

CLEAR RATE COMMUNICATIONS, INC.  
REGULATIONS, DESCRIPTIONS AND RATES  
APPLICABLE TO FURNISHING INTRASTATE ACCESS SERVICES  
FOR CONNECTION TO INTRASTATE COMMUNICATIONS  
FACILITIES WITHIN THE OPERATING TERRITORY OF  
CLEAR RATE COMMUNICATIONS, INC. IN THE STATE OF OHIO

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Issued:

Effective:

Issued By:

Thane Namy  
Clear Rate Communications, Inc.  
24700 Northwestern Hwy  
Southfield, MI 48075  
(248) 556-4500

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**CHECK SHEET**

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

<u>Sheet</u>	<u>Revision</u>	<u>Sheet</u>	<u>Revision</u>	<u>Sheet</u>	<u>Revision</u>
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Southfield, MI 48075  
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**APPLICATION**

This tariff applies to intrastate access service in Ohio supplied to Customers for origination and termination of traffic to and from Central Office codes directly assigned to Clear Rate Communications, Inc.

This tariff applies only to the extent that facilities are available and services provided hereunder are used by a Customer for the purpose of originating or terminating intrastate communications in Ohio.

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**EXPLANATION OF SYMBOLS, REFERENCE  
MARKS. AND ABBREVIATIONS OF TECHNICAL  
TERMS USED IN THIS TARIFF**

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

- (C) To signify **changed** condition or regulation
- (D) To signify **deleted or discontinued** rate, regulation or condition
- (I) To signify a change resulting in an **increase** to a Customer's bill
- (M) To signify that material has been **moved from** another tariff location
- (N) To signify a **new** rate, regulation condition or sheet
- (R) To signify a change resulting in a **reduction** to a Customer's bill
- (T) To signify a change in **text** but no change to rate or charge

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**SECTION 1 - 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 intrastate telephone services offered pursuant to this tariff.

Busy Hour Minutes of Capacity (BHMC)

The term "Busy Hour Minutes of Capacity (BHMC)" denotes the Customer specified maximum amount of Switched Access Service and/or Directory Assistance Service access minutes the Customer expects to be handled in an end office switch during any hour in an 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. period for the Feature Group and/or Directory Assistance Service ordered. This Customer specified BHMC quantity is the input data the Company uses to determine the number of transmission paths for the Feature Group and/or Directory Assistance Service ordered.

Carrier or Common Carrier

The terms "Carrier" or "Common Carrier" denote any individual, partnership, association, joint-stock company, trust, governmental entity or corporation certificated in the State of Ohio and engaged for hire in intrastate communication by wire or radio, between two or more exchanges.

Common Channel Signaling

The term "Common Channel Signaling" (CCS) denotes a high speed packet switched communications network that is separate (out of band) from the public packet switched and message networks. Its purpose is to carry addressed signaling messages for individual trunk circuits and/or database related services between Signaling Points in the CCS network.

Company or Clear Rate Communications, Inc.

Clear Rate Communications, Inc., the issuer of this tariff, and its concurring subsidiaries.

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**SECTION 1 – DEFINITIONS, Continued**

Customer

The person, firm or corporation that directly or indirectly orders access service and is responsible for the payment of charges and compliance with the Company's regulations. A person, firm or corporation is deemed a Customer of the Company if any of its traffic is terminated to a telephone number assigned to the Company or if End Users originate traffic on the Company's network that is routed to the person's, firm's or corporation's network. Should a Customer use the Company's access service, regardless of whether the Customer has affirmatively requested service or has an executed service order, the Customer will be subject to the obligations, rates, and charges as set forth in this Tariff.

End Office

With respect to each telephone number assigned to the Company, the location of the Company's "end office" for purposes of this tariff shall be the point of interconnection associated with that telephone number's NPA-NXX code in the Local Exchange Routing Guide, issued by Bellcore.

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.

Exchange Telephone Company

Denotes any individual, partnership, association, joint-stock company, trust, or corporation engaged in providing switched communication within an exchange.

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**SECTION 1 – DEFINITIONS, Continued**

Intrastate Access Service

Provides for a two-point communications path between a Customer's premises or a collocated interconnection location and an end user's premises for originating and terminating calls within the State of Ohio.

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.

Recurring Charge

The monthly charges to the Customer for services, facilities and equipment, which continue for the agreed upon duration of the service.

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.

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**SECTION 1 – DEFINITIONS, Continued**

Service Order

The written request for access 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.

Service Switching Point (SSP)

A Service Switching Point denotes an end office or tandem, which, in addition to having SS7 and SP capabilities, is also equipped to query centralized data bases.

Serving Wire Center

The term "Serving Wire Center" denotes the wire center from which the Customer designated premises would normally obtain dial tone.

Shared

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

Signaling Point (SP)

The term "Signaling Point" (SP) denotes an SS7 network interface element capable of originating and terminating SS7 trunk signaling messages.

Signaling Point of Interface (SPOI)

The term "Signaling Point of Interface" (SPOI) denotes the Customer designated location where the SS7 signaling information is exchanged between the Telephone Company and the Customer.

Signaling System 7 (SS7)

The term "Signaling System 7" (SS7) denotes the layered protocol used for standardized common channel signaling in the United States and Puerto Rico.

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**SECTION 1 – DEFINITIONS, Continued**

Signal Transfer Point (STP)

The term "Signal Transfer Point" (STP) denotes a packet switch, which provides access to the Telephone Company's SS7 network and performs SS7 message signal routing and screening.

Signal Transfer Point (STP) Port

The term "Signal Transfer Point (STP) Port" denotes the point of termination and interconnection to the STP.

Toll Free

A term to describe an inbound communications service which permits a call to be completed at a location without charge to the calling party. Access to the service is gained by dialing a ten (10) digit telephone number (e.g. NPA is 800, 888, etc.).

