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## 2.0 - REGULATIONS

### 2.1 Undertaking of the Company

#### 2.1.1 Scope

The Company undertakes to furnish communications service pursuant to the terms of this tariff in connection with one-way and/or two-way information transmission originating from points within in the United States, and terminating at international locations as set forth in this tariff. All services are provided subject to the terms and conditions set forth in this tariff.

The Company is responsible under this tariff only for the services and facilities provided hereunder, and it assumes no responsibility for any service provided by any other entity that purchases access to the Company network in order to originate or terminate its own services, or to communicate with its own Customers.

#### 2.1.2 Shortage of Equipment or Facilities

- A) The Company reserves the right to limit or to allocate the use of existing facilities, or of additional facilities offered by the Company, when necessary because of lack of facilities, or due to some other cause beyond the Company's control.
- B) The furnishing of service under this tariff is subject to the availability on a continuing basis of all the necessary facilities and is limited to the capacity of the Company's facilities as well as facilities the Company may obtain from other carriers to furnish service from time to time as required at the sole discretion of the Company. The Company reserves the right to obtain facilities from other carriers and to utilize such services concurrently with its own facilities for the provision of service offered in this tariff.



## **2.0 - REGULATIONS, cont'd.**

### **2.1 Undertaking of the Company, cont'd.**

#### **2.1.3 Terms and Conditions, cont'd.**

- F) Any Other Telephone Company may not interfere with the right of any person or entity to obtain service directly from the Company. No person or entity shall be required to make any payment, incur any penalty, monetary or otherwise, or purchase any services in order to have the right to obtain service directly from the Company.
- G) To the extent that either the Company or any Other Telephone Company exercises control over available cable pairs, conduit, duct space, raceways, or other facilities needed by the other to reach a person or entity, the party exercising such control shall make them available to the other on terms equivalent to those under which the Company makes similar facilities under its control available to its' Customers. At the reasonable request of either party, the Company and the Other Telephone Company shall jointly attempt to obtain from the owner of the property access for the other party to serve a person or entity.
- H) The Company hereby reserves its rights to establish service packages specific to a particular Customer. These contracts may or may not be associated with volume and/or term discounts.

## **2.0 - REGULATIONS, cont'd.**

### **2.1 Undertaking of the Company, cont'd.**

#### **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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**2.0 - REGULATIONS, cont'd.**

**2.1 Undertaking of the Company, cont'd.**

**2.1.4 Limitations on Liability, cont'd.**

- D) The Company shall be indemnified and saved harmless by the Customer from and against all loss, liability, damage and expense, including reasonable counsel fees, due to:
- 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, except as contracted by the Company;
  - 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 material transmitted by means of Company-provided facilities or services; or by means of the combination of Company-provided facilities or services;

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**2.0 - REGULATIONS, cont'd.**

**2.1 Undertaking of the Company, cont'd.**

**2.1.4 Limitations on Liability, cont'd.**

- 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 paragraph (A) of this Subsection 2.1.4.
- 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;

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**2.0 - REGULATIONS, cont'd.**

**2.1 Undertaking of the Company, cont'd.**

**2.1.4 Limitations on Liability, cont'd.**

- 9) Any noncompletion of calls due to network busy conditions;
- 10) Any calls not actually attempted to be completed during any period that service is unavailable;
- 11) And any other claim resulting from any act or omission of the Customer or patron(s) of the Customer relating to the use of the Company's services or facilities.
- E) The Company does not guarantee nor make any warranty with respect to installations provided by it for use in an explosive atmosphere.
- F) 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.
- G) Failure by the Company to assert its rights pursuant to one provision of this tariff does not preclude the Company from asserting its rights under other provisions.
- H) Approval of the above tariff language by the Federal Communications Commission does not constitute a determination by the Commission that the limitation of liability imposed by the Carrier should 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.

