Section 2 – Regulations

A. General

- 1. The regulations in Section 2 apply to all services contained within these Service Agreements unless otherwise noted.
- 2. Revisions to this Service Agreement which affect neither the service to subscribers (customers) nor the rate, classification, or charge to subscribers (customers) are authorized without further Order of the Commission. These revisions will be made in accordance with the Order granting such authority.

Such revisions include:

- a. Additions, deletions, corrections or rearrangements of items listed under Table of Contents, Index, Explanation of Symbols, and Explanation of Abbreviations;
- b. Rearrangements or corrections in paragraph references, headings, or numerical designations; and
- c. Changes to reflect revisions in names of other companies and in the names of exchanges of other companies approved by this Commission in connection with applications filed by other telephone companies.
- 3. A move to a different continuous property is charged for as new installation of service. A new initial period applies at the new location and a termination charge applies at the old location, except as provided for elsewhere in this Service Agreement, if the move occurs prior to the expiration of the initial service period.
- B. Obligations and Liability of the Company
 - 1. Availability of Facilities

The Company's obligation to furnish service or to continue to furnish service is dependent on its ability to obtain, retain, and maintain without unreasonable expense suitable rights and facilities, and to provide for the installation of those facilities required incident to the furnishing and maintenance of that service.

2. Service Irregularities and Interruptions

The services and facilities furnished by the Company are subject to the terms, conditions, and limitations herein specified.

No credit allowance will be made for interruptions due to electric power failure, where by the provisions of this Service Agreement, the customer is responsible for providing electric power.

The liability of the Company for damages arising out of mistakes, omissions, interruptions, delays or errors, or defects in transmission occurring in the course of furnishing service or facilities, and not caused by the negligence of the customer, or of the Company in failing to maintain proper standards of maintenance and operation and to exercise reasonable supervision, will in no event exceed an amount equivalent to the proportionate charge to the customer for the period of service during which the mistake, omission, interruption, delay or error, or defect in transmission occurs.

Section 2 – Regulations

The customer indemnifies and saves the Company harmless against claims for libel, slander, or infringement of copyright arising from the material transmitted over its facilities; against claims for infringement of patents arising from combining with, or using in connection with, facilities of the Company, apparatus and systems of the customer; and against all other claims arising out of any act or omission of the customer in connection with the facilities provided by the Company; and against any and all losses from damage to the customer's facilities or equipment attached or connected to facilities furnished by the Company.

3. Transmitting Messages

The Company does not undertake to transmit messages but offers the use of its facilities for communications between its customers.

4. Use of Connecting Company Lines

When the lines of other companies are used in establishing connections to points not reached by the Company's lines, the Company is not liable for any act or omission of the other company or companies.

5. Defacement of Premises

The Company is not liable for any defacement or damage to the customer's premises resulting from the existence of the Company's equipment and associated wiring on such premises, or from the installation or removal thereof, when such defacement or damage is not the result of the Company's negligence.

When the customer is a tenant and requests an installation that could, in the opinion of the Company, result in damage to the property of the owner, the customer must obtain, prior to installation, a written release from the owner or his authorized agent absolving the Company of liability.

Section 2 – Regulations

C. Use of Services and Facilities

- 1. Ownership and Use of Service and Equipment
 - a. General

Equipment and lines furnished by the Company on the premises of a customer are the property of the Company, whose agents and employees have the right to enter the premises at any reasonable hour for the purpose of installing, inspecting, maintaining, or repairing the equipment and lines, or upon termination of the service, for the purpose of removing the equipment or lines.

Equipment furnished by the Company must, upon termination of service for any cause whatsoever, be returned to it in good condition, except for reasonable wear and tear.

Customer-provided equipment or protective circuitry may be connected to the telecommunications network in accordance with provisions of the Federal Communications Commission's registration program, as are now in effect or may become effective.

b. Resale

All services in this Service Agreement are available for resale by PUCO certified Competitive Local Exchange Carriers (CLECs) on a non-discriminatory basis at the rates and charges shown in this Service Agreement, unless otherwise noted in this Service Agreement.

- 2. Connections of Customer-Provided Terminal Equipment and Communications Systems
 - a. General Provisions
 - 1. General

Customer-provided terminal equipment and communications systems may be connected at the customer's premises to telecommunications services furnished by the Company, where the connections are made in accordance with the provisions of Part 68 of the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC's) Rules and Regulations, and any Company tariffs and Service Agreements.

2. Responsibility of the Customer

The customer is responsible for the installation, operation and maintenance of any customerprovided terminal equipment or communications system. No customer-provided terminal equipment or communications systems or combinations thereof may require change in or alteration of the equipment or services of the Company, cause electrical hazards to Company personnel, damage to Company equipment, malfunction of Company billing equipment, or degradation of service to persons other than the user of the subject terminal equipment or communications system, the calling or called party. Upon notice from the Company that customer-provided terminal equipment or communications system is causing such a hazard, damage, malfunction or degradation of service, the customer must make whatever changes are necessary to remove or prevent the hazard, damage, malfunction or degradation of service.