Universal Emergency Telephone Number (911) Service

Wherever feasible, the Company will provide a universal Central Office number "911" for the use of Public Safety Agencies having the responsibility to protect the safety and property of the general public. It is intended that use of 911 Service will provide the public with a means of simple and direct telephone access to a Public Safety Answering Point.

Wire Center

A building in which one or more central offices, used for the provision of Exchange Services, are located.

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**SECTION 2- REGULATIONS**

2.1 Undertaking of the Company

2.1.1 Scope

The Company undertakes to furnish access services in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in this tariff.

2.1.2 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.

2.1.3 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.

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**SECTION 2- REGULATIONS, Continued**

2.1 Undertaking of the Company (cont'd)

2.1.3 Terms and Conditions (cont'd)

- C) This tariff shall be interpreted and governed by the laws of the State of Ohio regardless of its choice of laws provision.

2.1.4 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, representatives, 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 Section 2.7.
- B) Except for the extension of allowances to the Customer for interruptions in service as set forth in Section 2.7, 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.

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**SECTION 2- REGULATIONS, Continued**

2.1 Undertaking of the Company (cont'd)

2.1.4 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, 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;

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**SECTION 2- REGULATIONS, Continued**

2.1 Undertaking of the Company (cont'd)

2.1.4 Limitations on Liability (cont'd)

D) Continued

- 5) Breach in the privacy or security of communications transmitted over the Company's facilities;
- 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 Section 2.1.4, preceding;
- 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;

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**SECTION 2- REGULATIONS, Continued**

2.1 Undertaking of the Company (cont'd)

2.1.4 Limitations on Liability (cont'd)

D) Continued

- 10) Any representations made by Company employees that do not comport, or that are inconsistent, with the provisions of this Tariff;
- 11) Any non-completion of calls due to network busy conditions;
- 12) Any calls not actually attempted to be completed during any period that service is unavailable.

- 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, 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.

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**SECTION 2- REGULATIONS, Continued**

2.1 Undertaking of the Company (cont'd)

2.1.4 Limitations on Liability (cont'd)

- 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, 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.
- 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 non-preemptibility 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.

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**SECTION 2- REGULATIONS, Continued**

2.1 Undertaking of the Company (cont'd)

2.1.4 Limitations on Liability (cont'd)

- 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.
  
- J) Company is not liable for any incompatibility between the Company's Services and any non-Company services used by the Customer or user.

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**SECTION 2- REGULATIONS, Continued**

2.1 Undertaking of the Company (cont'd)

2.1.5 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 2- REGULATIONS, Continued**

2.1 Undertaking of the Company (cont'd)

2.1.6 Ownership of Facilities

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

2.2 Prohibited Uses

2.2.1 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, authorization, licenses, consents and permits.

2.2.2 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 offerings complies with relevant laws and regulations, policies, orders, and decisions.

2.2.3 The Company may require a Customer to immediately shut down its transmission if such transmission is causing interference to others.

2.2.4 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.

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**SECTION 2- REGULATIONS, Continued**

2.3 Obligations of the Customer

2.3.1 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.

2.3.2 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 (A), preceding, the Customer shall indemnify, defend and hold harmless the Company from and against all claims, actions, damages, liabilities, costs and expenses, 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.

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**SECTION 2- REGULATIONS, Continued**

2.3 Obligations of the Customer (cont'd)

2.3.2 Liability of the Customer (cont'd)

- 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 2- REGULATIONS, Continued****2.3 Obligations of the Customer (cont'd)****2.3.3 Jurisdictional Report Requirements**

- A) For Feature Group D Switched Access Service(s), the Company, where jurisdiction can be determined from the call detail, will determine the projected interstate percentage as follows. For originating access minutes, the projected interstate percentage will be developed on a monthly basis by end office trunk group when the Feature Group D Switched Access Service access minutes are measured by dividing the measured interstate originating access minutes (the access minutes where the calling number is in one state and the called number is in another state) by the total originating access minutes when the call detail is adequate to determine the appropriate jurisdiction. For terminating access minutes, the Customer has the option to provide the Company with a projected Percentage for Interstate Use ("PIU") factor. Customers who provide a PIU factor shall supply the Company with an interstate percentage of the Feature Group D terminating access minutes for each account to which the Customer may terminate traffic.

Should the Customer not supply a terminating PIU Factor, the data used by the Company to develop the projected interstate percentage for originating access minutes will be used to develop projected interstate percentage for such terminating access minutes. When a Customer orders Feature Group D Switched Access Service, the Customer shall supply a projected interstate percentage of use for each end office trunk group involved to be used in the event that originating call details are insufficient to determine the jurisdiction for the call. This percentage shall be used by the Company as the projected interstate percentage for such call detail. For purposes of developing the projected interstate percentage, the Customer shall utilize the same considerations as those set forth in Section 2.3.3(B) following.

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**SECTION 2- REGULATIONS, Continued**2.3 Obligations of the Customer (cont'd)2.3.3 Jurisdictional Report Requirements (cont'd)A) (cont'd)

The Company will designate the number obtained by subtracting the projected interstate percentage for originating and terminating access minutes from 100 (100 - projected interstate percentage = intrastate percentage) as the projected interstate percentage of use.

If the Customer has no originating traffic within the end office for which sufficient call detail exists to develop a PIU factor, and the Customer has not supplied a PIU factor on either the quarterly update report or the Access Service Request, the Company will designate a PIU factor of 75% for Feature Group D terminating access minutes. For originating Toll Free access minutes, where the call detail is insufficient to determine the jurisdiction of the call, the Customer shall provide the Company with a projected PIU factor. If such a PIU has not been provided for Toll Free access minutes, the Company will designate the default PIU factor of 75%. This factor will be applied to the next billing cycle and continue until the Customer provides a PIU factor. When the Customer does provide the PIU factor, the Company will update the customer's PIU factors within fifteen (15) business days.

- B) For purposes of developing the projected interstate percentage, the Customer shall consider every call that enters the Customer's network at a point within the same state as the state where the called station is located to be intrastate and every call that enters the Customer's network at a point in a state different from the state in which the called station is located to be interstate.