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## **2.0 - REGULATIONS, cont'd.**

### **2.1 Undertaking of the Company, cont'd.**

#### **2.1.5 Notification of Service-Affecting Activities**

The Company will provide the Customer reasonable notification of service-affecting activities that may occur in normal operation of its business. Such activities may include, but are not limited to, equipment or facilities additions, removals or rearrangements and routine preventative maintenance. Generally, such activities are not specific to an individual Customer but affect many Customers' services. No specific advance notification period is applicable to all service activities. The Company will work cooperatively with the Customer to determine the reasonable notification requirements. With some emergency or unplanned service-affecting conditions, such as an outage resulting from cable damage, notification to the Customer may not be possible.

#### **2.1.6 Provision of Equipment and Facilities**

- A) The Company shall use reasonable efforts to maintain only the facilities and equipment that it furnishes to the Customer. The Customer may not nor may the Customer permit others to rearrange, disconnect, remove, attempt to repair, or otherwise interfere with any of the facilities or equipment installed by the Company, except upon the written consent of the Company.
- B) The Company may substitute, change or rearrange any equipment or facility at any time and from time to time, but shall not thereby alter the technical parameters of the service provided the Customer.
- C) Equipment the Company provides or installs at the Customer Premises for use in connection with the services the Company offers shall not be used for any purpose other than that for which the equipment is provided.

## **2.0 - REGULATIONS, cont'd.**

### **2.1 Undertaking of the Company, cont'd.**

#### **2.1.6 Provision of Equipment and Facilities, cont'd.**

- D) Except as otherwise indicated, Customer provided station equipment at the Customer's premises for use in connection with this service shall be so constructed, maintained and operated as to work satisfactorily with the facilities of the Company.
  
- E) The Company shall not be responsible for the installation, operation, or maintenance of any Customer provided communications equipment. Where such equipment is connected to the facilities furnished pursuant to this tariff, the responsibility of the Company shall be limited to the furnishing of facilities offered under this tariff and to the maintenance and operation of such facilities. Subject to this responsibility, the Company shall not be responsible for:
  - 1) the through transmission of signals 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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## 2.0 - REGULATIONS, cont'd.

### 2.1 Undertaking of the Company, cont'd.

#### 2.1.7 Non-routine Installation

At the Customer's request, installation and/or maintenance may be performed outside the Company's regular business hours or in hazardous locations. In such cases, charges based on cost of the actual labor, material, or other costs incurred by or charged to the Company will apply. If installation is started during regular business hours but, at the Customer's request, extends beyond regular business hours into time periods including, but not limited to, weekends, holidays, and/or night hours, additional charges may apply.

#### 2.1.8 Special Construction

Subject to the agreement 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 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;

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## 2.0 - REGULATIONS, cont'd.

### 2.1 Undertaking of the Company, cont'd.

#### 2.1.8 Special Construction, cont'd.

- 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.

#### 2.1.9 Ownership of Facilities

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

### 2.2 Prohibited Uses

- A) The services the Company offers shall not be used for any unlawful purpose or for any use as to 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 offerings 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 the FCC's regulations, policies, orders, and decisions.
- C) The Company may block any signals being transmitted over its Network by Customers which cause interference to the Company or other users. Customer shall be relieved of all obligations to make payments for charges relating to any blocked Service and shall indemnify the Company for any claim, judgment or liability resulting from such blockage.

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## 2.0 - REGULATIONS, cont'd.

### 2.2 Prohibited Uses, cont'd.

- 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 communications 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.

### 2.3 Obligations of the Customer

#### 2.3.1 General

The Customer shall be responsible for:

- A) the payment of all applicable charges pursuant to this tariff;
- B) damage to or loss of the Company's facilities or equipment caused by the acts or omissions of the Customer; or the noncompliance by the Customer, with these regulations; or by fire or theft or other casualty on the Customer Premises, unless caused by the negligence or willful misconduct of the employees or agents of the Company;
- C) providing at no charge, as specified from time to time by the Company, any needed equipment, space and power to operate Company facilities and equipment installed on the premises of the Customer, and the level of heating and air conditioning necessary to maintain the proper operating environment on such premises;

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**2.0 - REGULATIONS, cont'd.**

**2.3 Obligations of the Customer, cont'd.**

**2.3.1 General, cont'd.**

- D) obtaining, maintaining, and otherwise having full responsibility for all rights-of-way and conduit necessary for installation of fiber optic cable and associated equipment used to provide Communications Services to the Customer from the cable building entrance or property line to the location of the equipment space described in Section 2.3.1(C). Any and all costs associated with the obtaining and maintaining the rights-of-way described herein, including the costs of altering the structure to permit installation of the Company provided facilities, shall be borne entirely by, or may be charged by the Company to the Customer. The Company may require the Customer to demonstrate its compliance with this section prior to accepting an order for service.
  
