

**Exhibit F**

Company Proposed Tariff

RULES, REGULATIONS, AND  
SCHEDULE OF RATES AND CHARGES  
APPLICABLE TO END USER

LOCAL EXCHANGE AND INTEREXCHANGE TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES

FURNISHED BY  
U.S. TELEPACIFIC CORP. DBA TPX COMMUNICATIONS  
WITHIN THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

This Local Exchange and Interexchange tariff sets forth the service offerings, rates, terms and conditions applicable to the all services which the Company offers within the state of Louisiana.

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Issue Date: \_\_\_\_\_

U.S. TelePacific Corp. dba TPx Communications.  
303 Colorado Street, Suite 2075  
Austin, TX 78701  
Colin Polacek, Chief Legal Officer

Effective Date: \_\_\_\_\_



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CHECK SHEET

The Title Page and pages listed below are inclusive and effective as of the date shown. Original and revised pages as named below contain all changes from the original Local Exchange and Interexchange Tariff that are in effect on the date shown on each page.

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SECTION 1 - DEFINITIONS

For the purpose of this Tariff, the following definitions will apply:

U.S. TelePacific Corp. - U.S. TelePacific Corp., the issuer of this Tariff.

Access Services - The Company's intrastate telephone services offered pursuant to this Tariff.

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

Account Codes - Permits Centrex Stations and attendants to dial an account code number of up to eight digits. For use when placing calls over facilities arranged for Automatic Message Accounting (AMA) recording. The account or project number must be input prior to dialing the called number.

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

Automatic Number Identification ("ANI") - Allows the automatic transmission of a caller's billing account telephone number to a local exchange company, interexchange carrier or a third party subscriber. The primary purpose of ANI is to allow for billing of toll calls.

Bit - The smallest unit of information in the binary system of notation.

Collocation - An arrangement whereby the Company's switching equipment is located in a local exchange Company's central office.

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

Dedicated Inbound Calls - Refers to calls that are terminated via dedicated access facilities connecting he Customer's premises and the Company's Point of Presence ("POP"). This service is offered to the extent facilities are available and where the Company and the Customer jointly arrange for the establishment of dedicated access facilities connecting the Customer's trunk-compatible PBX or other suitable equipment to the Company's POP. The Customer shall be responsible for all costs and charges associated with the dedicated access facilities.

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SECTION 1 - DEFINITIONS, (CONT'D.)

Dedicated Outbound Calls - Refers to service that is offered to the extent facilities are available in those cases where the Company and the Customer jointly arrange for the establishment of dedicated access facilities connecting the Customer's trunk-compatible PBX or other suitable equipment to the Company's (POP). The Customer shall be responsible for all costs and charges associated with the dedicated access facilities.

Deposit - Refers to a cash or equivalent of cash security held as a guarantee for payment of the charges.

Dial Pulse (or "DP") - The pulse type employed by rotary dial station sets.

Direct Inward Dial (or "DID") - A service attribute that routes incoming calls directly to stations, by-passing a central answering point.

Direct Outward Dial (or "DOD") - A service attribute that allows individual station users to access and dial outside numbers directly.

DID Trunk - A form of local switched access that provides the ability for an outside party to call an internal extension directly without the intervention of the Company operator.

Dual Tone Multi-Frequency (or "DTMF") - The pulse type employed by tone dial station sets.

Duplex Service - Service which provides for simultaneous transmission in both directions.

End Office - With respect to each NPA-NXX code prefix assigned to the Company, the location of the Company's "end office" for purposes of this Local Exchange and Interexchange Tariff shall be the point of interconnection associated with that NPA-NXX code in the Local Exchange Routing Guide ("LERG"), issued by BellCore.

Exchange Telephone Company or Telephone Company - Denotes any individual, partnership, association, joint-stock company, trust, or corporation authorized by the appropriate regulatory bodies to engage in providing public switched communication service throughout an exchange area, and between exchange areas within the LATA.

Fiber Optic Cable - A thin filament of glass with a protective outer coating through which a light beam carrying communications signals may be transmitted by means of multiple internal reflections to a receiver, which translates the message.

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SECTION 1 - DEFINITIONS, (CONT'D.)

