

**INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT UNDER SECTIONS 251 AND 252 OF THE  
TELECOMMUNICATIONS ACT OF 1996**

**ILLINOIS BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY d/b/a AT&T ILLINOIS,  
INDIANA BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY INCORPORATED d/b/a AT&T INDIANA,  
MICHIGAN BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY d/b/a AT&T MICHIGAN,  
NEVADA BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY d/b/a AT&T NEVADA,  
THE OHIO BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY d/b/a AT&T OHIO,  
PACIFIC BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY d/b/a AT&T CALIFORNIA,  
THE SOUTHERN NEW ENGLAND TELEPHONE COMPANY d/b/a AT&T CONNECTICUT,  
SOUTHWESTERN BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY d/b/a AT&T ARKANSAS, AT&T  
KANSAS, AT&T MISSOURI, AT&T OKLAHOMA AND/OR AT&T TEXAS  
AND/OR WISCONSIN BELL, INC. d/b/a AT&T WISCONSIN**

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**SUBJECT**

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**INTERCONNECTION AND/OR RESALE AGREEMENT UNDER  
SECTIONS 251 AND 252 OF THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS ACT OF  
1996**

**between one or more of**

**Illinois Bell Telephone Company d/b/a AT&T Illinois,  
Indiana Bell Telephone Company Incorporated d/b/a AT&T  
Indiana,**

**Michigan Bell Telephone Company d/b/a AT&T Michigan,  
Nevada Bell Telephone Company d/b/a AT&T Nevada,  
The Ohio Bell Telephone Company d/b/a AT&T Ohio,  
Pacific Bell Telephone Company d/b/a AT&T California,  
The Southern New England Telephone Company d/b/a AT&T  
Connecticut,**

**Southwestern Bell Telephone Company d/b/a AT&T Arkansas,  
AT&T Kansas, AT&T Missouri, AT&T Oklahoma and/or AT&T  
Texas,**

**Wisconsin Bell, Inc. d/b/a AT&T Wisconsin**

**and**

**Syniverse Technologies, Inc.**

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## INTERCONNECTION AND/OR RESALE AGREEMENT UNDER SECTIONS 251 AND 252 OF THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS ACT OF 1996

This Interconnection and/or Resale Agreement under Sections 251 and 252 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 (the Agreement), by and between one or more of the AT&T Inc. owned ILEC Illinois Bell Telephone Company d/b/a AT&T Illinois, Indiana Bell Telephone Company Incorporated d/b/a AT&T Indiana, Michigan Bell Telephone Company d/b/a AT&T Michigan, Nevada Bell Telephone Company d/b/a AT&T Nevada, The Ohio Bell Telephone Company d/b/a AT&T Ohio, Pacific Bell Telephone Company d/b/a AT&T California, The Southern New England Telephone Company d/b/a AT&T Connecticut, Southwestern Bell Telephone Company d/b/a AT&T Arkansas, AT&T Kansas, AT&T Missouri, AT&T Oklahoma and AT&T Texas, and Wisconsin Bell, Inc. d/b/a AT&T Wisconsin, (only to the extent that the agent for each such AT&T-owned ILEC executes this Agreement for such AT&T-owned ILEC and only to the extent that such AT&T-owned ILEC provides Telephone Exchange Services as an ILEC in each of the state(s) listed below) and Syniverse Technologies, Inc. ("CLEC"), (a Delaware corporation), shall apply to the state(s) of Arkansas, California, Connecticut, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Michigan, Missouri, Nevada, Ohio, Oklahoma, Texas, and Wisconsin.

**WHEREAS**, CLEC represents that it is, or intends to become, a provider of Telephone Exchange Service to residential and business End Users offered exclusively over its own Telephone Exchange Service facilities or predominantly over its own Telephone Exchange Service facilities in combination with the use of Lawful unbundled network elements purchased from other entity(ies) and the resale of Telecommunications Services of other carriers.

**WHEREAS**, the Parties want to Interconnect their networks at mutually agreed upon points of interconnection to provide Telephone Exchange Services and Exchange Access to residential and business End Users over their respective Telephone Exchange Service facilities in the state or states which are subject to this Agreement; and

**WHEREAS**, the Parties are entering into this Agreement to set forth the respective obligations of the Parties and the terms and conditions under which the Parties will Interconnect their networks and facilities and provide to each other services as required by the Telecommunications Act of 1996 as specifically set forth herein; and

**WHEREAS**, for purposes of this Agreement, CLEC intends to operate where one or more of Illinois Bell Telephone Company d/b/a AT&T Illinois, Indiana Bell Telephone Company Incorporated d/b/a AT&T Indiana, Michigan Bell Telephone Company d/b/a AT&T Michigan, Nevada Bell Telephone Company d/b/a AT&T Nevada, The Ohio Bell Telephone Company d/b/a AT&T Ohio, Pacific Bell Telephone Company d/b/a AT&T California, The Southern New England Telephone Company d/b/a AT&T Connecticut, Southwestern Bell Telephone Company d/b/a AT&T Arkansas, AT&T Kansas, AT&T Missouri, AT&T Oklahoma and AT&T Texas, and Wisconsin Bell, Inc. d/b/a AT&T Wisconsin is the incumbent Local Exchange Carrier(s) and CLEC, a competitive Local Exchange Carrier, has or, prior to the provisioning of any Interconnection, access to Lawful unbundled network elements, Telecommunications Services or any other functions, facilities, products or services hereunder, will have been granted authority to provide certain local Telephone Exchange Services in the foregoing ILEC Service areas by the appropriate State Commission(s);

**NOW, THEREFORE**, the Parties hereby agree as follows:

This Agreement is composed of General Terms and Conditions, which are set forth below, together with certain Appendices, Attachments, Schedules, Exhibits and Addenda which immediately follow this Agreement, all of which are hereby incorporated in this Agreement by this reference and constitute a part of this Agreement.

## GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

### 1. DEFINITIONS

Capitalized Terms used in this Agreement shall have the respective meanings specified below, in Section 1 of each Appendix attached hereto, and/or as defined elsewhere in this Agreement.

#### 1.1 General Definitions

- 1.1.1 **"Act"** means the Communications Act of 1934 [47 U.S.C. 153], as amended by the Telecommunications Act of 1996, Public Law 104-104, 110 Stat. 56 (1996) codified throughout 47 U.S.C.
- 1.1.2 **"Access Compensation"** is the compensation paid by one Party to the other Party for the origination/termination of intraLATA toll calls to/from its End User. Access compensation is in accordance with the LEC's tariffed access rates.
- 1.1.3 **"Access Service Request" (ASR)** is an industry standard form used by the Parties to add, establish, change or disconnect trunks for the purposes of Interconnection.
- 1.1.4 **"Accessible Letters"** are correspondence used to communicate pertinent information regarding AT&T-13STATE to the client/End User community.
- 1.1.5 **"Advanced Services"** means intrastate or interstate wireline Telecommunications Services, such as ADSL, IDSL, xDSL, Frame Relay, Cell Relay and VPOP-Dial Access Service (an AT&T-13STATE Frame Relay-based service) that rely on packetized technology and have the capability of supporting transmissions speeds of at least 56 kilobits per second in both directions. This definition of Advanced Services does not include:
  - 1.1.5.1 Data services that are not primarily based on packetized technology, such as ISDN,
  - 1.1.5.2 x.25-based and x.75-based packet technologies, or
  - 1.1.5.3 Circuit switched services (such as circuit switched voice grade service) regardless of the technology, protocols or speeds used for the transmission of such services.
- 1.1.6 **"Affiliate"** is As Defined in the Act.
- 1.1.7 **"Alternate Billing Service" (ABS)** or **"Alternately Billed Traffic" (ABT)** means a service that allows End Users to bill calls to accounts that may not be associated with the originating line. There are three types of ABS calls: calling card, collect and third number billed calls.
- 1.1.8 **"Applicable Law"** means all laws, statutes, common law, regulations, ordinances, codes, rules, guidelines, orders, permits, tariffs and approvals, including those relating to the environment or health and safety, of any Governmental Authority that apply to the Parties or the subject matter of this Agreement.
- 1.1.9 **"As Defined in the Act"** means as specifically defined by the Act.
- 1.1.10 **"As Described in the Act"** means as described in or required by the Act.
- 1.1.11 **"AT&T Inc." (AT&T)** means the holding company which directly or indirectly owns the following ILECs: Illinois Bell Telephone Company d/b/a AT&T Illinois, Indiana Bell Telephone Company Incorporated d/b/a AT&T Indiana, Michigan Bell Telephone Company d/b/a AT&T Michigan, Nevada Bell Telephone Company d/b/a AT&T Nevada, The Ohio Bell Telephone Company d/b/a AT&T Ohio, Pacific Bell Telephone Company d/b/a AT&T California, The Southern New England Telephone Company d/b/a AT&T Connecticut, Southwestern Bell Telephone Company d/b/a AT&T Arkansas, AT&T Kansas, AT&T Missouri, AT&T Oklahoma and/or AT&T Texas, and/or Wisconsin Bell, Inc. d/b/a AT&T Wisconsin.