- E) providing a safe place to work and complying with all laws and regulations regarding the working conditions on the premises at which Company employees and agents shall be installing or maintaining the Company's facilities and equipment. The Customer may be required to install and maintain Company facilities and equipment within a hazardous area if, in the Company's opinion, injury or damage to the Company employees or property might result from installation or maintenance by the Company. The Customer shall be responsible for identifying, monitoring, removing and disposing of any hazardous material (e.g., friable asbestos) prior to any construction or installation work;

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**2.0 - REGULATIONS, cont'd.**

**2.3 Obligations of the Customer, cont'd.**

**2.3.1 General, cont'd.**

- F) complying with all laws and regulations applicable to, and obtaining all consents, approvals, licenses and permits as may be required with respect to, the location of Company facilities and equipment in any Customer premises or the rights-of-way for which Customer is responsible under Section 2.3.1(D); and granting or obtaining permission for Company agents or employees to enter the premises of the Customer at any time for the purpose of installing, inspecting, maintaining, repairing, or upon termination of service as stated herein, removing the facilities or equipment of the Company;
- G) not creating or allowing to be placed any liens or other encumbrances on the Company's equipment or facilities; and
- H) making Company facilities and equipment available periodically for maintenance purposes at a time agreeable to both the Company and the Customer. No allowance will be made for the period during which service is interrupted for such purposes.

**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, invites, or contractors where such acts or omissions are not the direct result of the Company's negligence or intentional misconduct.

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**2.0 - REGULATIONS, cont'd.**

**2.3 Obligations of the Customer, cont'd.**

**2.3.2 Liability of the Customer, cont'd.**

- 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, including reasonable attorneys' fees, for (1) any loss, destruction or damage to property of any third party, and (2) 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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## 2.0 - REGULATIONS, cont'd.

### 2.4 Customer Equipment and Channels

#### 2.4.1 General

A user may transmit or receive information or signals via the facilities of the Company. The Company's services are designed primarily for the transmission of voice-grade telephonic signals, except as otherwise stated in this tariff. A user may transmit any form of signal that is compatible with the Company's equipment, but the Company does not guarantee that its services will be suitable for purposes other than voice-grade telephonic communication except as specifically stated in this tariff.

#### 2.4.2 Station Equipment

- A) Terminal equipment on the user's premises and the electric power consumed by such equipment shall be provided by and maintained at the expense of the user. The user is responsible for the provision of wiring or cable to connect its terminal equipment to the Company MPOP.
- B) The Customer 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, subject to prior Customer approval of the equipment expense.

## **2.0 - REGULATIONS, cont'd.**

### **2.4 Customer Equipment and Channels**

#### **2.4.3 Interconnection of Facilities**

- A) Communications Services may be connected to the services or facilities of other communications carriers only when authorized by, and in accordance with, the terms and conditions of the tariffs of the other communications carriers which are applicable to such connections.
- B) Facilities furnished under this tariff may be connected to Customer provided terminal equipment in accordance with the provisions of this tariff. All such terminal equipment shall be registered by the Federal Communications Commission pursuant to Part 68 of Title 47, Code of Federal Regulations; and all user-provided wiring shall be installed and maintained in compliance with those regulations.
- C) Any special interface equipment necessary to achieve compatibility between the facilities and equipment of the Company used for furnishing Communications Services and the channels, facilities, or equipment of others shall be provided at the Customer's expense.

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**2.0 - REGULATIONS, cont'd.**

**2.4 Customer Equipment and Channels**

**2.4.4 Inspections**

- A) Upon suitable notification to the Customer, and at a reasonable time, the Company may make such tests and inspections as may be necessary to determine that the Customer is complying with the requirements set forth in Section 2.4.2(B) for the installation, operation, and maintenance of Customer-provided facilities, equipment, and wiring in the connection of Customer-provided facilities and equipment to Company-owned facilities and equipment.
  