Hearing Impaired - Those persons with communication impairments, including those hearing impaired, deaf, deaf/blind, and speech impaired persons who have an impairment that prevents them from communicating over the telephone without the aid of a telecommunications device for the deaf.

Hunting - Routes a call to an idle station line in a prearranged group when the called station line is busy.

Individual Case Basis Pricing (ICB) - Individual Case Basis ("ICB") – A determination that the Customer's service requirements can only be satisfied by a complex Customer-Carrier arrangement for which it is difficult or impossible to establish general tariff provisions. ICB rates will be structured to recover the Company's cost of providing service and will be made available to similarly situated customers in a non-discriminatory manner. Terms of the specific ICB contracts will be made available to the Commission staff on a confidential basis upon staff's written request to the Company.

In-Only - A service attribute that restricts outward dial access and routes incoming calls to a designated answer point.

IXC or Interexchange Carrier - A long distance telecommunications services provider and/or alternatively the Company.

Kbps - Kilobits per second, denotes thousands of bits per second.

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.

Local Interconnection Trunking Service - A local circuit administration point, other than a cross-connect or an information outlet, that provides capability for routing and re-routing circuits.

Mbps - Megabits, denotes millions of bits per second.

Minimum Point of Presence ("MPOP") - The main telephone closet in the Customer's building.

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

Multi-Frequency or ("MF") - An inter-machine pulse-type used for signaling between telephone switches, or between telephone switches and PBX/key systems.

Non-Recurring Charge ("NRC") - The initial charge, usually assessed on a one-time basis, to initiate and establish service.

NPA - Numbering plan area or area code.

Other Telephone Company - An Exchange Telephone Company, other than the Company.

PBX - Private Branch Exchange

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SECTION 1 - DEFINITIONS, (CONT'D.)

Point of Presence ("POP") - Point of Presence

Recurring Charges - 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 day following the 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 Customer may mutually agree on a substitute Service Commencement Date.

Service Order - The written request for Network 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.

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

Shared Inbound Calls Refers to calls that are terminated via the Customer's Company-provided local exchange line.

Shared Outbound Calls - Refers to calls in Feature Group (FGD) exchanges whereby the Customer's local telephone lines are presubscribed by the Company to the Company's outbound service such that "1 + 10-digit number" calls are automatically routed to the Company's or an IXC's network. Calls to stations within the Customer's LATA may be placed by dialing "10XXX" or "101XXXX" with 1 + 10-digit number."

Tandem - A class 4 switch facility to which NPA and NXX codes are subtended.

Two Way - A service attribute that includes outward dial capabilities for outbound calls and can also be used to carry inbound calls to a central point for further processing.

UNE - Unbundled Network Element is a component element of local service the Company purchases from another local exchange company. The UNE elements as utilized in this Local Exchange and Interexchange Tariff refer to local services the company provides through a combination of its facilities and the facilities of other local exchange carriers.

Usage Based Charges - Charges for minutes or messages traversing over local exchange facilities.

User or End User - A Customer, Joint User, or any other person authorized by a Customer to use service provided under this Tariff.

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SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS

2.1 Undertaking of the Company

2.1.1 Scope

The Company undertakes to furnish communications service pursuant to the terms of this Local Exchange and Interexchange Tariff in connection with one-way and/or two-way information transmission originating from points within the State of Louisiana, and terminating within a local calling area as defined herein.

The Company is responsible under this Local Exchange and Interexchange 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 Local Exchange and Interexchange 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.



SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (CONT'D.)

2.1 Undertaking of the Company, (Cont'd.)

2.1.3 Terms and Conditions

- (A) Service is provided on the basis of a minimum period of at least six months, 24-hours per day. For the purpose of computing charges in this Tariff, a month is considered to have thirty (30) days.
- (B) Customers may be required to enter into written service orders which shall contain or reference a specific description of the service ordered, the rates to be charged, the duration of the services, and the terms and conditions in this Tariff. Customers will also be required to execute any other documents as may be reasonably requested by the Company.
- (C) Except as otherwise stated in the Tariff, at the expiration of the initial term specified in each Service Order, or in any extension thereof, service shall continue on a month to month basis at the then current rates unless terminated by either party upon thirty (30) days written notice. Any termination shall not relieve the Customer of its obligation to pay any charges incurred under the service order and this Local Exchange and Interexchange Tariff prior to termination. The rights and obligations which by their nature extend beyond the termination of the term of the service order shall survive such termination.
- (D) Service may be terminated upon written notice to the Customer if:
  - (1) the Customer is using the service in violation of this Tariff; or
  - (2) the Customer is using the service in violation of the law.
- (E) This Local Exchange and Interexchange Tariff shall be interpreted and governed by the laws of the State of Louisiana without regard for its choice of laws provision.