- 1.1.12 "AT&T-2STATE" - As used herein, AT&T-2STATE means AT&T CALIFORNIA and AT&T NEVADA (and previously referred to as "SBC-2STATE"), the applicable AT&T-owned ILEC(s) doing business in California and Nevada.
- 1.1.13 "AT&T-4STATE" - As used herein, AT&T-4STATE means Southwestern Bell Telephone Company d/b/a AT&T Arkansas, AT&T Kansas, AT&T Missouri, and AT&T Oklahoma (and previously referred to as "SBC-4STATE"), the applicable AT&T-owned ILEC(s) doing business in Arkansas, Kansas, Missouri and Oklahoma.
- 1.1.14 "AT&T-7STATE" - As used herein, AT&T-7STATE means AT&T SOUTHWEST REGION 5-STATE, AT&T CALIFORNIA and AT&T NEVADA (and previously referred to as "SBC-7STATE"), the applicable AT&T-owned ILEC(s) doing business in Arkansas, California, Kansas, Missouri, Nevada, Oklahoma and Texas.
- 1.1.15 "AT&T-8STATE" - As used herein, AT&T-8STATE means AT&T SOUTHWEST REGION 5-STATE, AT&T CALIFORNIA, AT&T NEVADA, and AT&T CONNECTICUT (and previously referred to as "SBC-8STATE"), the applicable AT&T-owned ILEC(s) doing business in Arkansas, California, Connecticut, Kansas, Missouri, Nevada, Oklahoma and Texas.
- 1.1.16 "AT&T-10STATE" - As used herein, AT&T-10STATE means AT&T SOUTHWEST REGION 5-STATE and AT&T MIDWEST REGION 5-STATE (and previously referred to as "SBC-10STATE"), the applicable AT&T-owned ILEC(s) doing business in Arkansas, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Michigan, Missouri, Ohio, Oklahoma, Texas and Wisconsin.
- 1.1.17 "AT&T-12STATE" - As used herein, AT&T-12STATE means AT&T SOUTHWEST REGION 5-STATE, AT&T MIDWEST REGION 5-STATE and AT&T-2STATE (and previously referred to as "SBC-12STATE"), the applicable AT&T-owned ILEC(s) doing business in Arkansas, California, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Michigan, Missouri, Nevada, Ohio, Oklahoma, Texas and Wisconsin.
- 1.1.18 "AT&T-13STATE" - As used herein, AT&T-13STATE means AT&T SOUTHWEST REGION 5-STATE, AT&T MIDWEST REGION 5-STATE, AT&T-2STATE and AT&T CONNECTICUT (and previously referred to as "SBC-13STATE"), the applicable AT&T-owned ILEC(s) doing business in Arkansas, California, Connecticut, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Michigan, Missouri, Nevada, Ohio, Oklahoma, Texas and Wisconsin.
- 1.1.19 "AT&T ARKANSAS" - As used herein, AT&T ARKANSAS means Southwestern Bell Telephone Company d/b/a AT&T Arkansas (and previously referred to as "SBC Arkansas"), the applicable AT&T-owned ILEC doing business in Arkansas.
- 1.1.20 "AT&T CALIFORNIA" - As used herein, AT&T CALIFORNIA means Pacific Bell Telephone Company d/b/a AT&T California (and previously referred to as "SBC California"), the applicable AT&T-owned ILEC doing business in California.
- 1.1.21 "AT&T CONNECTICUT" - As used herein, AT&T CONNECTICUT means The Southern New England Telephone Company d/b/a AT&T Connecticut (and previously referred to as "SBC Connecticut"), the applicable above listed ILEC doing business in Connecticut.
- 1.1.22 "AT&T KANSAS" - As used herein, AT&T KANSAS means Southwestern Bell Telephone Company d/b/a AT&T Kansas (and previously referred to as "SBC Kansas"), the applicable AT&T-owned ILEC doing business in Kansas.
- 1.1.23 "AT&T ILLINOIS" - As used herein, AT&T ILLINOIS means Illinois Bell Telephone Company d/b/a AT&T Illinois (and previously referred to as "SBC Illinois"), the applicable AT&T-owned ILEC doing business in Illinois.
- 1.1.24 "AT&T INDIANA" - As used herein, AT&T INDIANA means Indiana Bell Telephone Company, Incorporated d/b/a AT&T Indiana (and previously referred to as "SBC Indiana"), the applicable AT&T-owned ILEC doing business in Indiana.

- 1.1.25 **"AT&T MICHIGAN"** - As used herein, **AT&T MICHIGAN** means Michigan Bell Telephone Company d/b/a AT&T Michigan (and previously referred to as "SBC Michigan"), the applicable AT&T-owned ILEC doing business in Michigan.
- 1.1.26 **"AT&T MIDWEST REGION 5-STATE"** - As used herein, **AT&T MIDWEST REGION 5-STATE** means Illinois Bell Telephone Company d/b/a AT&T Illinois, Indiana Bell Telephone Company Incorporated d/b/a AT&T Indiana, Michigan Bell Telephone Company d/b/a AT&T Michigan, The Ohio Bell Telephone Company d/b/a AT&T Ohio, and/or Wisconsin Bell, Inc. d/b/a AT&T Wisconsin (and previously referred to as "SBC MIDWEST REGION 5-STATE"), the applicable AT&T-owned ILEC(s) doing business in Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio and Wisconsin.
- 1.1.27 **"AT&T MISSOURI"** - As used herein, **AT&T MISSOURI** means Southwestern Bell Telephone Company d/b/a AT&T Missouri (and previously referred to as "SBC Missouri"), the applicable AT&T-owned ILEC doing business in Missouri.
- 1.1.28 **"AT&T NEVADA"** - As used herein, **AT&T NEVADA** means Nevada Bell Telephone Company d/b/a AT&T Nevada (and previously referred to as "SBC Nevada"), the applicable AT&T-owned ILEC doing business in Nevada.
- 1.1.29 **"AT&T OHIO"** - As used herein, **AT&T OHIO** means The Ohio Bell Telephone Company d/b/a AT&T Ohio (and previously referred to as "SBC Ohio"), the applicable AT&T-owned ILEC doing business in Ohio.
- 1.1.30 **"AT&T OKLAHOMA"** - As used herein, **AT&T OKLAHOMA** means Southwestern Bell Telephone Company d/b/a AT&T Oklahoma (and previously referred to as "SBC Oklahoma"), the applicable AT&T-owned ILEC doing business in Oklahoma.
- 1.1.31 **"AT&T SOUTHWEST REGION 5-STATE"** - As used herein, **AT&T SOUTHWEST REGION 5-STATE** means Southwestern Bell Telephone Company d/b/a AT&T Arkansas, AT&T Kansas, AT&T Missouri, AT&T Oklahoma and/or AT&T Texas (and previously referred to as "SBC SOUTHWEST REGION 5-STATE"), the applicable above listed ILEC(s) doing business in Arkansas, Kansas, Missouri, Oklahoma and Texas.
- 1.1.32 **"AT&T TEXAS"** - As used herein, **AT&T TEXAS** means Southwestern Bell Telephone Company d/b/a AT&T Texas (and previously referred to as "SBC Texas"), the applicable AT&T-owned ILEC doing business in Texas.
- 1.1.33 **"AT&T WISCONSIN"** - As used herein, **AT&T WISCONSIN** means Wisconsin Bell, Inc. d/b/a AT&T Wisconsin (and previously referred to as "SBC Wisconsin"), the applicable AT&T-owned ILEC doing business in Wisconsin.
- 1.1.34 **"Automated Message Accounting" (AMA)** is a structure inherent in switch technology that initially records Telecommunication message information. AMA format is contained in the Automated Message Accounting document published by Telcordia (formerly known as Bellcore) as GR-1100-CORE, which defines and amends the industry standard for message recording.
- 1.1.35 **"Bona Fide Request" (BFR)** is the process described in the applicable Appendix Lawful UNEs.
- 1.1.36 **"Business Day"** means Monday through Friday, excluding holidays on which the applicable AT&T-owned ILEC does not provision new retail services and products.
- 1.1.37 **"Busy Line Verification" (BLV)** means a service whereby an End User requests an operator to confirm the busy status of a line.
- 1.1.38 **"CABS"** means the Carrier Access Billing System.
- 1.1.39 **"Calling Name Delivery Service" (CNDS)** means a service that enables a terminating End User to identify the calling party by a displayed name before a call is answered. The calling party's name is retrieved from a Calling Name Database and delivered to the End User's premise between the first and second ring for display on compatible End User premises equipment.