- B) If the protective requirements for Customer-provided equipment are not being complied with, the Company may take such action as it deems necessary to protect its facilities, equipment, and personnel. The Company will notify the Customer promptly if there is any need for further corrective action. Within ten days of receiving this notice, the Customer must take this corrective action and notify the Company of the action taken. If the Customer fails to do this, the Company may take whatever additional action is deemed necessary, including the suspension of service, to protect its facilities, equipment and personnel from harm.

If harm to the Company's network, personnel or services is imminent, the Company reserves the right to shut down Customer's service immediately, with no prior notice required.

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## 2.0 - REGULATIONS, cont'd.

### 2.5 Customer Deposits and Advance Payments

#### 2.5.1 Advance Payments

To safeguard its interests, the Company may require a Customer to make an advance payment before services and facilities are furnished, where special construction is involved. The advance payment will not exceed an amount equal to the nonrecurring charge(s) and one (1) month's charges for the service or facilities. In addition, 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. Advance payments do not accrue interest. An advance payment may be required in addition to a deposit.

#### 2.5.2 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 may be required if the customer's financial condition is not acceptable to the Company or is not a matter of general knowledge. 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 two (2) month's charges for tariffed services plus 30% of the monthly estimated charge for a specified customer or; two (2) month's charges for a service or facility which has a minimum payment period of one month.

## **2.0 - REGULATIONS, cont'd.**

### **2.5 Customer Deposits and Advance Payments, cont'd.**

#### **2.5.2 Deposits, cont'd.**

- B) A deposit may be required in addition to an advance payment.
- C) Upon discontinuance of service, the Company, within forty-five (45) days, shall automatically refund the Customer's deposit plus accrued interest, or the balance, if any, in excess of the unpaid bills including any penalties assessed for service furnished by the Company.
- D) Deposits held for 180 days or longer will accrue interest in accordance with Company policies. Deposits held for less than 180 days will not accrue interest..

### **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 the payment of federal excise taxes, state and local sales and use taxes and similar taxes imposed by governmental jurisdictions, all of which shall be separately designated on the Company's invoices. Any taxes imposed by a local jurisdiction (e.g., county and municipal) will only be recovered from those Customers residing in the affected jurisdictions.

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**2.0 - REGULATIONS, cont'd.**

**2.6 Payment Arrangements, cont'd.**

**2.6.1 Payment for Service, cont'd.**

A) Taxes, cont'd.

Certain telecommunications services may be subject to state sales tax at the prevailing tax rates.

**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 thirty (30) days after the date the invoice is mailed to the Customer by the Company.

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 the invoice is mailed to the Customer by the Company. 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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**2.0 - REGULATIONS, cont'd.**

**2.6 Payment Arrangements, cont'd.**

**2.6.2 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. A late payment charge of 1.5% per month, for bills not paid within 30 days of receipt, is not applicable to subsequent rebilling of any amount to which a late payment charge has already been applied. Late payment charges are to be applied without discrimination.
- F) The Customer should notify the Company of any disputed items on an invoice within thirty (30) days of receipt of the invoice. If the Customer and the Company are unable to resolve the dispute to their mutual satisfaction, the Customer may file a complaint with the Federal Communications Commission in accordance with the Commission's rules of procedure. The address of the Commission is as follows:

Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20554

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**2.0 - REGULATIONS, cont'd.**

**2.6 Payment Arrangements, cont'd.**

**2.6.2 Billing and Collection of Charges, cont'd.**

- G) If service is disconnected by the Company (in accordance with Section 2.6.3 following) and later re-installed, re-installation of service will be subject to all applicable installation charges. If service is suspended by the Company (in accordance with Section 2.6.3 following) and later restored, restoration of service will be subject to the rates in Section 8.6.2.