SECTION 2 - RULES AND 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.

SECTION 2 - RULES AND 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, representations, 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 - RULES AND 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;
  - (5) Breach in the privacy or security of communications transmitted over the Company's facilities;

SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (CONT'D.)

2.1 Undertaking of the Company, (Cont'd.)

2.1.4 Limitations on Liability, (Cont'd.)

(D) (cont'd)

- (6) Changes in any of the facilities, operations or procedures of the Company that render any equipment, facilities or services provided by the Customer obsolete, or require modification or alteration of such equipment, facilities or services, or otherwise affect their use or performance, except where reasonable notice is required by the Company and is not provided to the Customer, in which event the Company's liability is limited as set forth in 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;
- (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.

SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (CONT'D.)

2.1 Undertaking of the Company, (Cont'd.)

2.1.4 Limitations on Liability, (Cont'd.)

- (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 Local Exchange and Interexchange Tariff does not preclude the Company from asserting its rights under other provisions.

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.

SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (CONT'D.)

2.1 Undertaking of the Company, (Cont'd.)

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, and 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.
- (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 Local Exchange and Interexchange 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.

SECTION 2 - RULES AND 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;
- (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 Local Exchange and Interexchange Tariff remains in the Company, its partners, agents, contractors or suppliers.



SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (CONT'D.)

2.2 Prohibited Uses

- 2.2.1 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.
- 2.2.2 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 Louisiana Public Service Commission's regulations, policies, orders, and decisions.
- 2.2.3 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.
- 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 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 Local Exchange and Interexchange Tariff will apply.

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SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (CONT'D.)

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;
- (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.

SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (CONT'D.)

2.3 Obligations of the Customer (Cont'd.)

2.3.1 General (cont'd.)

- (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;
- (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.

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SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (CONT'D.)

2.3 Obligations of the Customer (Cont'd.)

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.
- (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 Local Exchange and Interexchange 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 Local Exchange and Interexchange 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 Local Exchange and Interexchange 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.

SECTION 2 - RULES AND 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.

SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (CONT'D.)

2.4 Customer Equipment and Channels, (Cont'd.)

2.4.3 Interconnection of Facilities

SECTION 2.4.3 IS AVAILABLE ONLY TO CARRIERS WHICH ARE CERTIFIED BY Louisiana PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION TO PROVIDE INTRASTATE LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICES.

- (A) Local Traffic Exchange provides the ability for another local exchange provider to terminate local traffic on the Company's network. In order to qualify for Local Traffic Exchange the call must: (a) be originated by an end user of a company that is authorized by the Louisiana Public Service Commission to provide local exchange service; (b) originate and terminate within a local calling area of the Company.
- (B) 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.
- (C) 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.
- (D) Facilities furnished under this Local Exchange and Interexchange 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.

SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (CONT'D.)

2.4 Customer Equipment and Channels, (Cont'd.)

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.
- (C) 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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Issue Date: \_\_\_\_\_

U.S. TelePacific Corp. dba TPx Communications.  
303 Colorado Street, Suite 2075  
Austin, TX 78701  
Colin Polacek, Chief Legal Officer

Effective Date: \_\_\_\_\_

SECTION 2 - RULES AND 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 in accordance with Louisiana Public Service Commission Rules. 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 and one-half twelfths of the estimated charge for the service for the ensuing twelve months. A deposit may be required in addition to an advance payment.
- (B) Upon discontinuance of service, the Company shall promptly and 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.
- (C) Simple interest at the rate specified by the Commission shall be credited or paid to the Customer while the Company holds the deposit. Upon request of the Customer, accrued interest shall be annually credited to the Customer by deducting such interest from the amount of the next bill for service following the accrual date.
- (D) The Company shall annually and automatically refund the deposits of Customers who have paid bills for twelve consecutive months without having had service discontinued for nonpayment or had more than one occasion on which a bill was not paid within the period prescribed and are not then delinquent in payment.



SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (CONT'D.)

2.6 Payment Arrangements, (Cont'd.)

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.

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. The Company will not separately charge for the Louisiana gross receipts tax on the Company's invoice for local services. Any taxes imposed by a local jurisdiction (e.g., county and municipal) will only be recovered from those Customers residing in the affected jurisdictions.

Certain telecommunications services, as defined in the Louisiana Revised Code, are subject to state sales tax at the prevailing tax rates, if the services originate, or terminate in Louisiana, or both, and are charged to a subscriber's telephone number or account in Louisiana.

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.
- (B) The Company shall present invoices for recurring charges monthly to the Customer, in advance of the month in which service is provided, and recurring charges shall be due and payable within thirty (30) days after the date 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.

SECTION 2 - RULES AND 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 Local Exchange and Interexchange Tariff or the Service Order. Billing accrues through and includes the day that the service, circuit, arrangement or component is discontinued.
- (E) Customer's bills for telephone service are due on the due date specified on their bill. A customer is in default unless full payment is made on or before the due date. If a bill is not paid in full, a late charge of 1.5% per month will be applied against all balances that are past due. Terms apply as well to any payments received by the Company where the funds are not immediately available upon presentment. For an account to be brought current, both the overdue balance and any outstanding finance charges must be paid in full. For partial payment received, finance charges will continue to be applied against the amount of the bill's outstanding balance until full payment of both the outstanding balance and any outstanding finance charges are received. A minimum finance charge of \$10 for Business Accounts may be applied if an invoice is past due.
- (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 Louisiana Public Service Commission in accordance with the Commission's rules of procedure. The address of the Commission is as follows:

Louisiana Public Service Commission  
Galvez Building  
602 North 5th Street, 12th Floor  
Baton Rouge, LA 70802
- (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 4.

SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (CONT'D.)

2.6 Payment Arrangements, (Cont'd.)

2.6.3 Discontinuance of Service for Cause

The Company may discontinue service for the following reasons provided in this Section 2.6.3. Customers will be provided five (5) days written notice prior to discontinuance unless otherwise indicated.

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).

- (A) Upon nonpayment of any amounts owing to the Company, the Company may discontinue or suspend service without incurring any liability. No basic residential service shall be disconnected for nonpayment until at least 29 days from the date of the bill and only following proper written notification.
- (B) Upon violation of any of the other material terms or conditions for furnishing service the Company may, 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 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.

SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (CONT'D.)

2.6 Payment Arrangements, (Cont'd.)

2.6.3 Discontinuance of Service for Cause

- (F) Without notice in the event of fraudulent use of the Company's network. The Customer will be liable for all related costs. The Customer will also be responsible for payment of any reconnection charges.
- (G) Without notice in the event of Customer use of equipment or services in such a manner as to adversely affect the Company's service to others.
- (H) Without notice in the event of tampering with the equipment or services furnished by the Company.
- (I) 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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Issue Date: \_\_\_\_\_

U.S. TelePacific Corp. dba TPx Communications.  
303 Colorado Street, Suite 2075  
Austin, TX 78701  
Colin Polacek, Chief Legal Officer

Effective Date: \_\_\_\_\_

SECTION 2 - RULES AND 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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SECTION 2 - RULES AND 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 *NSF CHECK CHARGE \$20.00 General Order 1-21-2000*

A service charge equal to the greater of \$40.00 will be assessed in accordance with Louisiana law for all checks returned by a 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. \*

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Colin Polacek, Chief Legal Officer

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SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (CONT'D.)

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.
- (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 Local Exchange and Interexchange 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;

SECTION 2 - RULES AND 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.



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SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (CONT'D.)

2.7 Allowances for Interruption 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.

(D) Interruptions of 24 Hours or Less

Length of Interruption	Amount of Service To Be Credited
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

(E) Interruptions 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.

(F) 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.

SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (CONT'D.)