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**SECTION 2- REGULATIONS, Continued**

2.3 Obligations of the Customer (cont'd)

2.3.3 Jurisdictional Report Requirements (cont'd)

- C) These whole number percentages will be used by the Company to apportion the use, rates, and/or nonrecurring charges between interstate and intrastate until a revised report is received.
- D) The projected interstate percentage of use will be used to determine the charges as follows:

The number of access minutes for a trunk group will be multiplied by the projected interstate percentage of use to determine the interstate access minutes (i.e., number of access minutes x projected interstate percentage of use = interstate access minutes). The number of interstate access minutes so determined will be subtracted from the total number of access minutes (i.e., number of access minutes - interstate access minutes = intrastate access minutes). The intrastate access minutes for the group will be billed as set forth in Section 5 following.

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**SECTION 2- REGULATIONS**, Continued2.3 Obligations of the Customer (cont'd)2.3.3 Jurisdictional Report Requirements (cont'd)

- E) Effective on the first of January, April, July and October of each year, the Customer may update the jurisdictional reports that require a projected interstate percentage. The Customer shall forward to the Company, to be received no later than 20 calendar days after the first of each such month, a revised report showing the interstate percentage of use for the past three months ending the last day of December, March, June and September, respectively, for each service arranged for interstate and intrastate use. Except as set forth in Section 2.3.3(A) preceding where jurisdiction can be determined from the recorded message detail, the revised report will serve as the basis for the next three months billing and will be effective on the bill date in the following month (i.e., February, May, August, and November) for that service. No prorating or back billing will be done based on the report. If the Customer does not supply the report, the Company will assume the percentage to be the same as that provided in the last quarterly report. For those cases in which a quarterly report has never been received from the Customer, the Company will assume the percentage to be the same as that provided in the order for service as set forth in Section 2.3.3(A) preceding.

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**SECTION 2- REGULATIONS, Continued****2.3 Obligations of the Customer (cont'd)****2.3.3 Jurisdictional Report Requirements (cont'd)**

- F) The Customer reported projected interstate percentage of use as set forth in Section 2. 3. 3(A) preceding will be used for the apportionment of any monthly rates or nonrecurring charges associated with Feature Group D Switched Access Service until the end of the quarter during which the service was activated. Thereafter, a projected interstate percentage for such apportionment will be developed quarterly by the Company based on the data used to develop the projected interstate percentage of use as set forth in Section 2.3.3(A) preceding. Where call detail is insufficient to make such a determination, the Customer will be requested to project a interstate percentage of use to be used by the Company for such apportionment.
- G) The Customer shall keep sufficient detail from which the percentage of interstate use can be ascertained and upon request of the Company make the records available for inspection. Such a request will be initiated by the Company no more than once per year. The Customer shall supply the data within 30 calendar days of the Company request.
- H) The Customer may provide an additional percentage of interstate use for Entrance Facility and Direct Trunked Transport subject to the reporting requirements previously listed in this section. The percentage of interstate use may be provided per individual facility or at the billing account level. Should the Customer not provide a percentage of interstate use, the Company will use the reported Feature Group B or Feature Group D aggregated percentage of interstate use.

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Southfield, MI 48075  
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**SECTION 2- REGULATIONS, Continued**

2.4 Customer Equipment and Channels

2.4.1 Interconnection of Facilities

- A) 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.

2.4.2 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 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 2- REGULATIONS, Continued**

2.5. Customer Deposits and Advance Payments

2.5.1 Deposits

- A) To safeguard its interests, the Company may require the Customer to make a deposit to be held as a guarantee for the payment of charges. A deposit does not relieve the Customer of the responsibility for the prompt payment of bills on presentation. The deposit will not exceed an amount equal to:
- 1) three months' charges for a service or facility which has a minimum payment period of one month: or
  - 2) the charges that would apply for the minimum payment period for a service or facility which has a minimum payment period of more than one month.

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Southfield, MI 48075  
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**SECTION 2- REGULATIONS, Continued**

2.5 Customer Deposits and Advance Payments (cont'd)

2.5.2 Deposits (cont'd)

- C) When a service or facility is discontinued, the amount of a deposit, if any, will be applied to the Customer's account and any credit balance remaining will be refunded. Before the service or facility is discontinued, the Company may, at its option, return the deposit or credit it to the Customer's account. If the amount of the deposit is insufficient to cover the balance due to the Customer's account, the Company retains the right to collect any amounts owing after the deposit has been applied plus any documented costs related to the collection of any remaining balance.
  
- D) Deposits held will accrue interest at a rate specified by the Company without deductions for any taxes on such deposits. Interest will not accrue on any deposit after the date on which reasonable effort has been made to return it to the Customer.

2.6 Payment Arrangements

2.6.1 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, 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.

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(248) 556-4500

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**SECTION 2- REGULATIONS, Continued****2.6 Payment Arrangements (cont'd)****2.6.2 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 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 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 30 days.
- 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.

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24700 Northwestern Hwy  
Southfield, MI 48075  
(248) 556-4500

**SECTION 2- REGULATIONS, Continued**

2.6 Payment Arrangements (cont'd)

2.6.2 Billing and Collection of Charges (cont'd)

- 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 which may be applied under state law for commercial transactions.
- F) The Customer will be assessed a charge of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) for each check submitted by the Customer to the Company which a financial institution refuses to honor.
- G) If service is disconnected by the Company in accordance with Section 2.6.4 following and later restored, service will be subject to the applicable restoration charge listed in Section 4.2.2.

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Southfield, MI 48075  
(248) 556-4500

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**SECTION 2- REGULATIONS, Continued****2.6 Payment Arrangements (cont'd)****2.6.3 Billing Disputes****A) 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 within 90 days (commencing 5 days after such bills have been mailed or otherwise rendered per the Company's normal course of business). For the purposes of this section, "notice" is defined as 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.