**2.6.3 Discontinuance of Service for Cause**

- A) Upon nonpayment of any amounts owing to the Company, the Company may, by giving five (5) business days 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 ten (10) days prior written notice to the Customer, discontinue or suspend service without incurring any liability if such violation continues during that period.
- C) Upon condemnation of any material portion of the facilities used by the Company to provide service to a Customer or if a casualty renders all or any material portion of such facilities inoperable beyond feasible repair, the Company, 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.

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**2.0 - REGULATIONS, cont'd.**

**2.6 Payment Arrangements, cont'd.**

**2.6.3 Discontinuance of Service for Cause**

- E) Upon any governmental prohibition or governmental 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.
- G) Upon the Company's discontinuance of service to the Customer under Section 2.6.3(A) or 2.6.3(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).
- H) The Customer is responsible for providing adequate access lines to enable the Company to terminate all 800 Service calls to the Customer's telephone equipment. Should the Customer have insufficient access lines on which to terminate 800 Service calls, the Company reserves the right to request the Customer to add additional lines for call terminations. If, after ninety (90) days, the Customer has not made the requested change, the Company, without incurring any liability, reserves the right to terminate the Customer's 800 Service, with thirty (30) days written notice.

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**2.0 - REGULATIONS, cont'd.**

**2.6 Payment Arrangements, cont'd.**

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

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

**2.6.5 Cancellation of Application for Service**

- A) Where the Company permits the Customer to cancel an application for service prior to the start of service or prior to any special construction, no charges will be imposed except for those specified below.
- B) Where, prior to cancellation by the Customer, the Company incurs any expenses in installing the service or in preparing to install the service that it otherwise would not have incurred, a charge equal to the costs the Company incurred, less net salvage, shall apply, but in no case shall this charge exceed the sum of the charge for the minimum period of services ordered, including installation charges, and all charges others levy against the Company that would have been chargeable to the Customer had service begun.
- C) Where the Company incurs any expense in connection with special construction, or where special arrangements of facilities or equipment have begun, before the Company receives a cancellation notice, a charge equal to the costs incurred, less net salvage, may apply. In such cases, the charge will be based on such elements as 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.
- D) The special charges described in 2.6.5(A) through 2.6.5(C) will be calculated and applied on a case-by-case basis.

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## **2.0 - REGULATIONS, cont'd.**

### **2.6 Payment Arrangements, cont'd.**

#### **2.6.6 Changes in Service Requested**

If the Customer makes or requests material changes in circuit engineering, equipment specifications, service parameters, premises locations, or otherwise materially modifies any provision of the application for service, the Customer's installation fee shall be adjusted accordingly.

#### **2.6.7 Bad Check Charge**

A charge will be assessed for all checks returned by drawee bank or other financial institution for: Insufficient or uncollected funds, closed account, apparent tampering, missing signature or endorsement, or any other insufficiency or discrepancy necessitating return of the instrument at the discretion of the drawee bank or other financial institution.

Bad check charge: \$20.00 for each check returned.

### **2.7 Allowances for Interruptions in Service**

#### **2.7.1 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.

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**2.0 - REGULATIONS, cont'd.**

**2.7 Allowances for Interruptions in Service, cont'd.**

**2.7.1 General, cont'd.**

- C) If the Customer reports a service, facility or circuit to be interrupted but declines to release it for testing and repair, or refuses access to its premises for test and repair by the Company, 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.
- D) The Customer shall be responsible for the payment of service charges as set forth herein for visits by the Company's agents or employees to the premises of the Customer when the service difficulty or trouble report results from the use of equipment or facilities provided by any party other than the Company, including but not limited to the Customer.

**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;
- 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 reasonable 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;

## **2.0 - REGULATIONS, cont'd.**

### **2.7 Allowances for Interruptions in Service, cont'd.**

#### **2.7.2 Limitations of Allowances**

- E) A service will not be deemed to be interrupted if a Customer continues to voluntarily make use of the such service. If the service is interrupted, the Customer can get a service credit, use another means of communications provided by the Company (pursuant to Section 2.7.3), or utilize another service provider;
- 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.