2.7 Allowances for Interruption in Service, (Cont'd.)

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 Local Exchange and Interexchange 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
- (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.

SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (CONT'D.)

2.8 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.

2.8.1 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.
- (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 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.

SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (CONT'D.)

2.9 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 to a) any subsidiary, parent company or affiliate of the Company; b) pursuant to any sale or transfer of substantially all the assets of the Company; or c) pursuant to any financing, merger or reorganization of the Company.

2.10 Notices and Communications

2.10.2 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.

2.10.3 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.

2.10.4 Except as otherwise stated in this Tariff, all notices or other communications required to be given pursuant to this Local Exchange and Interexchange 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.

2.10.5 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.

2.11 Taxes

All state and local taxes (i.e., gross receipts tax, sales tax, municipal utilities tax) are listed as separate line items and are not included in the quoted rates.

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SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (CONT'D.)

2.12 Levels of Service Quality

The Company will endeavor at all times to provide its Customers with high quality, reliable telecommunications services which meet the quality standards described in this Section. However, as a reseller of Incumbent Local Exchange Carrier ("ILEC") services, the Company's ability to meet these quality standards is ultimately subject to the availability of ILEC facilities and equipment and the timeliness of the ILEC's response to Company initiated requests for service installation and repair. Service quality standards are also subject to the additional limitations:

- 2.12.1 Quality standards for installation, maintenance and repair as described herein apply only to single-line residential and business services. Installation, maintenance and repair standards for non-basic service will vary by service type, customer location, quantities of lines and/or features, or other factors which may lengthen the time required to install, restore or repair a Customer's service.
- 2.12.2 Quality standards described in this section do not apply in emergency situations, which include but are not limited to service areas affected by acts of God, fires, floods, earthquakes, hurricanes, tornados, 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; or compliance with any law, order, regulation or other action of any governing authority or agency which impairs or interferes with the Company's normal business operations.
- 2.12.3 Quality standards apply to services and equipment provided by the Company only. The Company may be unable to meet these standards due to the unavailability, failure or malfunction of equipment or facilities provided by the Customer or third parties under the direction of the Customer.
- 2.12.4 The Company's liability in the event that it is unable to meet the quality standards described herein shall be subject to the limitations of liability as provided in Section 2.1.4 and credits and allowances for interruptions of service as provided in Section 2.7 of this Tariff.

SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (CONT'D.)

2.12 Levels of Service Quality, (Cont'd.)

2.12.1 Installations

Where central office and outside plant facilities are readily available, the Company will establish as its objective the following working intervals for fulfillment of single-line residential and business Customer requests for primary service following receipt of application for same when all Tariff requirements relating thereto have been complied with, except those instances where a later installation date is required by the Customer or where special equipment or services are involved:

90% fulfillment within 5 working days  
95% fulfillment within 30 calendar days  
100% fulfillment within 60 calendar days

2.13.2 Maintenance and Repairs

The Company shall make reasonable attempts to restore service on the same day that an interruption is reported by the Customer where the trouble is the result of equipment or facilities provided by the Company. The Company will establish as its objective the following standards for repair or restoration of service for single-line residential and business Customers following receipt of a Customer trouble report and obtaining sufficient information from the Customer to identify and diagnose the problem.

- (A) Restoration of 95% of interrupted service lines within 24 hours of receipt of the trouble report.
- (B) Clearing of 95% of service effecting troubles within 72 hours of receipt of trouble report.

SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (CONT'D.)

2.12 Levels of Service Quality, (Cont'd.)

2.12.3 Grade of Service

Subject to the adequacy of facilities and equipment provided to the Company by Incumbent Local Exchange Carriers, the Company shall establish as its objective the following grade of service standards:

- (A) During the average busy season busy hour, at least 90% of all calls offered to any trunk group shall not encounter an all-trunk busy condition.
- (B) During the average busy season busy hour, at least 90% of intra-office, inter-office, extended area and intraLATA direct distance dialed calls carried by the Company will encounter a ring back tone, line busy signal, or non-working number intercept facility (operator or recording) after completion of dialing.