The customer is responsible for the payment of a Maintenance of Service Charge as provided in this Service Agreement for visits by a Company employee to the customer's premises when a service difficulty or trouble report results from the use of customer-provided terminal equipment or communications system.

Section 2 – Regulations

3. Responsibility of The Company

Telecommunications services are not represented as adapted to the use of customer-provided terminal equipment or communications systems. Where customer-provided terminal equipment or communications systems are used with telecommunications services, the responsibility of the Company is limited to furnishing service components suitable for telecommunications services and to the maintenance and operation of service components in a proper manner for those services. Subject to this responsibility, the Company is not responsible for (1) the through-transmission of signals generated by the customer-provided terminal equipment or communications systems, or for the quality of, or defects in this transmission; or (2) the reception of signals by customer-provided terminal equipment.

At the customer's request, the Company will provide the interface parameters needed to permit customer-provided terminal equipment to operate properly with the Company's telecommunications services.

The Company may make changes in its telecommunications services, equipment, operations or procedures, where these changes are consistent with Part 68 of the FCC's Rules and Regulations. If changes made by the Company can be reasonably expected to render any customer's communications system or terminal equipment incompatible with telecommunications services, or require modification or alteration of the customer-provided communications systems or terminal equipment, or otherwise materially affect its use or performance, the customer will be given adequate notice of the changes in writing, to allow the customer an opportunity to maintain uninterrupted service.

4. Recording of Two-Way Telephone Conversations

The recording of two-way telephone conversations is governed by state and federal laws and regulations.

5. Violation of Regulations

When any customer-provided terminal equipment or communications system is used with telecommunications services in violation of any of the provisions in this Section 2, part C.2, the Company will take whatever immediate action is necessary for the protection of the telecommunications network and Company employees, and will promptly notify the customer of the violation.

The customer must discontinue use of the terminal equipment or communications system or correct the violation and must confirm in writing to the Company within 10 days, following the receipt of written notice from the Company, that such use has ceased or that the violation has been corrected. Failure of the customer to discontinue such use or to correct the violation and to give the required written confirmation to the Company within the time stated above will result in suspension of the customer's service until the customer complies with the provisions of this Service Agreement.

Section 2 – Regulations

b. Connections of Registered Equipment

The term "Registered Equipment" denotes equipment which complies with and has been approved within the registration provisions of FCC Part 68.

Customer-provided registered terminal equipment, registered protective circuitry, and registered communications systems may be directly connected to the telecommunications network at the customer premises, subject to FCC Part 68.

c. Premises Wiring Associated With Registered Communications Systems

Premises wiring is wiring which connects separately-housed equipment entities or system components to one another, or wiring which connects an equipment entity or system component with the telephone network interface or demarcation point not within an equipment housing. All premises wiring, whether fully protected or unprotected, must be installed in compliance with FCC Part 68.

Customers who intend to connect premises wiring other than fully protected to the telephone network must give advance notice to the Company in accordance with the procedures specified in FCC Part 68 or as otherwise authorized by the FCC.

- D. Establishment and Furnishing of Service
 - 1. Application for Service

The Company may refuse an application for service if objection is made by or on behalf of any governmental authority to furnishing the service.

An application for service becomes a contract upon the establishment of service. Neither the contract nor any rights acquired under it may be assigned or transferred in any manner except as specifically provided for in this Service Agreement. Requests for additional service, when established, become a part of the original contract, except that each item of additional service is furnished subject to payment of applicable charges.

If an applicant has an outstanding account with the Company, the Company reserves the right to reject application for service until the amount due for local services included in this Service Agreement has been paid in full. A contract for service may be transferred to another individual, partnership, association, or corporation. No billing adjustment for local exchange service previously furnished will be made and the new customer must assume all outstanding indebtedness of the original customer. No charge applies to service transferred in accordance with these provisions.

Section 2 – Regulations

2. Telephone Numbers

The customer has no property right in the telephone number which is assigned by the Company, or any right to continuance of service through any particular central office, and the Company reserves the right to change the telephone number or the central office designation, or both, of a customer whenever it deems it necessary to do so in the conduct of its business.

