
SECTION 8 – SPECIAL SERVICES AND PROGRAMS

8.1 UNIVERSAL EMERGENCY TELEPHONE NUMBER SERVICE

Universal Emergency Telephone Number Service (911 Service) is an arrangement of Company central office and trunking facilities whereby any telephone user who dials the number 911 will reach the emergency report center for the telephone from which the number is dialed or will be routed to an operator if all lines to an emergency report center are busy. If no emergency report center customer exists for a central office entity, a telephone user who dials the number 911 will be routed to an operator. The telephone user who dials the 911 number will not be charged for the call.

8.2 NEW YORK RELAY SERVICE

8.2.1 GENERAL

The Company will provide access to a telephone relay center for New York Relay Service. The service permits telephone communications between hearing and/or speech impaired individuals who must use a Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (TDD) or a Teletypewriter (TTY) and individuals with normal hearing and speech. The Relay Service can be reached by dialing an 800 number. Specific 800 numbers have been designated for both impaired and non-impaired customers to use.

8.2.2 REGULATIONS

Only intrastate calls can be completed using the New York Relay Service under the terms and conditions of this tariff.

Charges for calls placed through the Relay Service will be billed as if direct distance dialed (DDD) from the point of origination to the point of termination. The actual routing of the call does not affect billing.

Calls through the Relay Service may be billed to a third number only if that number is within New York State. Calls may also be billed to calling cards issued by the Company or other carriers who may choose to participate in this service.

The following calls may not be placed through the Relay Service:

- calls to informational recordings and group bridging service;
- calls to time or weather recorded messages;
- station sent paid calls from coin telephones; and
- operator-handled conference service and other teleconference calls.

ISSUED: September 21, 2006

EFFECTIVE: October 21, 2006

Issued by: David Lloyd, Director-Tariffs, 183 Inverness Dr. W, Englewood, CO 80112

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8.2 NEW YORK RELAY SERVICE (CONT'D)

8.2.3 LIABILITY

The Company contracts with an outside provider for the provision of this service. The outside provider has complete control over the provision of the service except for the facilities provided directly by the Company. In addition to other provisions of this Tariff dealing with liability, in the absence of gross negligence or willful misconduct on the part of the Company, the Company shall not be liable for and the customer, by using the service, agrees to release, defend and hold harmless for all damages, whether direct, incidental or consequential, whether suffered, made, instituted or asserted by the customer or by any other person, for any loss or destruction of any property, whatsoever whether covered by the customer or others, or for any personal injury to or death of, any person. Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary, in no event shall the Company be liable for any special, incidental, consequential, exemplary or punitive damages of any nature whatsoever

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ISSUED: September 21, 2006

EFFECTIVE: October 21, 2006

Issued by: David Lloyd, Director-Tariffs, 183 Inverness Dr. W, Englewood, CO 80112

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8.3 SCHOOLS AND LIBRARIES DISCOUNT PROGRAM

8.3.1 GENERAL

The Schools and Libraries Discount Program permits eligible schools (public and private, grades Kindergarten through 12) and libraries to purchase the Company services offered in this tariff and the (additional company tariff references, if appropriate) at a discounted rate, in accordance with the Rules adopted by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) in its Universal Service Order 97-157, issued May 8, 1997 and the New York State Public Service Commission in its Opinion and Order 97-11 Adopting Discounts for Services for Schools and Libraries, issued June 25, 1997. The Rules are codified at 47 Code of Federal Regulation (C.F.R.) 54.500 et. seq.

As indicated in the Rules, the discounts will be between 20 and 90 percent of the pre-discount price, which is the price of services to schools and libraries prior to application of a discount. The level of discount will be based on an eligible school or library's level of economic disadvantage and by its location in either an urban or rural area. A schools level of economic disadvantage will be determined by the percentage of its students eligible for participation in the national school lunch program, and a library's level of economic disadvantage will be calculated on the basis of school lunch eligibility in the public school district in which the library is located. A non-public school may use either eligibility for the national school lunch program or other federally approved alternative measures to determine its level of economic disadvantage. To be eligible for the discount, schools and libraries will be required to comply with the terms and conditions set forth in the Rules. Discounts are available only to the extent that they are funded by the federal universal service fund. Schools and libraries may aggregate demand with other eligible entities to create a consortium.

(C)

ISSUED: January 15, 2009

EFFECTIVE: February 15, 2009

Issued by: David Lloyd, Director-Tariffs, 183 Inverness Dr. W, Englewood, CO 80112

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8.3 SCHOOLS AND LIBRARIES DISCOUNT PROGRAM (CONT'D)

8.3.2 REGULATIONS

A. Obligation of eligible schools and libraries - Requests for service

- Schools and libraries and consortia shall participate in a competitive bidding process for all services eligible for discounts, in accordance with any state and local procurement rules.
- Schools and libraries and consortia shall submit requests for services to the Schools and Libraries Corporation, as designated by the FCC, and follow established procedures.
- Services requested will be used for educational purposes.
- Services will not be sold, resold or transferred in consideration for money or any other thing of value.