2.13 Special Promotions

The Carrier may from time to time engage in special promotional trial service offerings of limited duration (not to exceed ninety days on a per Customer basis for non-optional, recurring charges) designed to attract new subscribers or to increase subscriber awareness of a particular Local Exchange and Interexchange Tariff offering. Requests for promotional offerings will be presented to the Commission for its review in accordance with rules and regulations established by the Commission, and will be included in the Carrier's Local Exchange and Interexchange Tariff as an addendum to the Carrier's Tariffs.

2.14 Discounts

The Company may, from time to time as reflected in the Tariff, offer discounts based on monthly volume (or, when appropriate, "monthly revenue commitment" and/or "time of day" may also be included in the Tariff).



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SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (CONT'D.)

2.15 Cancellation or Modification of Service by Customer

- (A) Residential Customers may cancel Service by providing written or oral notice to Company at least five (5) days prior to cancellation. The notice must specify the date on which service is to be discontinued.
- (B) Business Customers may cancel service by providing written notice to Company at least thirty (30) days prior to cancellation. The notice must specify the date on which service is to be discontinued.
- (C) The Customer cancels service before the Company completes installation of the Service and at the time of cancellation the Company has incurred any expense in installing services or preparing to install service that it would not otherwise have incurred, a charge equal to the cost the Company incurred will apply. In no case will this charge exceed the charge for the minimum period of service ordered, including installation charges and non-recurring charges and all amounts others may charge the Company that would have been chargeable to the Customer had service been initiated.
- (D) If the Customer cancels service after the Company has completed installation, the charge set forth in Section 2.16 (C) will apply to the extent the Company has not yet recovered the costs described in Section 2.16 (C). In addition, the minimum service period obligations will apply regardless of whether service has been initiated and the charges due.
- (E) In the case of a Customer-initiated modification of Service, charges for the subsequent order are in addition to the costs incurred before the Customer changed the original order.

2.16 Expiration of Term Plan Options

At the expiration of the initial term as specified in a Customer Specific Term Plan, or in any extension thereof, service shall continue on a month-to-month basis at the then current rates unless terminated by either party in accordance with the agreement terms. Any termination shall not relieve the Customer of its obligation to pay any charges incurred under the service order and this Local Exchange and Interexchange Tariff prior to termination. The rights and obligations which by their nature extend beyond the termination of the term plan shall survive such termination.

2.17 Excessive Short Duration Calls

If 15% or more of 1+ Long Distance and 8xx Toll Free domestic completed calls are equal to or less than 6 seconds in length, during any Billing Cycle, there will be an additional charge of \$0.01 per Short Duration Call, for the number of calls above 15%.



SECTION 3 - GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF SERVICES

3.1 General

3.1.1 Services Offered

The following Network Services are available to business Customers and for resale by other carriers certificated by the Louisiana Public Service Commission:

Business Phone Line  
Listing Services (including Non Published and Non-Listed Services)  
Directory Assistance  
Operator Services  
Additional Services as Defined in this Tariff such as PBX, Private Line,  
Point to Point and POTS Lines

3.1.2 Application of Rates and Charges

All services offered in this Local Exchange and Interexchange Tariff are subject to service order and change charges where the Customer requests new services or changes in existing services, as well as indicated Non-Recurring and Monthly Recurring Charges.

3.1.3 Emergency Services Calling Plan

Access (at no additional charge) to the local operator or emergency services bureau by dialing 0- or 9-1-1 is offered at no charge to the Customer.

Message toll telephone calls, to governmental emergency service agencies as set forth in (A) following, having primary or principal responsibility with respect to the provision of emergency services to persons and property in the area from which the call is made, meeting the definition and criteria of an emergency call as set forth in (B) following are offered at no charge to Customers:

- (A) Governmental fire fighting, Louisiana State Highway Patrol, police, and emergency squad service (as designated by the appropriate governmental agency) qualify as governmental emergency service agencies provided they answer emergency service calls on a personally attended (live) twenty-four (24) hour basis, three hundred sixty-five (365) days a year, including holidays.
- (B) An emergency is an occurrence or set of circumstances in which conditions pose immediate threat to human life, property, or both and necessitate that prompt action be taken. An emergency call is an originated call of short duration to a governmental emergency services agency in order to seek assistance for such an emergency.

SECTION 3 - GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF SERVICES, (CONT'D.)