- 3. Payment for Service
 - a. The customer is responsible for payment; monthly, or on demand, of all charges for facilities and services furnished the customer, including charges for services originated, or charges accepted, at such facilities. Charges are payable at the Telephone Company's Business offices or at any agency authorized to receive such payments.
 - b. Bills are rendered monthly and include charges for local service for the current service month.
 - c. Prior written notice will be given if service is to be temporarily denied or the contract terminated for the non-payment of any sum due in accordance with Paragraph D.5. following. Service will not be denied prior to five days from the date contained on said notice.
 - d. All service, provided to the same customer as one business service, regardless of the tariff under which the service is provided, is considered one service for payment purposes. All service may be disconnected for non-payment even though payment is current for service provided under one or more tariffs.
 - e. Where the Company provides billing inquiry service, customer inquiries relative to toll charges will be responded to promptly by the Company.
 - f. Where the inquiry service is provided by an IXC or its designated agent, the IXC or agent will be responsible for notifying the Company immediately regarding any bona fide dispute over outstanding toll charges, so that service will not be terminated during the investigation of the dispute.
 - g. A subscriber who orders service or equipment installations, moves, or changes prior to the date of any increase in the one-time charge applicable to such work will be subject to the one-time charge in effect at the time the subscriber's order was received by the Company, provided the work is completed within the Company's normal installation interval in effect at the time the order was placed. However, if subsequent to the effective date of the increase in the one-time charge, the completion of such work is delayed beyond the Company's normal installation interval and the delay is not caused by the Company, the subscriber will then be subject to the one-time charge in effect at the time the work is completed by the Company.

Section 2 – Regulations

i. Insufficient Fund Checks

Customers will be charged \$30.00 on all checks issued to the Company which are returned due to insufficient funds. At the discretion of the Company, the insufficient funds check charge may be waived under appropriate circumstances (e.g. a bank error).

j. Late Payment Charge

Customers will be charged a late payment penalty in the amount of 2.0% per month on all delinquent amounts owed to the Company.

- 5. Denials or Disconnection and Restoral of Service
 - a. Upon five (5) days written notice, the Company may discontinue service or cancel an application for service without incurring any liability for any of the following reasons:
 - 1. Non-payment of any sum due to the Company for service for more than thirty days beyond the date of rendition of the bill for such service;
 - 2. Violation of any regulation governing the service under this tariff;
 - 3. Violation of any law, rule, or regulation of an government authority having jurisdiction over the service; or
 - 4. The Company is prohibited from furnishing services by order of a court or other government authority having jurisdiction.
 - 5. Customer uses equipment in such a manner as to adversely affect the Company's equipment or service to others.
 - b. The Company reserves the right to discontinue or refuse service because of abuse or fraudulent use of service. Abuse or fraudulent use of service includes the use of service or facilities of the Company to transmit a message or to locate a person or otherwise to give or obtain information without payment of appropriate charges, or violation of any law or regulation pertaining to telecommunications service.
 - c. Service may not be refused, denied or disconnected for any of the following reasons:
 - 1. Delinquency in payment for service by a previous occupant at the premises to be served;
 - 2. Failure to pay any amount which, according to established payment dispute and resolution procedures, is in bona fide dispute;
 - 3. Failure to pay directory advertising charges or any other non-regulated service charges including 900/700 or any "dial-it"-like service charges.

Section 2 – Regulations

6. Special Equipment and Arrangements

Special equipment and arrangements requested by customers and not otherwise provided for in this Service Agreement may be furnished where possible, if not detrimental to any of the services furnished by the Company, at charges that are in addition to other applicable charges.

7. Overtime

For work performed outside the normal working hours of the Company at the request of the customer, the additional expense incurred by the Company is charged to the customer in addition to other charges which are applicable. In such cases, charges based on the cost of labor, materials, and other costs incurred by or charged to the Company will apply. The customer will be notified in advance if such charges may apply.

8. Non-Routine Installation and/or Maintenance

At the customer's request, installation and/or maintenance may be performed outside the Company's regular business hours, or (in the Company's sole discretion and subject to any conditions it may impose) in hazardous locations. In such cases, charges based on the cost of labor, materials, and 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. The customer will be notified in advance if such charges may apply.

9. Identity of Customer-Announcement Facilities

Use of Company facilities for public announcement service or non-public announcement service is subject to the following conditions:

- a. For purposes of identification, exchange service customers who transmit recorded announcements over facilities provided by the Company must include in the recorded message the name of the organization or individual responsible for the service and the address at which the service is provided.
- b. Customers transmitting factual announcements such as time, weather, stock market quotations, airline schedules, and similar information are excluded from the preceding conditions.
- c. Failure to comply with the provisions of this Service Agreement will be cause for termination of the service.
- d. The Company will reveal on request, to the extent the information is available from its records, the identity of the individual responsible for service with which announcement facilities have been associated.
- 10. Service Area

Service will be provided throughout the Commonwealth in the same service areas of any local exchange carriers with whom the Company has a resale agreement in effect. Services are provided subject to technical availability and compatibility with Customer facilities.

Section 2 – Regulations