**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 under Section 2.6.2(E), preceding.
- 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.
- 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 2- REGULATIONS, Continued**

2.6 Payment Arrangements (cont'd)

2.6.3 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 2- REGULATIONS, Continued**2.6 Payment Arrangements (cont'd)2.6.3 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 has up to 90 days (commencing 5 days after such bills have been mailed or otherwise rendered per the Company's normal course of business) to take the following course of action: The Customer may request and the Company will provide an in-depth review of the disputed amount.

Unresolved disputes may be brought before the Commission. If you are not able to reach an agreement with the Company through the PUCO informal complaint process, you have the right to file a formal complaint. You can get a formal complaint form from the PUCO by telephone, by writing to the PUCO at 180 E. Broad St., Columbus, Ohio 43215, or by accessing the PUCO's web page, [www.puco.ohio.gov](http://www.puco.ohio.gov).

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**SECTION 2- REGULATIONS, Continued****2.6 Payment Arrangements (cont'd)****2.6.4 Discontinuance of Service for Cause**

- A) Upon nonpayment of any amounts owing to the Company, the Company may, by giving 24 hours prior written notice to the Customer, discontinue or suspend service without incurring any liability.
- B) Upon violation of any of the other material terms or conditions for furnishing service the Company may, by giving 24 hours prior notice in writing to the Customer, discontinue or suspend service without incurring any liability if such violation continues during that period.
- C) Upon condemnation of any material portion of the facilities used by the Company to provide service to a Customer or if a casualty renders all or any material portion of such facilities inoperable beyond feasible repair, the Company, by notice to the Customer, may discontinue or suspend service without incurring any liability.
- D) Upon the Customer's insolvency, assignment for the benefit of creditors, filing for bankruptcy or reorganization, or failing to discharge an involuntary petition within the time permitted by law, the Company may immediately discontinue or suspend service without incurring any liability.
- E) Upon any governmental prohibition or required alteration of the services to be provided or any violation of an applicable law or regulation, the Company may immediately discontinue service without incurring any liability.
- F) In the event of fraudulent use of the Company's network, the Company may without notice suspend or discontinue service. The Customer will be liable for all related costs. The Customer will also be responsible for payment of any reconnection charges.

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**SECTION 2- REGULATIONS, Continued**

2.6 Payment Arrangements (cont'd)

2.6.4 Discontinuance of Service for Cause (cont'd)

- G) Upon the Company's discontinuance of service to the Customer under Section 2.6.4(A) or 2.6.4(B), 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).

2.6.5 Notice to Company for Cancellation of Service

Customers desiring to terminate service shall provide Company thirty (30) days written notice of desire to terminate service.

2.6.6 Ordering, Rating and Billing of Access Services Where More Than One Exchange Telephone Company is Involved

Meet point billing applies when more than one Exchange Telephone Company is involved in the provision of Access Service. All recurring and nonrecurring charges for services provided by each Exchange Telephone Company are billed under each company's applicable rates as set forth in Section 2.6.6 (A) following.

The Company accepts and adheres to the Ordering and Billing Forum guidelines, Multiple Exchange Carrier Access Billing (MECAB) and Multiple Exchange Carrier Ordering and Design (MECOD).

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24700 Northwestern Hwy  
Southfield, MI 48075  
(248) 556-4500

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**SECTION 2- REGULATIONS, Continued****2.6 Payment Arrangements (cont'd)****2.6.6 Ordering, Rating and Billing of Access Services Where More Than One Exchange Telephone Company is Involved (cont'd)**

The Company will handle ordering, rating and billing of Access Services under this tariff where more than one Exchange Telephone Company is involved in the provision of Access Service as follows.

- A) For Feature Group D Switched Access Service, when service is jointly provided by more than one Exchange Telephone Company, the Customer must supply a copy of the order to each Exchange Telephone Company involved in providing the service.

Each Exchange Telephone Company will provide the portion of Local Transport to an interconnection point (IP) with another Exchange Telephone Company, and will bill the charges in accordance with its Access Service tariff for either Single Bill/Multiple Tariff arrangements or Multiple Bill/Multiple Tariff arrangements. For Single Bill/Single Tariff arrangements the Company will either bill the charges in accordance with its Access Service Tariff or agree to bill the Access Service charges of the interconnecting Exchange Telephone Company. The rate for the Transport elements will be determined as set forth in (B) following. All other appropriate charges in each Exchange Telephone Company tariff are applicable.

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**SECTION 2- REGULATIONS, Continued**

2.6 Payment Arrangements (cont'd)

2.6.6 Ordering, Rating and Billing of Access Services Where More Than One Exchange Telephone Company is Involved (cont'd)

B) The charge for the Local Transport Facility and Termination rate elements for services provided as set forth in Section 2.6.6(A) preceding are determined as follows:

1) Determine the appropriate Switched Access Local Transport mileage by computing the airline mileage between the two ends of the Local Transport Facility, as defined in 3.1.2(C). Determine the airline mileage for the Local Transport Facility charge using the V&H method as set forth in Section 2.10.2 following.

2) For Feature D Switched Access Service, the Local Transport Facility and Termination charges are determined by using the steps set forth in (a) through (c) following for the total Local Transport-Common Switched Transport charges.

(a) Multiply:

The number of access minutes  
by

the number of airline miles as determined in (1) preceding  
by

the Company's appropriate Local Transport Facility per  
mile per access minute rate  
by

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**SECTION 2- REGULATIONS, Continued**

2.6 Payment Arrangements (cont'd)

2.6.6 Ordering, Rating and Billing of Access Services Where More Than One Exchange Telephone Company is Involved (cont'd)

B) (cont'd)

2) (cont'd)

(a) (cont'd)

the Company's billing percentage factor.

(b) Multiply:

The number of access minutes  
by

the Company's appropriate Local Transport Termination per minute rate. The resulting amount is the Company's total Local Transport Termination charge.

(c) Add:

The products of (a) and (b) for the Company's total Local Transport-Common Switched Transport charges.