3.2 Call Timing for Usage Sensitive Services

Where charges for a service are specified based on the duration of use, such as the duration of a telephone call, the following rules apply:

- 3.2.1 Calls are measured in durational increments identified for each service. All calls which are fractions of a measurement increment are rounded-up to the next whole unit.
- 3.2.2 Timing on completed calls begins when the call is answered by the called party. Answering is determined by hardware answer supervision in all cases where this signaling is provided by the terminating local carrier and any intermediate carrier(s).
- 3.2.3 Timing terminates on all calls when the calling party hangs up or the Company's network receives an off-hook signal from the terminating carrier.
- 3.2.4 Calls originating in one time period and terminating in another will be billed in proportion to the rates in effect during different segments of the call.
- 3.2.5 All times refer to local time.
- 3.2.6 There shall be no charges for uncompleted calls.

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Austin, TX 78701  
Colin Polacek, Chief Legal Officer

Effective Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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SECTION 3 - GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF SERVICES, (CONT'D.)

3.3 Distance Calculations

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

3.3.1 Distance between two points is measured as airline distance between the rate centers of the originating and terminating telephone lines. The rate center is a set of geographic coordinates, as referenced in Local Exchange Routing Guide issued by BellCore, 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). Where there is no telephone number associated with an access line on the Company's network (such as a dedicated 800 or WATS access line), the Company will apply the rate center of the Customer's main billing telephone number.

3.3.2 The airline distance between any two rate centers is determined as follows:

Step 1: Obtain the "V" (vertical) and "H" (horizontal) coordinates for each Rate Center referenced by TelCordia.

Step 2: Compute the difference between the "V" coordinates of the two rate centers; and the difference between the two "H" coordinates.

Step 3: Square each difference obtained in step (b) above.

Step 4: Add the square of the "V" difference and the square of the "H" difference obtained in step C) above.

Step 5: Divide the sum of the squares by 10. Round to the next higher whole number if any fraction is obtained.

Step 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.

3.3.3 The formula for distance calculations is:

Formula:

$$\sqrt{\frac{(V_1 - V_2)^2 + (H_1 - H_2)^2}{10}}$$

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SECTION 3 - GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF SERVICES, (CONT'D.)

3.4 Rate Periods for Time of Day Sensitive Services

3.4.1 For time of day, usage sensitive services, the following rate periods apply unless otherwise specified in this Tariff:

	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	SUN
8:00 AM TO 5:00 PM*	DAYTIME RATE PERIOD						
5:00 PM TO 11:00 PM*	EVENING RATE PERIOD					EVE	
11:00 PM TO 8:00 AM*	NIGHT/WEEKEND RATE PERIOD						

\* Up to but not including.

3.4.2 Calls are billed based on the rate in effect for the actual time period(s) during which the call occurs. Calls that cross rate period boundaries are billed the rates in effect in that boundary for each portion of the call, based on the time of day at the Customer location.

3.4.3 For services subject to holiday discounts, the following are Company recognized national holidays, determined at the location of the calling station. The evening rate is used on national holidays, unless a lower rate normally would apply.

New Year's Day	January 1
Memorial Day	As Federally Observed
Independence Day	July 4
Thanksgiving Day	As Federally Observed
Christmas Day	December 25

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SECTION 4 – INDIVIDUAL CASE BASIS & NONRECURRING CHARGES

4 Individual Case Basis Arrangements (“ICB”)

A determination that the Customer’s service requirements can only be satisfied by a Customer-Carrier arrangement for which it is difficult or impossible to establish general tariff provisions. ICB rates will be structured to recover the Company’s cost of providing service and will be made available to similarly situated customers in a non-discriminatory manner. Terms of the specific ICB contracts will be made available to the Commission staff upon staff’s written request to the Company.

Service Order and Change Charges

	Non-Recurring Business
Local Line New Installation, 1 <sup>st</sup> line	\$ICB
Local Line New Installation, additional lines	\$ICB
Line Change Charge, 1 <sup>st</sup> line (moves, transfers)	\$ICB
Line Change charge, additional lines	\$ICB
Feature Add or Change Charge	\$100.00
Dual service per line (same dial tone at 2 locations)	\$100.00
Directory Listing Change Charge	\$100.00
Busy Line Verification	ICB
Maintenance repair or replace, 1 <sup>st</sup> hour	\$500.00
Maintenance repair or replace, additional hour	\$300.00

4.1 Reconnection Charge

A Reconnection Charge of the highest allowed by law, will be assessed in accordance with the terms and conditions of this Local Exchange and Interexchange Tariff and pursuant to Louisiana law and Commission regulations.