B. Obligations of the Company

- The Company will offer discounts to eligible schools and libraries on commercially available telecommunications services contained in this tariff. Those services contained in this tariff which are excluded from the discount program, in accordance with the Rules, are included as an attachment to this tariff.
- The Company will offer services to eligible schools, libraries and consortia at prices no higher than the lowest price it charges to similarly situated non-residential customers for similar services (lowest corresponding price).
- In competitive bidding situations, the Company may offer flexible pricing or rates other than in this tariff, where specific flexible pricing arrangements are allowed, subject to New York State Public Service Commission approval.

(C)

ISSUED: January 15, 2009

EFFECTIVE: February 15, 2009

Issued by: David Lloyd, Director-Tariffs, 183 Inverness Dr. W, Englewood, CO 80112

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8.4 HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS SUPPORT PROGRAM

8.4.1 GENERAL

The purpose of the Health Care Providers Support Program is to enable public and non-profit rural health care providers to have access to telecommunications services necessary for the provision of health care services at rates comparable to those paid for similar services in urban areas. The Health Care Providers Support Program offers eligible public and non-profit health care providers located in rural areas reduced rates for Company intrastate services, available in this Tariff. Such services must be purchased in accordance with the Rules adopted by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) in its Universal Service Order 97-157, issued May 8, 1997 and the New York State Public Service Commission in its Order in Cases 94-C-0095 and 28425, issued November 4, 1997. The FCC Rules are codified at 47 Code of Federal Regulation (C.F.R.) 54.601 et. seq., and any amendments made thereto.

8.4.2 REGULATIONS

To be eligible for the reduced rates, rural health care providers are required to comply with the terms and conditions set forth in the FCC Rules.

Reduced rates are available only to the extent that they are funded by the federal universal service fund.

Eligible rural health care providers may aggregate demand with other entities to create a consortium. Universal service support shall apply only to the portion of eligible services used by an eligible health care provider.

SECTION 8 – SPECIAL SERVICES AND PROGRAMS

8.4 HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS SUPPORT PROGRAM

8.4.2 REGULATIONS (CONT'D)

Responsibility of eligible health care providers:

- Rural health care providers and consortia shall participate in a competitive bidding process for all services eligible for reduced rates in accordance with any state and local procurement rules.
- Rural health care providers and consortia shall submit requests for services to the program Administrator, as designated by the FCC, and follow established procedures.
- Services requested must be used for purposes related to the provision of health care services or instruction that the health care provider is legally authorized to provide under the law.
- A health care provider that cannot obtain toll free access to an Internet Service Provider and who is eligible for support for limited toll-free access under the Rules must certify that it lacks toll-free Internet access and that it is an eligible health care provider.
- Services cannot be sold, resold or transferred in consideration for money or any other thing of value.

Responsibility of the Company

- The Company shall offer the rates and charges as specified in Section 3, to eligible health care providers to the extent that facilities and services are available and offered in the tariffs specified in 1. preceding.
- The Company shall offer services to eligible rural health care providers and consortia at prices no higher than the highest urban rate as defined in the FCC Order and Rules.
- In competitive bidding situations, where specific flexible pricing arrangements are allowed, the Company may offer flexible pricing (to determine the reduced rate) subject to New York State Public Service Commission approval.

ISSUED: September 21, 2006

EFFECTIVE: October 21, 2006

Issued by: David Lloyd, Director-Tariffs, 183 Inverness Dr. W, Englewood, CO 80112

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8.4 HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS SUPPORT PROGRAM

8.4.3 RATES AND CHARGES

The following price adjustments will be available to eligible rural health care providers, except subparagraph c., which shall be available to all eligible health care providers, regardless of location.

- A reduced rate for telecommunications services, using a bandwidth capacity of up to 1.544 Mbps, not to exceed the highest tariffed or publicly available rate charged to a commercial customer for a similar service provided over the same distance in the nearest city in New York State with a population of at least 50,000.
- An exemption from some mileage charges for any telecommunications services, using a bandwidth capacity of up to 1.544 Mbps, that is necessary for the provision of health care services. The exempted mileage includes the distance between the rural health care provider and the most distant perimeter of the nearest city in New York State with a population of 50,000 or more, less the standard urban distance, which is the maximum average diameter of all cities with population of 50,000 or more in the state.
- Each eligible health care provider that cannot obtain toll-free access to an Internet service provider is entitled to receive toll charge credits for toll charges imposed for connecting to an Internet service provider as per the FCC Rules. Such toll charge credits are available pursuant to applicable toll tariffs.