- 1.1.40 **"Central Automatic Message Accounting (CAMA) Trunk"** means a trunk that uses Multi-Frequency (MF) signaling to transmit calls from CLEC's switch to an AT&T-13STATE E911 Selective Router.
- 1.1.41 **"Centralized Message Distribution System" (CMDS)** means the transport system that LECs use to exchange outcollect and Carrier Access Billing System "CABS" access messages among each other and other Parties connected to CMDS.
- 1.1.42 **"Central Office Switch" (Central Office)** is a switching entity within the public switched telecommunications network, including but not limited to:
  - 1.1.42.1 **"End Office Switch" or "End Office"** is a switching machine that **directly** terminates traffic to and receives traffic from purchasers of local exchange services. An End Office Switch does not include a PBX.
  - 1.1.42.2 **"Tandem Office Switch" or "Tandem(s)"** are used to connect and switch trunk circuits between and among other Central Office Switches. A Tandem Switch does not include a PBX.
- 1.1.43 **"Charge Number"** is a CCS signaling parameter that refers to the number transmitted through the network identifying the billing number of the calling party.
- 1.1.44 **"Claim"** means any pending or threatened claim, action, proceeding or suit.
- 1.1.45 **"Collocation"** is an arrangement where a CLEC leases space at an AT&T-13STATE premises for the placement of equipment necessary for interconnection or access to AT&T-13STATE Lawful UNEs.
- 1.1.46 **"Commercial Mobile Radio Services" (CMRS)** means Commercial Mobile Radio Service, As Defined in the Act and FCC rules.
- 1.1.47 **"Commission"** means the applicable State agency with regulatory authority over Telecommunications. Unless the context otherwise requires, use of the term **"Commissions"** means all of the thirteen agencies listed in this Section. The following is a list of the appropriate State agencies:
  - 1.1.47.1 **the Arkansas Public Service Commission (AR-PSC);**
  - 1.1.47.2 **Public Utilities Commission of the State of California (CA-PUC);**
  - 1.1.47.3 **the Connecticut Department of Public Utility Control (DPUC);**
  - 1.1.47.4 **the Illinois Commerce Commission (IL-CC);**
  - 1.1.47.5 **the Indiana Utilities Regulatory Commission (IN-URC);**
  - 1.1.47.6 **the Kansas Corporation Commission (KS-CC);**
  - 1.1.47.7 **the Michigan Public Service Commission (MI-PSC);**
  - 1.1.47.8 **the Missouri Public Service Commission (MO-PSC);**
  - 1.1.47.9 **the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada (NV-PUC);**
  - 1.1.47.10 **the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUC-OH);**
  - 1.1.47.11 **the Oklahoma Corporation Commission (OK-CC);**
  - 1.1.47.12 **the Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUC-TX); and**
  - 1.1.47.13 **the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin (PSC-WI).**
- 1.1.48 **"Common Channel Signaling" (CCS)** means an out-of-band, packet-switched, signaling network used to transport supervision signals, control signals, and data messages. It is a special network, fully separate from the transmission path of the public switched network. Unless otherwise agreed by the Parties, the CCS protocol used by the Parties shall be SS7.
- 1.1.49 **"Common Language Location Identifier" (CLLI)** codes provide a unique 11-character representation of a network interconnection point. The first 8 characters identify the city, state and building location, while the last 3 characters identify the network component.

- 1.1.50 **"Consequential Damages"** means Losses claimed to have resulted from any indirect, incidental, reliance, special, consequential, punitive, exemplary, multiple or any other Loss, including damages claimed to have resulted from harm to business, loss of anticipated revenues, savings, or profits, or other economic Loss claimed to have been suffered not measured by the prevailing Party's actual damages, and regardless of whether the Parties knew or had been advised of the possibility that such damages could result in connection with or arising from anything said, omitted, or done hereunder or related hereto, including willful acts or omissions.
- 1.1.51 **"Customer Usage Data"** means the Telecommunications Services usage data of a CLEC End User measured in minutes, sub-minute increments, message units, or otherwise, that is recorded by AT&T-13STATE and forwarded to CLEC.
- 1.1.52 **"Custom Local Area Signaling Service Features" (CLASS)** means certain call-management service features that are currently available from AT&T-13STATE's local networks. These could include: Automatic Call Back; Automatic Recall; Call Trace; Caller Identification and related blocking features; Calling Number Delivery; Customer Originated Trace; Distinctive Ringing/Call Waiting; Selective Call Forward; and Selective Call Rejection.
- 1.1.53 **"Customer Name and Address Information" (CNA)** means the name, service address and telephone numbers of a Party's End Users for a particular Exchange Area. CNA includes nonpublished listings, coin telephone information and published listings.
- 1.1.54 **"Data Interexchange Carrier" (DIXC)** is a process designed to facilitate the reciprocal exchange of voice traffic load data between the AT&T-13STATE and CLECs interconnecting with its network. This reciprocal exchange of data enables AT&T-13STATE and each CLEC to have a complete view of traffic loads on both ends of two-way trunk groups. The knowledge of call attempt and overflow data counts on both ends of a two-way trunk group enables each company to more accurately estimate the offered, and thereby better estimate, the required quantities of trunks.
- 1.1.55 **"Declassified" or "Declassification"** means the situation where a network element, including a network element referred to as a Lawful UNE under this Agreement, ceases to be a Lawful UNE under this Agreement because it is no longer required by Section 251(c)(3) of the Act, as determined by lawful and effective FCC rules and associated lawful and effective FCC and judicial orders. Without limitation, a Lawful UNE that has ceased to be a Lawful UNE may also be referred to as **"Declassified."**
- 1.1.56 **"Delaying Event"** means any failure of a Party to perform any of its obligations set forth in this Agreement, caused in whole or in part by:
- 1.1.56.1 the failure of the other Party to perform any of its obligations set forth in this Agreement, including but not limited to a Party's failure to provide the other Party with accurate and complete Service Orders;
  - 1.1.56.2 any delay, act or failure to act by the other Party or its End User, agent or subcontractor; or
  - 1.1.56.3 any Force Majeure Event.
- 1.1.57 **"Dialing Parity"** is As Defined in the Act. As used in this Agreement, Dialing Parity refers to both Local Dialing Parity and Toll Dialing Parity.
- 1.1.58 **"Digital Signal Level"** is one of several transmission rates in the time-division multiplex hierarchy.
- 1.1.58.1 **"Digital Signal Level 0" (DS-0)** is the 64 Kbps zero-level signal in the time-division multiplex hierarchy.
  - 1.1.58.2 **"Digital Signal Level 1" (DS-1)** is the 1.544 Mbps first-level signal in the time-division multiplex hierarchy.

- 1.1.58.3 **"Digital Signal Level 3" (DS-3)** is the 44.736 Mbps third-level signal in the time-division multiplex hierarchy.
- 1.1.59 **"Digital Subscriber Line" (DSL)** is as defined in the applicable Appendix DSL and/or the applicable tariff, as appropriate.
- 1.1.60 **"Electronic File Transfer"** is any system or process that utilizes an electronic format and protocol to send or receive data files.
- 1.1.61 **"End Users"** means a third-party residence or business that subscribes to Telecommunications Services provided by any of the Parties at retail. As used herein, the term "End Users" does not include any of the Parties to this Agreement with respect to any item or service obtained under this Agreement.
- 1.1.62 **"Enhanced Service Provider" (ESP)** is a provider of enhanced services as those services are defined in 47 CFR Section 64.702.
- 1.1.63 **"Exchange Access"** is As Defined in the Act.
- 1.1.64 **"Exchange Area"** means an area, defined by the Commission, for which a distinct local rate schedule is in effect.
- 1.1.65 **"Exchange Message Interface" (EMI)** (formerly Exchange Message Record - EMR) is the standard used for exchange of Telecommunications message information among Telecommunications Carriers for billable, non-billable, sample, settlement and study data. EMI format is contained in Telcordia Practice BR-010-200-010, CRIS Exchange Message Record.
- 1.1.66 **"Exchange Service"** means Telephone Exchange Service, As Defined in the Act.
- 1.1.67 **"Feature Group A" (FGA)** means calls either originated by, or delivered to, an End User who has purchased switched access FGA service from the interstate or intrastate tariffs of either Party. FGA also includes, but is not limited to, FGA-like services provided by either Party, where calls are originated from and/or delivered to numbers which are assigned to a Rate Center within one LATA but where the Party receiving the call is physically located in a LATA different than the LATA of the Party originating the call.
- 1.1.68 **"Feature Group D" (FGD)** is access available to all customers, providing trunk side access to a Party's End Office Switches with an associated uniform 101XXXX access code for customer's use in originating and terminating communications.
- 1.1.69 **"FCC"** means the Federal Communications Commission.
- 1.1.70 **"Fiber Meet"** means an Interconnection architecture method whereby the Parties physically Interconnect their networks via an optical fiber interface (as opposed to an electrical interface) at a mutually agreed upon location, at which one Party's responsibility or service begins and the other Party's responsibility ends.
- 1.1.71 **"Foreign Exchange" (FX) or "FX-like"** service means a retail service offering which allows FX customers to obtain exchange service from a mandatory local calling area other than the mandatory local calling area where the FX customer is physically located, but within the same LATA as the number that is assigned. FX service enables particular end-user customers to avoid what might otherwise be toll calls between the FX customer's physical location and customers in the foreign exchange. **"FX Telephone Numbers"** are those telephone numbers with rating and routing point that are different from those of the geographic area in which the end user is physically located. FX Telephone Numbers that deliver second dial tone and the ability for the calling party to enter access codes and an additional recipient telephone number remain classified as Feature Group A (FGA) calls, and are subject to the originating and terminating carrier's tariffed Switched Exchange Access rates (also known as "Meet Point Billed" compensation).