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(248) 556-4500

**SECTION 2- REGULATIONS, Continued**

2.6 Payment Arrangements (cont'd)

2.6.6 Ordering, Rating and Billing of Access Services Where More Than One Exchange Telephone Company is Involved (cont'd)

C) The charge for the Direct Trunked Transport-Facility Mileage rate element for services provided as set forth in Section 2.6.6(A) preceding is determined as follows:

- 1) Determine the appropriate Switched Access Direct Trunked Transport-Facility mileage by computing the airline mileage between the two ends of the Direct Trunked Transport Facility. Determine the airline mileage for the Direct Trunked Transport-Facility charge using the V&H method as set forth in Section 2.10.2 following.
- 2) For Feature Group D Switched Access Service, the Direct Trunked Transport-Facility Mileage charge is determined by using the procedure set forth below:

Multiply:

The number of access minutes  
by

the number of airline miles as determined in (1) preceding  
by

the Company's appropriate Direct Trunked Transport-Facility per mile per access minute rate  
by

the Company's billing percentage factor.

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**SECTION 2- REGULATIONS, Continued**

2.6 Payment Arrangements (cont'd)

2.6.6 Ordering, Rating and Billing of Access Services Where More Than One Exchange Telephone Company is Involved (cont'd)

D) For Feature Group D.

- 1) For originating or terminating access traffic at a company operated end office, the Residual Interconnection Charge is calculated by multiplying that rate times the number of originating and terminating access minutes that are switched at the end office.
- 2) For Entrance Facility equipment operated by the Company, the Entrance Facility and/or Multiplexing charge will apply.
- 3) The Billing Percentage (BP) is not applicable to the Residual Interconnection charge, Entrance Facility or Multiplexer.

E) The interconnection points will be determined by the Interconnection Agreements of the Exchange Telephone Companies involved. The billing percentage (BP) factor for the Company for the service between the involved offices will be listed in NATIONAL EXCHANGE CARRIER ASSOCIATION, INC. TARIFF F.C.C. NO. 4, except as noted in 2.6.6(F) below.

F) Until the NATIONAL EXCHANGE CARRIER ASSOCIATION, INC. TARIFF F.C.C. NO. 4 is revised to include the following meet points, the applicable billing percentage factors for Feature Group D Switched Access Service traffic between certain Company end offices and incumbent local exchange carrier, end offices are as set forth in applicable agreements for switched access meet-point billing.

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Southfield, MI 48075  
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**SECTION 2- REGULATIONS, Continued**

2.6 Payment Arrangements (cont'd)

2.6.6 Ordering, Rating and Billing of Access Services Where More Than One Exchange Telephone Company is Involved (cont'd)

- G) Should any changes be made to the meet point billing arrangements as set forth in Section 2.6.6(A) preceding, the Company will give affected Customers 30 days' notice.
- H) Should the Company act as an intermediate, non-terminating local exchange carrier, Local Transport Termination rates, as determined in Section 2.6.6(B) preceding, will not be applied to the meet Point billing arrangement.

2.6.7 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.

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Southfield, MI 48075  
(248) 556-4500

**SECTION 2- REGULATIONS, Continued**2.6 Payment Arrangements (cont'd)2.6.7 Customer Overpayment (cont'd)

Customer overpayments that are refunded within thirty (30) days after such overpayment is received by the Company.

2.7 Allowances for Interruptions in Service2.7.1 General

- A) A credit allowance will be given when service is interrupted, except as specified in Section 2.7.2 following. 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.

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**SECTION 2- REGULATIONS, Continued**

2.7 Allowances for Interruptions in Service (cont'd)

2.7.2 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;
- 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; and
- H) That was not reported to the Company within thirty (30) days of the date that service was affected.

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24700 Northwestern Hwy  
Southfield, MI 48075  
(248) 556-4500

**SECTION 2- REGULATIONS, Continued**

2.7 Allowances for Interruptions in Service (cont'd)

2.7.3 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.

2.7.4 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 rate 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.
- C) A credit allowance will be given for interruptions in service of 15 minutes or more. Two or more interruptions of 15 minutes or more during any one 24-hour period shall be considered as one interruption.

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**SECTION 2- REGULATIONS, Continued**2.7 Allowances for Interruptions in Service (cont'd)2.7.4 Application of Credits for Interruptions in Service (cont'd)

## D) Interruptions of 24 Hours or Less

## Interruption Period

Length of Interruption To Be Credited

Less than 15 minutes	None
15 minutes up to but not including 3 hours	1/10 Day
3 hours up to but not including 6 hours	1/5 Day
6 hours up to but not including 9 hours	2/5 Day
9 hours up to but not including 12 hours	3/5 Day
12 hours up to but not including 15 hours	4/5 Day
15 hours up to but not including 24 hours	One Day

- E) Continuous Interruption Over 24 Hours and Less Than 72 Hours. Interruptions over 24 hours and less than 72 hours will be credited 1/5 day for each three-hour period or fraction thereof that occurs following the expiration of the initial 24-hour period. No more than one full day's credit will be allowed for any period of 24 hours.

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24700 Northwestern Hwy  
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**SECTION 2- REGULATIONS, Continued**2.7 Allowances for Interruptions in Service (cont'd)2.7.4 Application of Credits for Interruptions in Service (cont'd)

- F) Interruptions Over 72 Hours. Interruptions over 72 hours will be credited 2 days for each full 24-hour period that occurs following the expiration of the initial 72-hour period. No more than 30 days credit will be allowed for any one-month period.

2.7.5 Cancellation For Service Interruption

Cancellation or termination for service interruption is permitted only if any circuit experiences a single continuous outage of 8 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 which has been subject to the outage or cumulative service credits.

2.8 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 (as defined in Section 2.7.1), 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 Section 2.6.2.

2.8.1 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;

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Southfield, MI 48075  
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**SECTION 2- REGULATIONS, Continued**

2.8 Cancellation of Service/Termination Liability (cont'd)

2.8.1 Termination Liability (cont'd)

- 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.