ISSUED: September 21, 2006

EFFECTIVE: October 21, 2006

Issued by: David Lloyd, Director-Tariffs, 183 Inverness Dr. W, Englewood, CO 80112

SECTION 8 – SPECIAL SERVICES AND PROGRAMS

**8.5 EMERGENCY/CRISIS/DISASTER RESTORATION AND PROVISIONING
TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICE PRIORITY**

8.5.1 GENERAL

The Telecommunications Service Priority (TSP) Program is a federal program used to identify and prioritize telecommunications services that support national security or emergency preparedness (NS/EP) missions.

NS/EP services are defined as those telecommunications services which are used to maintain a state of readiness or respond to and manage any event or crisis which causes or could cause injury or harm to the population, damage or loss to property, or degrades or threatens the NS/EP posture of the United States.

TSP restoration and/or provisioning shall be provided in accordance with Part 64, Appendix A of the Federal Communications Commission's Rules and Regulations (47 C.F.R.), and the "Service Vendor Handbook For The Telecommunications Service Priority (TSP) Program" and the "Service User Manual for the Telecommunications Service Priority (TSP) System" (NCS Manual 3-1-1) (Service User Manual) issued and updated as necessary by the Office of Priority Telecommunications (OPT) of the National Communications System. Any changes to or reissuance of these regulations or manuals supersede tariff language contained herein.

The TSP program has two components, restoration and provisioning.

- A restoration priority is applied to new or existing telecommunications services to ensure restoration before any other services during a service outage. TSP restoration priorities must be requested and assigned before a service outage occurs.
- A provisioning priority is obtained to facilitate priority installation of new telecommunications services during a service outage. Provisioning on a priority basis becomes necessary when an end-user has an urgent requirement for a new NS/EP service that must be installed immediately or by a specific due date that can be met only by a shorter than standard or expedited Company provisioning time frame. As a matter of general practice, existing TSP services will be restored before provisioning new TSP services.

ISSUED: September 21, 2006

EFFECTIVE: October 21, 2006

Issued by: David Lloyd, Director-Tariffs, 183 Inverness Dr. W, Englewood, CO 80112

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**8.5 EMERGENCY/CRISIS/DISASTER RESTORATION AND PROVISIONING
TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICE PRIORITY (CONT'D)**

8.5.2 TSP REQUEST PROCESS RESTORATION

To request a TSP restoration priority assignment, a prospective TSP user must:

- Determine that the users telecommunications service supports an NS/EP function under one of the following four TSP categories.
 - National Security Leadership
 - National Security Posture and U.S. Population Attack Warning
 - Public Health, Safety, and Maintenance of Law and Order
 - Public Welfare and Maintenance of National Economic Posture
- Identify the priority level to be requested for the telecommunications service. The priority level is determined by the end-user's TSP category and service profile. The service profile defines the user's level of support to the portion of the telecommunications service that the user owns and operates, such as customer premises equipment or wiring. The five levels of priority and seven element groups that define the service profile are contained in the Service User Manual.
- Complete the TSP Request for Service Users form (SF 315) available on the National Communications System (NCS) website (<http://tsp.ncs.gov/>).
- For non-federal users, have their TSP requests approved by a federal agency sponsor. Non-federal users should contact the OPT, at the NCS website (<http://tsp.ncs.gov/>), for information on identifying a sponsor for TSP requests.
- Submit the SF 315 to the OPT.
- Upon receipt of the TSP Authorization Code from the OPT, notify the Company, and include the TSP Authorization Code in any service order to the Company requesting restoration of NS/EP services.

ISSUED: September 21, 2006

EFFECTIVE: October 21, 2006

Issued by: David Lloyd, Director-Tariffs, 183 Inverness Dr. W, Englewood, CO 80112

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**8.5 EMERGENCY/CRISIS/DISASTER RESTORATION AND PROVISIONING
TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICE PRIORITY (CONT'D)**

8.5.3 TSP REQUEST PROCESS PROVISIONING

To request a TSP provisioning priority assignment, a prospective TSP user must follow the same steps listed in 8.5.2 above for restoration priority assignment except for the following differences. The user should:

- Certify that its telecommunications service is an Emergency service. Emergency services are those that support one of the NS/EP functions listed in 8.5.1 above and are so critical that they must be provisioned at the earliest possible time, without regard to cost to the user.
- Verify that the Company cannot meet the service due date without a TSP assignment.
- Obtain approval from the end-user's invocation official to request a provisioning priority. Invocation officials are designated individuals with the authority to request TSP provisioning for a telecommunications service, and include the head or director of a federal agency, commander of a unified/specified military command, chief of a military service, commander of a major military command, or state governor.

