (Per Fiber Strand Per Mile)

Per Strand    ICB

Non-recurring Charges (Per Point of Termination)

Per Strand    ICB

6.5.3 Service Elements6.5.3.1 Nonrecurring ChargesDescriptionNonrecurring  
Charge**Administrative Charge**

- per order

OC-3 Service 155.52 Mbps

ICB

OC-12 Service 622;08 Mbps

ICB

OC-48 Service 2488.32 Mbps

ICB

**Design and Central Office Connection Charge**

- per circuit

OC-3 Service 155.52 Mbps

ICB

OC-12 Service 622;08 Mbps

ICB

OC-48 Service 2488.32 Mbps

ICB

**Customer Connection Charge**

- per termination

OC-3 Service 155.52 Mbps

ICB

OC-12 Service 622;08 Mbps

ICB

OC-48 Service 2488.32 Mbps

ICB

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SECTION 6. RATES AND CHARGES (Cont'd)6.5 Rates (Cont'd)6.5.3 Service Elements (Cont'd)6.5.3.2 Monthly Payment

<u>Description</u>	<u>Monthly Payment</u>
<b>Local Distribution Channel</b>	
- per point of termination	
OC-3	ICB
OC-12	ICB
OC-48	ICB
<b>Channel Mileage Termination</b>	
- per point of Mileage Termination	
OC-3	ICB
OC-12	ICB
OC-48	ICB
<b>Channel Mileage</b>	
- per mile	
OC-3	ICB
OC-12	ICB
OC-48	ICB
<b>Optional Features:</b>	
<b>Add/Drop Multiplexing</b>	
- per arrangement	
OC-3	ICB
OC-12	ICB
OC-48	ICB
<b>Add/Drop Function</b>	
- OC-3 Service	
- per DS3 Add or Drop	ICB
- per DS1 Add or Drop	ICB
- OC-12 Service	
- per OC-3 Add or Drop	ICB
- per DS3 Add or Drop	ICB
- OC-48 Service	
- per OC-12 Add or Drop	ICB
- per OC-3 Add or Drop	ICB
- per DS3 Add or Drop	ICB

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**SECTION 6. RATES AND CHARGES (Cont'd)****6.5 Rates (Cont'd)****6.5.4 Standard Long Distance Rates**

<u>Monthly Estimated Billing</u>	<u>Current Rate Per Minute</u>	<u>Maximum Rate Per Minute</u>
Less than \$250.00	\$0.115	\$0.155
\$250.01 - \$500.00	\$0.109	\$0.149
\$500.01 - \$750.00	\$0.105	\$0.145
\$750.01 - \$1,000.00	\$0.099	\$0.139
\$1,000.01 - \$1,500.00	\$0.095	\$0.135
\$1,500.01 - \$1,750.00	\$0.089	\$0.129
\$1,750.01 - \$2,000.00	\$0.085	\$0.125
\$2,000.00 - \$2,250.00	\$0.079	\$0.119
\$2,250.01 - \$2,500.00	\$0.075	\$0.115
\$2,500.01 - \$2,750.00	\$0.069	\$0.109
\$2,750.01 - \$3,000.00	\$0.065	\$0.105
Greater than \$3,000.01	\$0.059	\$0.099

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