- 1.1.72 **"Fraud Monitoring System"** means an off-line administration system that monitors suspected occurrences of ABT-related fraud.
- 1.1.73 **"Governmental Authority"** means any federal, state, local, foreign, or international court, government, department, commission, board, bureau, agency, official, or other regulatory, administrative, legislative, or judicial authority with jurisdiction over the subject matter at issue.
- 1.1.74 **"Incumbent Local Exchange Carrier" (ILEC)** is As Defined in the Act.
- 1.1.75 **"Intellectual Property"** means copyrights, patents, trademarks, trade secrets, mask works and all other intellectual property rights.
- 1.1.76 **"Integrated Digital Loop Carrier"** means a subscriber loop carrier system that is twenty-four (24) local Loop transmission paths combined into a 1.544 Mbps digital signal which integrates within the switch at a DS1 level.
- 1.1.77 **"Integrated Services Digital Network" (ISDN)** means a switched network service that provides end-to-end digital connectivity for the simultaneous transmission of voice and data. Basic Rate Interface-ISDN (BRI-ISDN) provides for a digital transmission of two 64 Kbps bearer channels and one 16 Kbps data channel (2B+D).
- 1.1.78 **"Interconnection"** is As Defined in the Act.
- 1.1.79 **"Interconnection Activation Date"** is the date that the construction of the joint facility Interconnection arrangement has been completed, trunk groups have been established, joint trunk testing is completed and trunks have been mutually accepted by the Parties.
- 1.1.80 **"Interexchange Carrier" (IXC)** means a carrier that provides, directly or indirectly, interLATA or intraLATA Telephone Toll Services.
- 1.1.81 **"InterLATA"** is As Defined in the Act.
- 1.1.82 **"Intermediate Distribution Frame" (IDF)** is a second frame that augments an existing Main Distribution Frame. Lines or outside cables do not terminate on the IDF.
- 1.1.83 **"Internet Service Provider" (ISP)** is an Enhanced Service Provider that provides Internet Services, and is defined in paragraph 341 of the FCC's First Report and Order in CC Docket No. 97-158.
- 1.1.84 **"ISP-Bound Traffic"** shall mean telecommunications traffic, in accordance with the FCC's Order on Remand and Report and Order, In the Matter of Implementation of the Local Compensation Provisions in the Telecommunications Act of 1996, Intercarrier Compensation for ISP-Bound Traffic, FCC 01-131, CC Docket Nos. 96-98, 99-68 (rel. April, 27, 2001) ("FCC ISP Compensation Order"), "ISP-Bound Traffic" shall mean exchanged between CLEC and AT&T-13STATE in which the originating End User of one Party and the ISP served by the other Party are:
- both physically located in the same ILEC Local Exchange Area as defined by the ILEC's Local (or "General") Exchange Tariff on file with the applicable state commission or regulatory agency; or
  - both physically located within neighboring ILEC Local Exchange Areas that are within the same common mandatory local calling area. This includes, but it is not limited to, mandatory Extended Area Service (EAS), mandatory Extended Local Calling Service (ELCS) or other types of mandatory expanded local calling scopes.
- 1.1.85 **"IntraLATA Toll Traffic"** means the IntraLATA traffic between two locations within one LATA where one of the locations lies outside of the normal local calling area as defined by the applicable Commission.
- 1.1.86 **"Jurisdictional Identification Parameter" (JIP)** is an existing six (6) digit (NPA-NXX) field in the SS7 message. This field designates the first point of switching.

- 1.1.87 **"Lawful,"** when used in relation to unbundling, unbundled network elements, network elements and/or UNEs or activities involving UNEs, means required by Section 251(c)(3) of the Act, as determined by lawful and effective FCC rules and associated lawful and effective FCC and judicial orders.
- 1.1.88 **"Line Information Data Base" (LIDB)** means a transaction-oriented database system that functions as a centralized repository for data storage and retrieval. LIDB is accessible through CCS networks. LIDB contains records associated with End User line numbers and special billing numbers.
- 1.1.89 **"Local Access Transport Area" (LATA)** is As Defined in the Act.
- 1.1.90 **"Local Exchange Carrier" (LEC)** is As Defined in the Act.
- 1.1.91 **"Local Exchange Routing Guide" (LERG)** is a Telcordia Reference document used by Telecommunications Carriers to identify NPA-NXX routing and homing information as well as Network element and equipment designations.
- 1.1.92 **"Local Interconnection Trunks/Trunk Groups"** are used for the termination of Local Exchange Traffic, pursuant to Telcordia Technical Reference GR-317-CORE.
- 1.1.93 **"Local Loop Transmission", "Lawful Unbundled Local Loop", "Loop"** means the transmission path which extends from the Network Interface Device or demarcation point at an End User's premise to the Main Distribution Frame or other designated frame or panel in the AT&T-13STATE Serving Wire Center.
- 1.1.94 **"Local Number Portability" (LNP)** means the ability of users of Telecommunications Services to retain, at the same location, the presence of a previously existing telephone number(s).
- 1.1.95 **"Location Routing Number" (LRN)** is a ten (10) digit number that is assigned to the network switching elements (Central Office – Host and Remotes as required) for the routing of calls in the network. The first six (6) digits of the LRN will be one of the assigned NPA NXX of the switching element. The purpose and functionality of the last four (4) digits of the LRN have not yet been defined but are passed across the network to the terminating switch.
- 1.1.96 **"Local Service Provider" (LSP)** is the LEC that provides retail local Exchange Service to an End User. The LSP may or may not provide any physical network components to support the provision of that End User's service.
- 1.1.97 **"Loss" or "Losses"** means any and all losses, costs (including court costs), claims, damages (including fines, penalties, and criminal or civil judgments and settlements), injuries, liabilities and expenses (including attorneys' fees).
- 1.1.98 **"MECAB"** refers to the Multiple Exchange Carrier Access Billing document prepared by the Billing Committee of the Ordering and Billing Forum "OBF", which functions under the auspices of the Carrier Liaison Committee "CLC of the Alliance for Telecommunications Industry Solutions "ATIS". The MECAB document, published by ATIS as ATIS/OBF- MECAB- Issue 6, February 1998, contains the recommended guidelines for the billing of access services provided to an IXC by two or more LECs, or by one LEC in two or more states within a single LATA.
- 1.1.99 **"MECOD"** refers to the Multiple Exchange Carriers Ordering and Design Guidelines for Access Services - Industry Support Interface, a document developed by the Ordering/Provisioning Committee of the OBF, which functions under the auspices of the CLC of ATIS. The MECOD document, published by ATIS as ATIS/OBF- MECAB- Issue 3, February 1993, establishes methods for processing orders for access service which is to be provided to an IXC by two or more telecommunications providers.
- 1.1.100 **"Meet-Point Billing" (MPB)** refers to the billing associated with interconnection of facilities between two or more LECs for the routing of traffic to and from an IXC with which one of the

LECs does not have a direct connection. In a multi-bill environment, each Party bills the appropriate tariffed rate for its portion of a jointly provided Switched Exchange Access Service.