#### **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.

## **2.0 - REGULATIONS, cont'd.**

### **2.7 Allowances for Interruptions in Service, cont'd.**

#### **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 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.
- C) A credit allowance will be given for interruptions of thirty (30) minutes or more. Two or more interruptions of fifteen (15) minutes or more during any one 24-hour period shall be combined into one cumulative interruption.

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**2.0 - REGULATIONS, cont'd.**

**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

| <u>Length of Interruption</u>              | <u>Interruption Period<br/>To Be Credited</u> |
|--|---|
| Less than 30 minutes                       | None  |
| 30 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                                       |

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 3-hour period or fraction thereof. No more than one full day's credit will be allowed for any period of 24 hours.

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**2.0 - REGULATIONS, cont'd.**

**2.7 Allowances for Interruptions in Service, cont'd.**

**2.7.4 Application of Credits for Interruptions in Service, cont'd.**

Interruptions Over 72 Hours. Interruptions over 72 hours will be credited 2 days for each full 24-hour period. No more than thirty (30) days credit will be allowed for any one month period.

**2.7.5 Limitations on Allowances**

No credit allowance will be made for:

- A) interruptions due to the negligence of or noncompliance with the provisions of this tariff by the Customer, authorized user or joint user;
- B) interruptions due to the negligence of any person other than the Company, including but not limited to the Customer;
- C) interruptions of service during any period in which the Company is not given full access to its facilities and equipment for the purpose of investigating and correcting interruptions;
- D) interruptions of service during a period in which the Customer continues to use the service on an impaired basis;
- E) interruptions of service 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;
- F) interruption of service due to circumstances or causes beyond the reasonable control of Company; and

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**2.0 - REGULATIONS, cont'd.**

**2.7 Allowances for Interruptions in Service, cont'd.**

**2.7.5 Limitations on Allowances, cont'd.**

- G) that occur or continue due to the Customer's failure to authorize replacement of any element of special construction.

**2.7.6 Cancellation For Service Interruption**

Cancellation or termination for service interruption is permitted only if any circuit experiences a single continuous outage of eight (8) hours or more or cumulative service credits equaling sixteen (16) hours in a continuous twelve (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 other than a service interruption (as defined in Section 2.7.1) or where the Company breaches the terms in the service contract, Customer may be requested by the Company 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:

- A) all unpaid non-recurring charges reasonably expended by Company to establish service to Customer, plus;

## **2.0 - REGULATIONS, cont'd.**

### **2.8 Cancellation of Service/Termination Liability, cont'd.**

#### **2.8.1 Termination Liability, cont'd.**

any disconnection, early cancellation or termination charges reasonably incurred and paid to third parties by Company on behalf of Customer, plus;

if the Customer is receiving service under a discounted long-term service plan as set forth in this tariff, the Customer will be required to reimburse Company, retroactive to the service commencement date, for the difference in charges between the discounted long-term rate that Customer was charged, and the non-discounted month-to-month rate that the Customer would have been charged if service had been provided on a month-to-month basis.

### **2.9 Customer Liability for Unauthorized Use of the Network**

Unauthorized use of the network occurs when 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.

#### **2.9.1 Customer Liability for Fraud and Unauthorized Use of the Network**

- A) The Customer is liable for the unauthorized use of the network obtained through the fraudulent use of a Company calling card, if such a card is offered by the Company, or an accepted credit card, provided that the unauthorized use occurs before the Company has been notified.

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**2.0 - REGULATIONS, cont'd.**

**2.9 Customer Liability for Unauthorized Use of the Network, cont'd.**

**2.9.1 Customer Liability for Fraud and Unauthorized Use of the Network, cont'd.**

- B) A Company calling card is a telephone calling card issued by the Company at the Customer's request, which enables the Customer or user(s) authorized by the Customer to place calls over the Network and to have the charges for such calls billed to the Customer's account.

An accepted credit card is any credit card that a cardholder has requested or applied for and received, or has signed, used, or authorized another person to use to obtain credit. Any credit card issued as a renewal or substitute in accordance with this paragraph is an accepted credit card when received by the cardholder.