LIMITATION OF LIABILITY LANGUAGE

Approval of limitation of liability language by the PUCO does not constitute a determination by the Commission that the limitation of liability imposed by the company would be upheld in a court of law. Approval by the Commission merely recognizes that since it is a court's responsibility to adjudicate negligence and consequent damage claims, it is also the court's responsibility to determine the validity of the exculpatory clause.

TERMINATION LIABILITY LANGUAGE

Inclusion of early termination liability by the company in its tariff or a contract does not constitute a determination by the Commission that the termination liability imposed by the Company is approved or sanctioned by the commission. Customers shall be free to pursue whatever legal remedies they may have should a dispute arise.

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Clear Rate Communications, Inc.  
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Southfield, MI 48075  
(248) 556-4500

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2.9 Customer Liability for Unauthorized Use of the Network

2.9.1 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;

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Clear Rate Communications, Inc.  
24700 Northwestern Hwy  
Southfield, MI 48075  
(248) 556-4500

**SECTION 2- REGULATIONS, Continued**

2.9 Customer Liability for Unauthorized Use of the Network (cont'd)

2.9.1 Unauthorized Use of the Network (cont'd)

B) (cont'd)

- 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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Clear Rate Communications, Inc.  
24700 Northwestern Hwy  
Southfield, MI 48075  
(248) 556-4500

**SECTION 2- REGULATIONS, Continued**

2.9 Customer Liability for Unauthorized Use of the Network (cont'd)

2.9.2 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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Clear Rate Communications, Inc.  
24700 Northwestern Hwy  
Southfield, MI 48075  
(248) 556-4500

**SECTION 2- REGULATIONS, Continued**2.10 Application of Rates

The regulations set forth in this section govern the application of rates for services contained in other sections of this tariff.

2.10.1 Charges Based on Duration of Use

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

For originating calls over Feature Group D, usage measurement begins when the originating Feature Group D switch receives the first wink supervisory signal forwarded from the Customer's point of termination.

The measurement of originating call usage ends when the originating Feature Group D switch receives disconnect supervision from either the originating end user's end office, indicating the originating end user has disconnected, or the Customer's point of termination, whichever is recognized first by the switch.

For terminating calls over Feature Group D, the measurement of access minutes begins when the terminating Feature Group D switch receives answer supervision from the terminating end user's end office, indicating the terminating end user has answered. For terminating calls over FGD Access Service, the measured minutes are chargeable access minutes. Where assumed minutes are used, the assumed minutes are the chargeable access minutes.

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**SECTION 2- REGULATIONS, Continued**2.10 Application of Rates (cont'd)2.10.1 Charges Based on Duration of Use (cont'd)

The measurement of terminating call usage over Feature Group D ends when the terminating Feature Group D switch receives disconnect supervision from either the terminating end user's end office, indicating the terminating end user has disconnected, or the Customer's point of termination, whichever is recognized first by the switch.

Minutes, seconds and tenths are accumulated over the billing period for each customer and are then rounded up to the nearest access minute for each jurisdiction, per day, office and traffic type.

2.10.2 Rates Based Upon Distance

Where the charges for service are specified based upon distance, the following rules apply:

- A) Distance between two points is measured as airline distance between the wire centers of the originating and terminating telephone lines. The wire center is a set of geographic coordinates, as referenced in NATIONAL EXCHANGE CARRIER ASSOCIATION, INC. TARIFF F.C.C. No. 4, associated with each NPA-NXX combination (where NPA is the area code and NXX is the first three digits of a seven-digit telephone number). Except that, until the NATIONAL EXCHANGE CARRIER ASSOCIATION, INC. TARIFF F.C.C. No. 4 is revised to include certain Company wire centers, the airline distance should be determined utilizing the "V" (vertical) and "H" (horizontal) coordinates as set forth in applicable company tariffs.

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**SECTION 2- REGULATIONS, Continued**2.10 Application of Rates (cont'd)2.10.2 Rates Based Upon Distance (cont'd)

B) The airline distance between any two wire centers is determined as follows:

- 1) Obtain the "V" and "H" coordinates for each wire center from the above-referenced NECA tariff.
- 2) Compute the difference between the "V" coordinates of the two wire centers; and the difference between the two "H" coordinates.
- 3) Square each difference obtained in step (2) above.
- 4) Add the square of the "V" difference and the square of the "H" difference obtained in step (3).
- 5) Divide the sum of the squares by 10. Round to the next higher whole number if any fraction is obtained.
- 6) Obtain the square root of the whole number result obtained above. Round to the next higher whole number if any fraction is obtained. This is the airline mileage.

7) Formula = 
$$\frac{\sqrt{(V1 - V2)^2 + (H1 - H2)^2}}{10}$$

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Clear Rate Communications, Inc.  
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**SECTION 2- REGULATIONS, Continued**

2.10 Application of Rates (cont'd)

2.10.3 Mileage

The mileage to be used to determine the Local Transport Facility monthly rates are calculated as the airline distance between the end office switch where the call carried by Local Transport originates or terminates and the customer's serving wire center. The V&H coordinates method is used to determine mileage. This method is set forth in Section 2.10.2.

The Local Transport Facility mileage rates are shown in Section 5.1.4. in terms of per mile per access minute. To determine the rate to be billed, first compute the mileage. Should the calculation result in a fraction of a mile, always round up to the next whole mile before determining the mileage. Then multiply the mileage by the appropriate Local Transport Facility rate. The amount to be billed shall be the product of this calculation (i.e., the number of miles multiplied by the per mile rate) multiplied by the number of access minutes.