ISSUED: September 21, 2006

EFFECTIVE: October 21, 2006

Issued by: David Lloyd, Director-Tariffs, 183 Inverness Dr. W, Englewood, CO 80112

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**8.5 EMERGENCY/CRISIS/DISASTER RESTORATION AND PROVISIONING
TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICE PRIORITY (CONT'D)**

8.5.4 RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE END-USER

End-users or entities acting on their behalf must perform the following:

- Identify telecommunications services requiring priority.
- Request, justify, and revalidate all priority level assignments. Revalidation must be completed every 2 years, and must be done before expiration of the end-user's TSP Authorization Code(s).
- Accept TSP services by the service due dates.
- Have Customer Premises Equipment (CPE) and Customer Premises Wiring (CPW) available by the requested service due date and ensure (through contractual means or otherwise) priority treatment for CPE and CPW necessary for end-to-end service continuity.
- Pay the Company any authorized costs associated with priority services.
- Report to the Company any failed or unusable services with priority levels.
- Designate a 24-hour point of contact for each TSP request and apprise the OPT.
- Cooperate with the OPT during reconciliation (comparison of NS/EP service information and resolution of any identified discrepancies) and revalidation.

ISSUED: September 21, 2006

EFFECTIVE: October 21, 2006

Issued by: David Lloyd, Director-Tariffs, 183 Inverness Dr. W, Englewood, CO 80112

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**8.5 EMERGENCY/CRISIS/DISASTER RESTORATION AND PROVISIONING
TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICE PRIORITY (CONT'D)**

8.5.5 RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE COMPANY

The Company will perform the following:

- Provide TSP service only after receipt of a TSP authorization code.
- Revoke TSP services at the direction of the end-user or OPT.
- Ensure that TSP Program priorities supersede any other telecommunications priority that may be provided (other than control services and order wires).
- Designate a 24-hour point of contact to receive reports of TSP service outages from TSP service users.
- Designate a 24-hour point of contact to coordinate TSP processes with the OPT.
- Confirm completion of TSP service order activity to the OPT.
- Participate in reconciliation of TSP information at the request of the OPT.
- Ensure that all subcontractors complete reconciliation of TSP information with the service vendor.
- Ensure that other carriers supplying underlying facilities are provided information necessary to implement priority treatment of facilities that support NS/EP services.
- Assist in ensuring that priority level assignments of NS/EP services are accurately identified "end-to-end" by providing to subcontractors and interconnecting carriers the restoration priority level assigned to a service.
- Disclose content of the NS/EP TSP database only as may be required by law.
- Comply with regulations and procedures supplemental to and consistent with guidelines issued by the OPT.

ISSUED: September 21, 2006

EFFECTIVE: October 21, 2006

Issued by: David Lloyd, Director-Tariffs, 183 Inverness Dr. W, Englewood, CO 80112

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**8.5 EMERGENCY/CRISIS/DISASTER RESTORATION AND PROVISIONING
TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICE PRIORITY (CONT'D)**

8.5.6 PREEMPTION

When spare facilities are not available, it may be necessary for the Company to preempt the facilities required to provision or restore a TSP service. When preemption is necessary, non-TSP services may be preempted based on the Company's best judgment. If no suitable spare or non-TSP services are available, the Company may preempt an existing TSP service to restore a TSP service with a higher restoration priority assignment. When preemption is necessary, prior consent of the service user whose service will be preempted is not required; however, the Company will make every reasonable effort to notify the preempted customer of the action to be taken.

ISSUED: September 21, 2006

EFFECTIVE: October 21, 2006

Issued by: David Lloyd, Director-Tariffs, 183 Inverness Dr. W, Englewood, CO 80112

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SCHOOLS AND LIBRARIES ATTACHMENT

A.. SERVICES INELIGIBLE FOR SCHOOLS AND LIBRARIES DISCOUNT

1. Voice Mail Services

B. SCHOOLS AND LIBRARIES DISCOUNT MATRIX

HOW DISADVANTAGED	% DISCOUNT LEVEL	
	URBAN DISCOUNT	RURAL DISCOUNT
% of students eligible for national school lunch program		
<1	20	25
1-19	40	50
20-34	50	60
35-49	60	70
50-74	80	80
75-100	90	90

(C)

ISSUED: January 15, 2009

EFFECTIVE: February 15, 2009

Issued by: David Lloyd, Director-Tariffs, 183 Inverness Dr. W, Englewood, CO 80112