4.2 One Time, Non Recurring Charges Further Specified

Additional one time, non recurring charges are found throughout the following (next) sections of this tariff and specified where, as and when appropriate relative to the product and/or service designation.

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SECTION 4 - NONRECURRING CHARGES, (CONT'D.)

4.3 Common Charges

4.3.1 Missed Appointment Fee

When customer is not present to receive installation or other work related to a service order that results in a premise visit.

Missed Appointment Fee:	<u>Nonrecurring Charge</u> \$500.00
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4.3.2 Rescheduled Appointment Charge, Per Telephone Number

If the Customer reschedules an appointment for number porting within 48 hours of the scheduled port date / time, a service charge will be applied.

Rescheduled Appointment Charge, Per Telephone Number	<u>Nonrecurring Charge</u> \$100.00
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4.4 Temporary Service Suspension Fee

Customers who are delinquent in billing, and service is suspended for non-payment.

Charge:	<u>Recurring Charge</u> ICB	<u>Nonrecurring Charge</u> ICB
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SECTION 5 – SERVICE DESCRIPTIONS

5.1 Standard Business Local Exchange Service

5.1.2 Description

Standard Business Local Exchange Service provides the Customer with a single, analog, voice-grade telephonic communications channel which can be used to place or receive one call at a time. Standard Business Local Exchange Service lines are provided for the connection of Customer-provided wiring, telephones, facsimile machines or other station equipment. An optional per line Hunting feature is available for multi-line Customers which routes a call to the next idle line in a prearranged group when the called line is busy.

Local exchange service lines and trunks are provided on a single party (individual) basis only. No multi-party lines are provided. Service is available on a flat rate, measured rate or message rate basis depending on the service plan selected by the Customer. Not all service plans will be available in all areas.

Recurring charges for Standard Business Local Exchange Service are billed monthly in advance. Usage charges, if applicable are billed in arrears. Usage charges may apply for calls placed from the Customer's line. No usage charges will apply to calls received by the Customer. Non-recurring charges for installation or rearrangement of service are billed on the next month's bill immediately following work performed by the Company.

SECTION 5 – SERVICE DESCRIPTIONS , (CONT'D.)

5.2 PBX Trunk Service

5.2.1 Description

PBX Trunk service provides a Customer with a single, voice-grade telephonic communications channel which can be used to place or receive one call at a time. Trunks are provided for connection of Customer-provided private branch exchanges (PBX) or other station equipment to the public switched telecommunications network.

PBX Trunks are available to Business Customers as Inward, Outward or Two-Way combination trunks where services and facilities permit.

Each PBX Trunk is provided with touch tone signaling at no additional charge. An optional per trunk Hunting feature is available for Customers which routes a call to the next idle trunk in a prearranged group (see Section 4.3.2(B)).

PBX Trunks may also be equipped with Direct Inward Dialing (DID) capability and DID number blocks for additional charges (see Section 4.3.4).



SECTION 5 – SERVICE DESCRIPTIONS , (CONT'D.)

5.3 Direct Inward Dialing (DID)Service

5.3.1 Description

Direct Inward Dialing (“DID”) permits calls incoming to a PBX system or other Customer Premises Equipment to be routed to a specific station without the assistance of an attendant. DID calls are routed directly to the station associated with the called number. DID service as offered by the Company provides the necessary trunks, telephone numbers, and out-pulsing of digits to enable DID service at a Customer’s location. DID service requires special PBX software and hardware not provided by the Company. Such hardware and software is the responsibility of the Customer.

The following charges apply to Customers subscribing to DID service provided by the Company. These charges are in addition to recurring and non-recurring charges for PBX Trunks. The Customer will be charged for the number of DID Number Blocks (20 numbers per block) or per individual DID based on agreement between Company and Customer.

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