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Southfield, MI 48075  
(248) 556-4500

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**SECTION 3 - SERVICE DESCRIPTIONS**3.1 Access ServicesA) Switched Access

Switched Access Service provides a Carrier the ability to utilize the Company's local exchange network for the purpose of originating or terminating interLATA or intraLATA calls. The service provides the physical connection between a Customer's point of presence (POP) and an end user's premises, utilizing the Company's switched network. Switched Access provides for the ability to originate calls from an end user's premises to a Customer's POP and to terminate calls from a Customer's POP to an end user's premises in the LATA in which the customer desires to originate and terminate calls.

Switched Access Service is provided as a trunk side connection, Feature Group D type, to Company end office switches with an associated uniform 101XXXX access code for the Customer's use in originating and terminating communications.

End Users may originate calls to a selected FGD customer by dialing 101XXXX+1+NPA+NXX+XXXX. Calls in the terminating direction will be completed for all Carriers whose CIC code has been opened at the tandem switch.

Calls placed by end users to 1-800-NXX-XXXXs will be completed, subject to the terms and conditions in Section 3.1.3. (A.). Calls placed by end users utilizing 500, 700, and 900/976 prefixes will be blocked.

The rates and charges for Switched Access Service depends on whether the Switched Transport is switched through an access tandem or direct routed to the Company's end office. Rates and charges for Switched Access Service are set forth in Section 5 following. The application of rates for Switched Access Service is described in Section 3.1.2 following.

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Clear Rate Communications, Inc.  
24700 Northwestern Hwy  
Southfield, MI 48075  
(248) 556-4500

**SECTION 3 - SERVICE DESCRIPTIONS, Continued**3.1 Access Services (cont'd)3.1.1 Access Service Request

- A) The ASR shall state the date on which Service shall begin and the points between which Service is to be provided, the type of facilities required, and any special arrangements related thereto.

An Access Service Request must be submitted by the Customer to provide Switched Access Service. When placing an order for Access Service, the Customer shall provide, at a minimum, the following information:

For Feature Group D Switched Access Service, the Customer shall specify the number of busy hour minutes of capacity (BHMC) from the Customer's POP to the end office by traffic type. This information is used to determine the number of transmission paths. The Customer shall also specify the Local Transport and Local Switching options.

When FGD is ordered by specifying the number of trunks and end office and routing via an access tandem operated by another Exchange Telephone Company is desired, the customer shall specify:

- the access tandem
- the Local Transport and Local Switching options desired, and
- an estimate of the amount of traffic to be generated to and/or from each Company end office subtending another Exchange Telephone Company's access tandem.

In addition, for Feature Group D with the SS7 signaling option, the Customer shall specify the switching point codes and trunk circuit identification codes for trunks with the SS7 signaling option, and the STP point codes, signaling link codes and link type for each Common Channel Signaling Access (CCSA) connection ordered.

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Clear Rate Communications, Inc.  
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Southfield, MI 48075  
(248) 556-4500

**SECTION 3 - SERVICE DESCRIPTIONS, Continued**

3.1 Access Services (cont'd)

3.1.1 Access Service Request (cont'd)

When a Customer orders FGD, the Customer is responsible to assure that sufficient access facilities have been ordered to handle its traffic.

For 8XX Data Base Access Service, the Customer shall order the service in accordance with the preceding provisions set forth for Feature Group D.

B) Access Service Request Date Intervals

The Company will provide a service date interval consistent with the service interval dates provided by the incumbent local exchange carrier in the same service territory and from which the Company obtains facilities utilized to provide services to the customer.

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Clear Rate Communications, Inc.  
24700 Northwestern Hwy  
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(248) 556-4500

**SECTION 3 - SERVICE DESCRIPTIONS, Continued**

3.1 Access Services (cont'd)

3.1.1 Access Service Request (cont'd)

C) Access Order Modifications

The Customer may request a modification of its Access Order at any time prior to notification by the Company that service is available for the Customer's use or prior to the service date, whichever is later.

Any increase in the number of Switched Access Service lines, trunks or busy hour minutes of capacity will be treated as a new Access Order (for the increased amount only).

1) Partial Cancellation Charge

Any decrease in the number of ordered Switched Access Service lines, trunks or busy hour minutes of capacity ordered will be treated as a partial cancellation and the charges as set forth in Section 3.1.1 (D) following will apply. Partial cancellation charges do not apply to Advance Order Interval Access Orders.

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**SECTION 3 - SERVICE DESCRIPTIONS, Continued**

3.1 Access Services (cont'd)

3.1.1 Access Service Request (cont'd)

D) Cancellation of an Access Order

1) A Customer may cancel an Access Order for the installation of service at any time prior to notification by the Company that services available for the Customer's use or prior to the service date, whichever is later. The cancellation date is the date the Company receives written notice from the Customer that the order is to be canceled. If a Customer or a Customer's end user is unable to accept Access Service within 30 calendar days after the original service date, the Customer has the choice of the following options:

- The Access Order shall be canceled and charges set forth in (2) following will apply, or
- Billing for the service will commence.

If no cancellation request is received within the specified 30 calendar days, billing for the service will commence. In any event, the cancellation date or the date billing is to commence, as applicable, shall be the 31st day beyond the original service date of the Access Order.

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**SECTION 3 - SERVICE DESCRIPTIONS, Continued**

3.1 Access Services (cont'd)

3.1.1 Access Service Request (cont'd)

D) Cancellation of an Access Order (cont'd)

2) When a Customer cancels Access Order for the installation of service, a Cancellation Charge will apply as follows:

(a) When the Customer cancels an Access Order, a charge equal to the non-recoverable costs of construction and any other documented expenditures incurred for the service shall apply.

(b) If the Company misses a service date for an Access Order by more than 30 days, due to circumstances such as governmental requirements, work stoppages and civil commotions, the Customer may cancel the Access Order without incurring cancellation charges.

3) The following changes will be treated as a discontinuance of the existing service and an installation of a new service. A new minimum period will be established.