- 1.1.101 **"Multiple Bill/Single Tariff"** is a billing method used when Switched Exchange Access Services is jointly provided by the Parties. As described in the MECAB document, each Party will render a bill in accordance with its own tariff for that portion of the service it provides. Each Party will bill its own network access service rates.
- 1.1.102 **"Network Data Mover" (NDM)** is an industry standard protocol for transferring information electrically.
- 1.1.103 **"Network Element"** is As Defined in the Act.
- 1.1.104 **"North American Numbering Plan" (NANP)** A numbering architecture in which every station in the NANP Area is identified by a unique ten-digit address consisting of a three-digit NPA code, a three digit central office code of the form NXX, and a four-digit line number of the form XXXX.
- 1.1.105 **"Numbering Plan Area" (NPA)** also called area code. An NPA is the 3-digit code that occupies the A, B, C positions in the 10-digit NANP format that applies throughout the NANP Area. NPAs are of the form NXX, where N represents the digits 2-9 and X represents any digit 0-9. In the NANP, NPAs are classified as either geographic or non-geographic. a) Geographic NPAs are NPAs which correspond to discrete geographic areas within the NANP Area. b) Non-geographic NPAs are NPAs that do not correspond to discrete geographic areas, but which are instead assigned for services with attributes, functionalities, or requirements that transcend specific geographic boundaries. The common examples are NPAs in the N00 format, e.g., 800.
- 1.1.106 **"Number Portability"** is As Defined in the Act.
- 1.1.107 **"NXX" or "Central Office Code"** is the three-digit switch entity indicator that is defined by the fourth through sixth digits of a 10-digit telephone number within the NANP. Each NXX Code contains 10,000 station numbers.
- 1.1.108 **"Ordering and Billing Forum" (OBF)** is a forum comprised of local telephone companies and inter-exchange carriers whose responsibility is to create and document Telecommunication industry guidelines and standards.
- 1.1.109 **"Out of Exchange LEC" (OE-LEC)** means Syniverse Technologies, Inc. operating within AT&T-13STATE's incumbent local exchange area and provides telecommunications services utilizing NPA-NXXs identified to reside in a Third Party Incumbent LEC's local exchange area.
- 1.1.110 **"Out of Exchange Traffic"** is defined as local, transit, or intraLATA traffic to or from a non-AT&T ILEC exchange area.
- 1.1.111 **"Party"** means either CLEC or the AT&T-owned ILEC; use of the term "Party" includes each of the AT&T-owned ILEC(s) that is a party to this Agreement. **"Parties"** means both CLEC and the AT&T-owned ILEC; use of the term "Parties" includes each of the AT&T-owned ILEC(s) that is a party to this Agreement.
- 1.1.112 **"Permanent Number Portability" (PNP)** is a long term method of providing LNP using LRN.
- 1.1.113 **"Person"** means an individual or a partnership, an association, a joint venture, a corporation, a business or a trust or other entity organized under Applicable law, an unincorporated organization or any Governmental Authority.
- 1.1.114 **"Physical Collocation"** is as defined in Appendix Physical Collocation.
- 1.1.115 **"Plain Old Telephone Service" (POTS)** means telephone service for the transmission of human speech.
- 1.1.116 **"Point of Interconnection" (POI)** is a point on the AT&T-13STATE network (End Office or Tandem building) where the Parties deliver Section 251(b)(5)/IntraLATA Toll Traffic to each other, and also serves as a demarcation point between the facilities that each Party is responsible to provide.



1.1.117 "**Port**" is the point of interface/access connection to the AT&T-13STATE public switched network. This may be a switch line side interface or switch trunk side interface.

1.1.118 "**Rate Center Area**" means the following in each applicable area:

**1.1.118.1 AT&T MIDWEST REGION 5-STATE**

1.1.118.1.1 "Rate Center" means the specific geographic point that has been designated by a given LEC as being associated with a particular NPA-NXX code that has been assigned to the LEC for its provision of Telephone Exchange Service. The Rate Center is the finite geographic point identified by a specific V&H coordinate, which is used by that LEC to measure, for billing purposes, distance sensitive transmission services associated with the specific Rate Center.

**1.1.118.2 AT&T NEVADA**

1.1.118.2.1 "Rate Center" denotes the designated points, representing exchanges, (or locations outside exchange areas), between which mileage measurements are made for the application of interexchange mileage rates. Rate Centers are defined in NV-PUC tariff A6.2.7.

**1.1.118.3 AT&T CALIFORNIA**

1.1.118.3.1 "Rate Center" denotes the designated points, representing exchanges or district area (or locations outside exchange areas), between which mileage measurements are made for the application of interexchange and interdistrict mileage rates, as defined by the CA-PUC.A2, 2.1.1 Definition of Terms.

**1.1.118.4 AT&T CONNECTICUT**

1.1.118.4.1 "Rate Center" means the specific geographic point and corresponding area that have been identified by a given LEC as being associated with a particular NPA-NXX code that has been assigned to the LEC for its provision of Exchange Services.

**1.1.118.5 AT&T SOUTHWEST REGION 5-STATE**

1.1.118.5.1 "Rate Center" means an uniquely defined geographical location within an exchange area (or a location outside the exchange area) for which mileage measurements are determined for the application of interstate tariffs.

1.1.119 "**Rating Point**" means the V&H coordinates associated with a particular telephone number for rating purposes.

1.1.120 "**Referral Announcement**" refers to a process by which calls are routed to an announcement that states the new telephone number of an End User.

1.1.121 "**Routing Point**" is a location which a LEC has designated on its own network as the homing or routing point for traffic inbound to Exchange Service provided by the LEC which bears a certain NPA-NXX designation. The Routing Point is employed to calculate mileage measurements for the distance-sensitive transport element charges of Switched Access services. The Routing Point need not be the same as the Rating Point, nor must it be located within the Rate Center area, but must be in the same LATA as the NPA-NXX.

1.1.122 "**Section 251(b)(5) Traffic**" shall mean telecommunications traffic in which the originating End User of one Party and the terminating End User of the other Party are:

- a. both physically located in the same ILEC Local Exchange Area as defined by the ILEC Local (or "General") Exchange Tariff on file with the applicable state commission or regulatory agency; or
  - b. both physically located within neighboring ILEC Local Exchange Areas that are within the same common mandatory local calling area. This includes but is not limited to, mandatory Extended Area Service (EAS), mandatory Extended Local Calling Service (ELCS), or other types of mandatory expanded local calling scopes.
- 1.1.123 "**Service Provider Number Portability**" (**SPNP**) is synonymous with Permanent Number Portability "PNP".
- 1.1.124 "**Service Switching Point**" (**SSP**) is a telephone central office switch equipped with a Signaling System 7 (SS7) interface.
- 1.1.125 "**Signaling System 7**" (**SS7**) means a signaling protocol used by the CCS Network.
- 1.1.126 "**Signal Transfer Point**" (**STP**) performs a packet switching function that routes signaling messages among Service Switching Points (**SSP**), Service Control Points (**SCP**), Signaling Points (**SP**), and other STPs in order to set up calls and to query databases for Advanced Services.
- 1.1.127 "**State Abbreviation**" means the following:
- 1.1.127.1 "AR" means Arkansas
  - 1.1.127.2 "CA" means California
  - 1.1.127.3 "CT" means Connecticut
  - 1.1.127.4 "IL" means Illinois
  - 1.1.127.5 "IN" means Indiana
  - 1.1.127.6 "KS" means Kansas
  - 1.1.127.7 "MI" means Michigan
  - 1.1.127.8 "MO" means Missouri
  - 1.1.127.9 "NV" means Nevada
  - 1.1.127.10 "OH" means Ohio
  - 1.1.127.11 "OK" means Oklahoma
  - 1.1.127.12 "TX" means Texas
  - 1.1.127.13 "WI" means Wisconsin
- 1.1.128 "**Switched Access Detail Usage Data**" means a category 1101xx record as defined in the EMI Telecordia Practice BR 010-200-010.
- 1.1.129 "**Switched Exchange Access Service**" means the offering of transmission or switching services to Telecommunications Carriers for the purpose of the origination or termination of telephone toll service. Switched Exchange Access Services include: Feature Group A, Feature Group B, Feature Group D, 800/888 access, and 900 access and their successors or similar Switched Exchange Access Services.
- 1.1.130 "**Synchronous Optical Network**" (**SONET**) is an optical interface standard that allows inter-networking of transmission products from multiple vendors. The base rate is 51.84 Mbps ("OC-1/STS-1") and higher rates are direct multiples of the base rate, up to 13.22 Gbps.
- 1.1.131 "**Telecommunications**" is As Defined in the Act.
- 1.1.132 "**Telecommunications Carrier**" is As Defined in the Act.
- 1.1.133 "**Telecommunications Service**" is As Defined in the Act.
- 1.1.134 "**Telephone Exchange Service**" is As Defined in the Act.
- 1.1.135 "**Telephone Toll Service**" is As Defined in the Act.