- C) The Customer must give the Company written or oral notice that an unauthorized use of a Company calling card or an accepted credit card has occurred or may occur as a result of loss, and/or theft.
- D) The Customer is responsible for payment of all charges for calling card services furnished to the Customer or to users authorized by the Customer to use service provided under this tariff, unless due to the negligence of the Company. This responsibility is not changed due to any use, misuse, or abuse of the Customer's service or Customer-provided equipment by third parties, the Customer's employees, or the public.

The liability of the Customer for unauthorized use of the Network by credit card fraud will not exceed the lesser of fifty dollars (\$50.00) or the amount of money, property, labor, or services obtained by the unauthorized user before notification to the Company.

## **2.0 - REGULATIONS, cont'd.**

### **2.10 Use of Customer's Service by Others**

#### **2.10.1 Resale and Sharing**

There are no prohibitions or limitations on the resale of services. Prices for resold services appear in the price sheet attached to this tariff. Any service provided under this tariff may be resold to or shared with other persons at the option of Customer, subject to compliance with any applicable laws and regulations of the FCC regulations governing such resale or sharing. The Customer remains solely responsible for all use of services ordered by it or billed to its telephone number(s) pursuant to this tariff, for determining who is authorized to use its services, and for notifying the Company of any unauthorized use.

#### **2.10.2 Joint Use Arrangements**

Joint use arrangements will be permitted for all services provided under this tariff. From each joint use arrangement, one member will be designated as the Customer responsible for the manner in which the joint use of the service will be allocated. The Company will accept orders to start, rearrange, relocate, or discontinue service only from the Customer. Without affecting the Customer's ultimate responsibility for payment of all charges for the service, each joint user shall be responsible for the payment of the charges billed to it.

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## 2.0 - REGULATIONS, cont'd.

### 2.11 Services to Hearing Impaired

- a) Residential impaired customers or impaired members of a customer's household, upon written application and upon certification of their impaired status, which is evidenced by either a certificate from a physician, health care official, or state agency, or a diploma from an accredited educational institution for the impaired, may receive a discount off their message toll service rates, and, if they utilize telebraille devices, they may receive free access to local and intrastate long distance directory assistance. Additionally, TDD lines maintained by nonprofit organizations and governmental agencies, upon written application and verification that such lines are maintained for the benefit of the impaired may receive a discount off their message toll service rates.
- B) Upon receipt of the appropriate application, and certification or verification, the following discounts off basic message toll service shall be made available for the benefit of the impaired: the evening discount off the intrastate, interexchange, customer-dialed, station to station calls originating 8:00a.m. to 4:59p.m. Monday through Friday; the night/weekend discount off the intrastate, interexchange, customer-dialed, station to station calls originating 5:00p.m. to 10:59p.m. Sunday through Friday, and New Year's Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving, and Christmas.

### 2.12 Transfers and Assignments

Neither the Company nor the Customer may assign or transfer its rights or duties in connection with the services and facilities provided by the Company without the written consent of the other party, except that the Company may assign its rights and duties:

- A) to any subsidiary, parent company or affiliate of the Company; or
- B) pursuant to any sale or transfer of substantially all the assets of the Company; or

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**2.0 - REGULATIONS, cont'd.**

**2.12 Transfers and Assignments, cont'd.**

- C) pursuant to any financing, merger or reorganization of the Company.

**2.13 Notices and Communications**

- A) The Customer shall designate on the service order an address to which the Company shall mail or deliver all notices and other communications, except that Customer may also designate a separate address to which the Company's bills for service shall be mailed.
- B) The Company shall designate on the service order an address to which the Customer shall mail or deliver all notices and other communications, except that Company may designate a separate address on each bill for service to which the Customer shall mail payment on that bill.

Except as otherwise stated in this tariff, all notices or other communications required to be given pursuant to this tariff will be in writing. Notices and other communications of either party, and all bills mailed by the Company, shall be presumed to have been delivered to the other party on the third business day following placement of the notice, communication or bill with the U.S. Mail or a private delivery service, prepaid and properly addressed, or when actually received or refused by the addressee, whichever occurs first.

The Company or the Customer shall advise the other party of any changes to the addresses designated for notices, other communications or billing, by following the procedures for giving notice set forth herein.