- (1) A move to a different building.
- (2) A change in the type of service.
- (3) A change in the Switched Access Service Interface Group
- (4) A change in the STP Access Link
- (5) A change in the STP Port

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Clear Rate Communications, Inc.  
24700 Northwestern Hwy  
Southfield, MI 48075  
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**SECTION 3 - SERVICE DESCRIPTIONS, Continued**

3.1 Access Services (cont'd)

3.1.1 Access Service Request (cont'd)

E) Minimum Period

The minimum period for which Access Service is provided and for which charges are applicable, is one month.

F) Minimum Period Charges

When Access Service is disconnected prior to the expiration of the minimum period, charges are applicable for the balance of the minimum period.

The Minimum Period Charge for monthly billed services will be determined as follows:

- For Switched Access Service, the charge for a month or fraction thereof is equal to the applicable minimum monthly charge for the capacity.
- All applicable nonrecurring charges for the service will be billed in addition to the Minimum Period Charge.

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Clear Rate Communications, Inc.  
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Southfield, MI 48075  
(248) 556-4500

**SECTION 3 - SERVICE DESCRIPTIONS, Continued**

3.1 Access Services (cont'd)

3.1.2 Standard Rate Categories

The following rate categories apply to all forms of Switched Access Service, except as stated in 3.1.3:

Local Transport and Local Switching

A) Local Transport

The Local Transport rate category provides for transmission facilities between the Customer's premises (POP) or collocated interconnection location and the Company's end office switch(es) where the Customer's traffic is switched to originate or terminate its communications.

Charges for Local Transport service are computed in accordance with Section 2.6.6 preceding (Ordering, Rating, and Billing of Access Services Where More Than One Exchange Telephone Company Is Involved).

The following paragraphs describe the Local Transport rate elements.

Local Transport -- Common Switched Transport

1) Common Switched Transport

Common Switched Transport provides the transmission from the Serving Wire Center of the Customer's POP to the end office of the end user customer.

The Common Switched Transport rate provides for that portion of the voice frequency transmission path at and between the end office and at the Serving Wire Center of the Customer's POP. The rate is applied on a per minute of use basis.

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Clear Rate Communications, Inc.  
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Southfield, MI 48075  
(248) 556-4500

**SECTION 3 - SERVICE DESCRIPTIONS, Continued**3.1 Access Services (cont'd)3.1.2 Standard Rate Categories (cont'd)B) Local Switching

The Local Switching rate element provides for: a) the use of end office switching equipment; b) the terminations for the end user common lines terminating in the local end office; and c) the termination of a call at a Company Intercept operator or recording. The operator or recording tells a caller why a call, as dialed, could not be completed, and if possible, provides the correct number. Intercept rates are assessed to a Customer based on the total number of access minutes.

3.1.3 Other Rate CategoriesA) 8XX Data Base Access Service1) Customer Identification and Delivery Charge

The 8XX Data Base Access Service Customer Identification Charge applies for the identification of the appropriate Customer and the delivery of the dialed 8XX ten digit number. The charge is assessed to the Customer on a per query basis, as referenced in section 5.2.1 following, and may include an area of service which may range from a single telephone number to an area consisting of all intrastate LATAs and NPAs.

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**SECTION 3 - SERVICE DESCRIPTIONS, Continued**

800 Data Base Access Service is a service utilizing originating trunk side Switched Access Service. The service provides for the forwarding of end user dialed 800 calls to a Company Service Switching Point, which will initiate a query to the database to perform the Customer identification and delivery function. The call is forwarded to the appropriate Customer based on the dialed 800 number.

For 800 Data Base Access Service, the Customer shall order the service in accordance with the preceding provisions set forth for Feature Group D.

**3.2 Miscellaneous Services****3.2.1 8XX Data Base Access Service**

800 Data Base Access Service is a service utilizing originating trunk side Switched Access Service. The service provides for the forwarding of end user dialed 800 calls to a Company Service Switching Point, which will initiate a query to the database to perform the Customer identification and delivery function. The call is forwarded to the appropriate Customer based on the dialed 800 number.

For 800 Data Base Access Service, the Customer shall order the service in accordance with the preceding provisions set forth for Feature Group D.

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24700 Northwestern Hwy  
Southfield, MI 48075  
(248) 556-4500

**SECTION 4 - RATES**

The rates as noted below mirror the rates from AT&T Corp.'s P.U.C.O. Tariff No. 20 and Verizon's P.U.C.O. Tariff No. 2, as applicable. The symbol "\*\*\*" denotes a rate from AT&T's P.U.C.O. Tariff No. 20, Part 21, Section 1, Sheet 1. The symbol "##" denotes a rate from Verizon's P.U.C.O. Tariff No. 2, Section 1, Sheet 1. Please consult the applicable tariff for individual rates.

4.1.1 Switched Access Service4.1.1.1 Local Transport and SwitchingIntrastate Per Access Minute

## Local Transport:

## Common Switched Transport:

	<u>Per Access Minute</u>
AT&T Ohio	
(1) Local Transport Termination	\$ **
(2) Local Transport Facility (per mile)	\$ **
Verizon	
(1) Local Transport Termination	\$ ##
(2) Local Transport Facility (per mile)	\$ ##

## Local switching:

## AT&amp;T Ohio

Switched Access Originating:	\$ **
Switched Access Terminating:	\$ **
Common Trunk Port	\$ **

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Southfield, MI 48075  
(248) 556-4500

**SECTION 4 – RATES, (cont'd)**

Verizon

Switched Access Originating:	\$ ##
Switched Access Terminating:	\$ ##
Common Trunk Port:	\$ ##

800 Data Base Query (AT&T Ohio):	\$ ** per query
----------------------------------	-----------------

800 Data Base Query (Verizon):	\$ ## per query
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4.2. <u>Additional Services</u>	<u>Rate</u>
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4.2.1 <u>8XX Data Base Access Service</u>	<u>Per Query</u>
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Customer Identification and Delivery Charge (AT&T Ohio)	\$ **
Customer Identification and Delivery Charge (Verizon)	\$ ##

4.2.2 <u>Restoration Charge</u>	\$59.00
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Southfield, MI 48075  
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