- 1.1.136 **"Third Party"** means any Person other than a Party.
- 1.1.137 **"Toll Billing Exception Service" (TBE)** means a service that allows End Users to restrict third number billing or collect calls to their lines.
- 1.1.138 **"Trunk"** means a communication line between two switching systems.
- 1.1.139 **"Trunk-Side"** refers to a Central Office Switch connection that is capable of, and has been programmed to treat the circuit as connecting to another switching entity (for example another Central Office switch). Trunk-Side connections offer those transmission and signaling features appropriate for the connection of switching entities and cannot be used for the direct connection of ordinary telephone station sets.
- 1.1.140 **"Lawful Unbundled Network Element" or "Lawful UNE"** is as defined in Appendix Lawful UNEs (Lawful Provision of Access to Unbundled Network Elements).
- 1.1.141 **"Virtual Collocation"** is as defined in Appendix Virtual Collocation.
- 1.1.142 **"Wire Center"** is the location of one or more local switching systems. A point at which End User's loops within a defined geographic area converge. Such local loops may be served by one (1) or more Central Office Switches within such premises.

1.2 Definitions Applicable to **AT&T-12STATE** Only

- 1.2.1 **"Main Distribution Frame" (MDF)** is termination frame for outside facility and inter-exchange office equipment at the central office for DS-0 and DSL services.
- 1.2.2 **"Serving Wire Center" (SWC)** means a Wire Center that serves the area in which the other Party's or a third party's Wire Center, aggregation point, point of termination, or point of presence is located.
- 1.2.3 **"Universal Digital Loop Carrier" (UDLC)** describes a DLC system that has a Central Office terminal channel bank that is connected to the CO switches on the analog side.

1.3 Definitions Applicable to **AT&T-7STATE** Only

- 1.3.1 **"Line Side"** refers to End Office switch connections that have been programmed to treat the circuit as a local line connected to a terminating station (e.g., an ordinary subscriber's telephone station set, a PBX, answering machine, facsimile machine or computer). Line Side connections offer only those transmission and signal features appropriate for a connection between an End Office and such terminating station.

1.4 Definitions Applicable to **AT&T MIDWEST REGION 5-STATE** Only

- 1.4.1 **"Line Side"** refers to the switch port toward the CLEC's side of the equipment.

2. **INTERPRETATION, CONSTRUCTION AND SEVERABILITY**

2.1 Definitions

- 2.1.1 For purposes of this Agreement, certain terms have been defined in this Agreement to encompass meanings that may differ from, or be in addition to, the normal connotation of the defined word. Unless the context clearly indicates otherwise, any term defined or used in the singular will include the plural. Whenever the context may require, any pronoun shall include the corresponding masculine, feminine and neuter forms. The words "include," "includes" and "including" shall be deemed to be followed by the phrase "without limitation" and/or "but not limited to". The words "will" and "shall" are used interchangeably throughout this Agreement and the use of either connotes a mandatory requirement. The use of one or the other will not mean a different degree of right or obligation for either Party. A defined word intended to convey its special meaning is capitalized when used. Other terms that are capitalized and not defined in this Agreement will have the meaning in the Act, or in the absence of their inclusion in the Act, their customary usage in the Telecommunications industry as of the Effective Date.

## 2.2 Headings Not Controlling

- 2.2.1 The headings and numbering of Sections, Parts, Appendices Schedules and Exhibits to this Agreement are for convenience only and shall not be construed to define or limit any of the terms herein or affect the meaning or interpretation of this Agreement.
- 2.2.2 This Agreement incorporates a number of Appendices which, together with their associated Attachments, Exhibits, Schedules and Addenda, constitute the entire Agreement between the Parties. In order to facilitate use and comprehension of the Agreement, the Appendices have been grouped under broad headings. It is understood that these groupings are for convenience of reference only, and are not intended to limit the applicability that any particular appendix, attachment, exhibit, schedule or addenda may otherwise have.

## 2.3 Referenced Documents

- 2.3.1 Unless the context shall otherwise specifically require, and subject to Section 23, whenever any provision of this Agreement refers to a technical reference, technical publication, CLEC Practice, **AT&T-13STATE** Practice, any publication of telecommunications industry administrative or technical standards, or any other document specifically incorporated into this Agreement (collectively, a "Referenced Instrument"), it will be deemed to be a reference to the then-current version or edition (including any amendments, supplements, addenda, or successors) of each Referenced Instrument that is in effect, and will include the then-current version or edition (including any amendments, supplements, addenda, or successors) of any other Referenced Instrument incorporated by reference therein.

## 2.4 References

- 2.4.1 References herein to Sections, Paragraphs, Exhibits, Parts, Schedules, and Appendices shall be deemed to be references to Sections, Paragraphs and Parts of, and Exhibits, Schedules and Appendices to, this Agreement unless the context shall otherwise require.

## 2.5 Tariff References

- 2.5.1 To the extent a tariff provision or rate is incorporated or otherwise applies between the Parties due to the provisions of this Agreement, it is understood that said tariff provision or rate applies only in the jurisdiction in which such tariff provision or rate is filed, and applies to the CLEC and only the **AT&T-13STATE** ILEC(s) that operates within that jurisdiction. Further, it is understood that any changes to said tariff provision or rate are also automatically incorporated herein or otherwise hereunder, effective hereunder on the date any such change is effective.
- 2.5.2 Wherever any Commission ordered tariff provision or rate is incorporated, cited or quoted herein, it is understood that said incorporation or reference applies only to the entity within the state whose Commission ordered that tariff.
- 2.5.3 Any state or federal tariff references made within this Agreement, including all Attachments/Appendices, refer to tariffs filed by **AT&T-13STATE**, as such tariffs may be modified from time to time.
- 2.5.4 Wherever the term "customer" is used in connection with **AT&T SOUTHWEST REGION 5-STATE**'s retail tariffs, the term "customer" means the ultimate "consumer" or the "end user" of any tariffed service.

## 2.6 Conflict in Provisions

- 2.6.1 In the event of a conflict between the provisions of this Agreement and the Act, the provisions of the Act shall govern.
- 2.6.2 If any definitions, terms or conditions in any given Appendix, Attachment, Exhibit, Schedule or Addenda differ from those contained in the main body of this Agreement, those definitions, terms or conditions will supersede those contained in the main body of this Agreement, but only in regard to the services or activities listed in that particular Appendix, Attachment, Exhibit,

Schedule or Addenda. In particular, if an Appendix contains a Term length that differs from the Term length in the main body of this Agreement, the Term length of that Appendix will control the length of time that services or activities are to occur under that Appendix, but will not affect the Term length of the remainder of this Agreement.

- 2.6.3 In **AT&T CONNECTICUT** only, in the event of a conflict between any provision in this Agreement and any provision in the DPUC-ordered tariffs covering the services that are the subject of this Agreement with **AT&T CONNECTICUT**, such DPUC-ordered tariffs will prevail.

## 2.7 Joint Work Product

- 2.7.1 This Agreement is the joint work product of the Parties and has been negotiated by the Parties and their respective counsel and shall be fairly interpreted in accordance with its terms and, in the event of any ambiguities, no inferences shall be drawn against either Party.

## 2.8 Severability

- 2.8.1 If any provision of this Agreement is rejected or held to be illegal, invalid or unenforceable, each Party agrees that such provision shall be enforced to the maximum extent permissible so as to effect the intent of the Parties, and the validity, legality and enforceability of the remaining provisions of this Agreement shall not in any way be affected or impaired thereby. If necessary to effect the intent of the Parties, the Parties shall negotiate in good faith to amend this Agreement to replace the unenforceable language with enforceable language that reflects such intent as closely as possible. The Parties negotiated the terms and conditions of this Agreement for Interconnection, services and Lawful Unbundled Network Elements as a total arrangement and it is intended to be nonseverable.

## 2.9 Incorporation by Reference

- 2.9.1 All of the rates, terms and conditions ("Provisions") set forth in this Agreement (including any and all attachments, appendices and/or schedules hereto) and every interconnection, service and network element provided hereunder, are subject to all other Provisions contained in this Agreement (including any and all attachments, appendices and/or schedules hereto), and all such Provisions are integrally related.

## 2.10 Non-Voluntary Provisions

- 2.10.1 This Agreement incorporates certain rates, terms and conditions that were not voluntarily negotiated by **AT&T-13STATE**, but instead resulted from determinations made in arbitrations under Section 252 of the Act or from other requirements of regulatory agencies or state law (individually and collectively, a "Non-Voluntary Arrangement"). **AT&T-13STATE** has identified some, but not all, of the Non-Voluntary Arrangements contained in this Agreement, by designating such provisions with asterisks. If any Non-Voluntary Arrangement is modified as a result of any order or finding by the FCC, the appropriate Commission or a court of competent jurisdiction, any Party may, by providing written notice to the other Party, require that any affected Non-Voluntary Arrangement (and any related rates, terms and conditions) be deleted or renegotiated, as applicable, in good faith and this Agreement amended accordingly. If such modifications to this Agreement are not executed within sixty (60) calendar days after the date of such notice, a Party may pursue its rights under Section 12.
- 2.10.2 The Parties acknowledge that the Non-Voluntary Arrangements contained in this Agreement shall not be available in any state other than the state that originally imposed/required such Non-Voluntary Arrangement. By way of example only, the Parties acknowledge that the PUC-OH's imposition in Ohio of the Minimum Telephone Service Standards (and all terms and conditions relating thereto) shall not apply in or be "portable to" any state other than Ohio.

## 2.11 State-Specific Rates, Terms and Conditions

- 2.11.1 For ease of administration, this multistate Agreement contains certain specified rates, terms and conditions which apply only in a designated state ("state-specific terms"). To the extent that this Agreement contains specified rates, terms and conditions which apply only in a given state, such rates, terms and conditions shall not apply and shall have no effect in any other state(s) to which this Agreement is submitted for approval under Section 252(e) of the Act.
- 2.11.2 State-specific terms, as the phrase is described in Section 2.11.1 above, have been negotiated (or in the case of 2.10.2 above, included in the agreement per state requirement) by the Parties only as to the states where this Agreement has been executed, filed and approved. When the Parties negotiate an agreement for an additional state, neither Party shall be precluded by any language in this Agreement from negotiating state-specific terms for the state in which are to apply.
- 2.11.3 **Successor Rates.** Certain of the rates, prices and charges set forth in the applicable Appendix Pricing have been established by the appropriate Commissions in cost proceedings or dockets initiated under or pursuant to the Act. If during the Term that Commission or the FCC changes a rate, price or charge in an order or docket that applies to any of the Interconnection, Resale Services, Network Elements, functions, facilities, products and services available hereunder, the Parties agree to amend this Agreement to incorporate such new rates, prices and charges, with such rates, prices and charges to be effective as of the date specified in such order or docket (including giving effect to any retroactive application, if so ordered). If either Party refuses to execute an amendment to this Agreement within sixty (60) calendar days after the date of such order or docket, the other Party may pursue its rights under Section 12.

## 2.12 Scope of Obligations

- 2.12.1 Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained herein except for the Out of Exchange Appendix, AT&T-13STATE's obligations under this Agreement shall apply only to:
- 2.12.1.1 the specific operating area(s) or portion thereof in which AT&T-13STATE is then deemed to be the ILEC under the Act (the "ILEC Territory"), and only to the extent that the CLEC is operating and offering service to End Users identified to be residing in such ILEC Territory; and
- 2.12.1.2 assets that AT&T-13STATE owns or leases and which are used in connection with AT&T-13STATE's provision to CLEC of any Interconnection, Resale Services, Lawful Unbundled Network Elements, functions, facilities, products or services provided or contemplated under this Agreement, the Act or any tariff or ancillary agreement referenced herein (individually and collectively, the "ILEC Assets").
- 2.12.1.3 The underlying Interconnection Agreement sets forth the terms and conditions pursuant to which AT&T-12STATE agrees to provide CLEC with access to Lawful unbundled network elements under Section 251(c)(3) of the Act, Collocation under Section 251(c)(6) of the Act, Interconnection under Section 251(c)(2) of the Act and/or Resale under Section 251(c)(4) of the Act in AT&T-12STATE's incumbent local exchange areas for the provision of CLEC's Telecommunications Services. The Parties acknowledge and agree that AT&T-12STATE is only obligated to make available Lawful UNEs and access to Lawful UNEs under Section 251(c)(3) of the Act, Collocation under Section 251(c)(6) of the Act, Interconnection under Section 251(c)(2) of the Act and/or Resale under Section 251(c)(4) of the Act to CLEC in AT&T-12STATE's incumbent local exchange areas. AT&T-12STATE has no obligation to provide such Lawful UNEs, Collocation, Interconnection and/or Resale, to CLEC for the purposes of CLEC providing and/or extending service outside of AT&T-12STATE's incumbent local exchange areas. In addition, AT&T-12STATE is not obligated to provision Lawful UNEs or to provide access to Lawful UNEs under Section 251(c)(3) of the Act, Collocation under Section 251(c)(6) of the Act, Interconnection under Section 251(c)(2)

of the Act and/or Resale under Section 251(c)(4) of the Act and is not otherwise bound by any 251(c) obligations in geographic areas other than AT&T-12STATE's incumbent local exchange areas. Therefore, the Parties understand and agree that the rates, terms and conditions set forth in AT&T-12STATE's current Interconnection Agreement, and any associated provisions set forth elsewhere in CLEC's current Interconnection Agreement (including but not limited to the rates set forth in this Agreement associated with Lawful UNEs under Section 251(c)(3) of the Act, Collocation under Section 251(c)(6) of the Act, Interconnection under Section 251(c)(2) of the Act and/or Resale under Section 251(c)(4) of the Act), shall only apply to the Parties and be available to CLEC for provisioning telecommunication services within an AT&T-12STATE incumbent local exchange area(s) in the State in which CLEC's current Interconnection Agreement with AT&T-12STATE has been approved by the relevant state Commission and is in effect.

2.12.1.4 Throughout this Agreement, wherever there are references to unbundled network elements that are to be provided by AT&T-12STATE under this Agreement, the Parties agree and acknowledge that their intent is for the Agreement to comply with Section 2.12.1.3, above, and require only the provision of Lawful UNEs, regardless of whether the term "Lawful" is used as part of the reference to unbundled network elements.

### 2.13 Affiliates

2.13.1 These General Terms and Conditions and all attachments and Appendices hereto (this Agreement), including subsequent amendments, if any, shall bind AT&T-13STATE, CLEC and any entity that currently or subsequently is owned or controlled by or under common ownership or control with CLEC. CLEC further agrees that the same or substantially the same terms and conditions shall be incorporated into any separate agreement between AT&T-13STATE and any such CLEC Affiliate that continues to operate as a separate entity. This Agreement shall remain effective as to CLEC and any such CLEC Affiliate for the term of this Agreement as stated herein until either AT&T-13STATE or CLEC or any such CLEC Affiliate institutes renegotiation consistent with the provisions of this Agreement for renewal and term. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the existing Agreement will not supercede a currently effective interconnection agreement between any such CLEC Affiliate and AT&T-13STATE until the expiration of such other agreement.

2.14 This Agreement sets forth the terms and conditions pursuant to which AT&T-13STATE agrees to provide CLEC with access to Lawful UNEs, Collocation and Resale in AT&T-13STATE's incumbent local exchange areas for the provision of CLEC's Telecommunications Services ((Act, Section 251(c)). The Parties acknowledge and agree that AT&T-13STATE is only obligated to make available Lawful UNEs, Collocation and Resale to CLEC in AT&T-13STATE's incumbent local exchange areas. AT&T-13STATE has no obligation to provide Lawful UNEs, Collocation and Resale to CLEC for the purposes of CLEC providing and/or extending service outside of AT&T-13STATE's incumbent local exchange areas. In addition, AT&T-13STATE is not obligated to provision Lawful UNEs, Collocation and Resale or provide any other rights under Section 251 (c) of the Act outside of AT&T-13STATE's incumbent local exchange areas. Therefore, the Parties understand and agree that the rates, terms and conditions set forth in this Interconnection Agreement, and any associated provisions set in the Attachments, Appendices, Schedules and/or Exhibits in the CLEC's current Interconnection Agreement (including but not limited to the associated Lawful UNE, Collocation and Resale rates set forth in this Agreement), shall only apply and be available to CLEC for provisioning services within an AT&T-13STATE incumbent local exchange area(s) in the State in which the CLEC's Interconnection Agreement has been approved by the Commission and is in effect.

## 3. NOTICE OF CHANGES -- SECTION 251(c)(5)

3.1 Nothing in this Agreement shall limit either Party's ability to upgrade its network through the incorporation of new equipment, new software or otherwise or to otherwise change and/or modify its

network including, without limitation, through the retirement and/or replacement of equipment, software or otherwise. Each Party agrees to comply with the Network Disclosure rules adopted by the FCC in CC Docket No. 96-98, Second Report and Order, codified at 47 C.F.R. 51.325 through 51.335, as such rules may be amended from time to time (the "Network Disclosure Rules"). AT&T-13STATE will not discontinue any Lawful UNE, Interconnection arrangement, function, facility, product or service (excluding Resale Services), that AT&T-13STATE is required to provide to CLEC under this Agreement unless and until: (i) AT&T-13STATE provides requisite notice of the planned network change and/or modification in accordance with the Network Disclosure Rules (when applicable) and no objection is made to AT&T-13STATE's proposed network modification(s) and/or change(s) or any objection(s) is denied or deemed denied under such Rules; or (ii) if and when applicable, following AT&T-13STATE's exercise of its rights under applicable law and/or this Agreement including, without limitation, the intervening law/change in law provisions in this Agreement; or (iii) to the extent otherwise permitted in this Agreement.

#### 4. GENERAL RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PARTIES

- 4.1 Upon approval by the Commission, CLEC agrees to begin providing Telephone Exchange Service within its certificated service area to business End Users within \_\_\_\_ calendar days and to residential End Users within \_\_\_\_ calendar days.
- 4.2 AT&T-12STATE and CLEC shall each use their best efforts to meet the Interconnection Activation Dates.
- 4.3 Each Party is individually responsible to provide facilities within its network that are necessary for routing, transporting, measuring, and billing traffic from the other Party's network and for delivering such traffic to the other Party's network in the standard format compatible with AT&T-13STATE's network as referenced in Telcordia BOC Notes on LEC Networks Practice No. SR-TSV-002275, and to terminate the traffic it receives in that standard format to the proper address on its network. The Parties are each solely responsible for participation in and compliance with national network plans, including the National Network Security Plan and the Emergency Preparedness Plan.
- 4.4 The Parties shall exchange technical descriptions and forecasts of their Interconnection and traffic requirements in sufficient detail necessary to establish the Interconnections required to assure traffic completion to and from all End Users in their respective designated service areas.
- 4.5 Each Party is solely responsible for all products and services it provides to its End Users and to other Telecommunications Carriers.

#### 5. INSURANCE

- 5.1 At all times during the term of this Agreement, each Party shall keep and maintain in force at its own expense the following minimum insurance coverage and limits and any additional insurance and/or bonds required by Applicable Law:
  - 5.1.1 Workers' Compensation insurance with benefits afforded under the laws of each state covered by this Agreement and Employers Liability insurance with minimum limits of \$1,000,000 for Bodily Injury-each accident, \$1,000,000 for Bodily Injury by disease-policy limits and \$1,000,000 for Bodily Injury by disease-each employee.
  - 5.1.2 Commercial General Liability insurance with minimum limits of: \$2,000,000 General Aggregate limit; \$1,000,000 each occurrence sub-limit for all bodily injury or property damage incurred in any one occurrence; \$1,000,000 each occurrence sub-limit for Personal Injury and Advertising; \$2,000,000 Products/Completed Operations Aggregate limit, with a \$1,000,000 each occurrence sub-limit for Products/Completed Operations. Fire Legal Liability sub-limits of \$1,000,000 are also required if this Agreement involves collocation or structure access. AT&T-13STATE, its affiliates, officers, agents and employees, shall be listed as additional insured on the Commercial General Liability policy. A waiver of subrogation shall be in favor of AT&T-13STATE. The



liability policies shall be primary and non-contributory from any insurance that is maintained by AT&T-13STATE.

- 5.1.3 If use of an automobile is required, Automobile Liability insurance with minimum limits of \$1,000,000 combined single limits per occurrence for bodily injury and property damage, which coverage shall extend to all owned, hired and non-owned vehicles.
- 5.1.4 Each Party shall require subcontractors providing services under this Agreement to maintain in force the insurance coverage and limits required in this Section.
- 5.1.5 The Parties agree that companies affording the insurance coverage required under this Section shall have a rating of A or better and a Financial Size Category rating of VIII or better, as rated in the A.M. Best Key Rating Guide for Property and Casualty Insurance Companies. Upon request from the other Party, each Party shall provide to the other Party evidence of such insurance coverage.
- 5.1.6 Each Party agrees to provide the other Party with at least thirty (30) calendar days advance written notice of cancellation, material reduction or non-renewal of any of the insurance policies required herein.
- 5.1.7 Each Party agrees to accept the other Party's program of self-insurance in lieu of insurance coverage if certain requirements are met. These requirements are as follows:
  - 5.1.7.1 The Party desiring to satisfy its Workers' Compensation and Employers Liability obligations through self-insurance shall submit to the other Party a copy of its Certificate of Authority to Self-Insure its Workers' Compensation obligations issued by each state covered by this Agreement or the employer's state of hire; and
  - 5.1.7.2 The Party desiring to satisfy its automobile liability obligations through self-insurance shall submit to the other Party a copy of the state-issued letter approving self-insurance for automobile liability issued by each state covered by this Agreement; and
  - 5.1.7.3 The Party desiring to satisfy its general liability obligations through self-insurance must provide evidence acceptable to the other Party that it maintains at least an investment grade (e.g., B+ or higher) debt or credit rating as determined by a nationally recognized debt or credit rating agency such as Moody's, Standard and Poor's or Duff and Phelps.
- 5.1.8 This Section 5.1 is a general statement of insurance requirements and shall be in addition to any specific requirement of insurance referenced elsewhere in this Agreement or a Referenced Instrument.
- 5.2 Simultaneously with CLEC's execution of this Agreement, CLEC shall insert its appropriate state-specific authorized and nationally recognized OCN/AECNs for facilities-based (Interconnection and/or Lawful Unbundled Network Elements) and a separate and distinct OCN/AECN for Resale Services.

## 6. ASSIGNMENT

- 6.1 Assignment of Contract
  - 6.1.1 CLEC may not assign or transfer this Agreement or any rights or obligations hereunder, whether by operation of law or otherwise, to a non-affiliated third party without the prior written consent of AT&T-13STATE. Any attempted assignment or transfer that is not permitted is void *ab initio*.
  - 6.1.2 CLEC may assign or transfer this Agreement and all rights and obligations hereunder, whether by operation of law or otherwise, to its Affiliate by providing sixty (60) calendar days' advance written notice of such assignment or transfer to AT&T-13STATE; provided that such assignment or transfer is not inconsistent with Applicable Law (including the Affiliate's obligation to obtain and maintain proper Commission certification and approvals) or the terms and conditions of this Agreement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, CLEC may not assign or transfer this Agreement, or any rights or obligations hereunder, to its Affiliate if that Affiliate is a party to a separate

agreement with AT&T-13STATE under Sections 251 and 252 of the Act. Any attempted assignment or transfer that is not permitted is void *ab initio*.

6.2 Corporate Name Change and/or change in "d/b/a" only

6.2.1 Any assignment or transfer of an Agreement wherein only the CLEC name is changing, and which does not include a change to a CLEC OCN/ACNA, constitutes a CLEC Name Change. For a CLEC Name Change, CLEC will incur a record order charge for each CLEC CABS BAN. For resale or any other products not billed in CABS, to the extent a record order is available, a record order charge will apply per end user record. Rates for record orders are contained in the Appendix Pricing, Schedule of Prices. CLEC shall also submit a new Operator Service Questionnaire (OSQ) to update any OS/DA Rate Reference information and Branding pursuant to the rates terms and conditions of Appendices Resale and UNE, as applicable, at the rates specified in the Appendix Pricing, Schedule of Prices to this Agreement.

6.3 Company Code Change

6.3.1 Any assignment or transfer of an Agreement associated with the transfer or acquisition of "assets" provisioned under that Agreement, where the OCN/ACNA formerly assigned to such "assets" is changing constitutes a CLEC Company Code Change. For the purposes of this Section, "assets" means any Interconnection, Resale Service, Lawful Unbundled Network Element, function, facility, product or service provided under that Agreement. CLEC shall provide AT&T-13STATE with ninety (90) calendar days advance written notice of any assignment associated with a CLEC Company Code Change and obtain AT&T-13STATE's consent. AT&T-13STATE shall not unreasonably withhold consent to a CLEC Company Code Change; provided, however, AT&T-13STATE's consent to any CLEC Company Code Change is contingent upon cure of any outstanding charges owed under this Agreement and any outstanding charges associated with the "assets" subject to the CLEC Company Code Change. In addition, CLEC acknowledges that CLEC may be required to tender additional assurance of payment if requested under the terms of this Agreement.

6.3.2 For any CLEC Company Code Change, CLEC must submit a service order changing the OCN/ACNA for each end user record and/or a service order for each circuit ID number, as applicable. CLEC shall pay the appropriate charges for each service order submitted to accomplish a CLEC Company Code Change; such charges are contained in the Appendix Pricing, Schedule of Prices. In addition, CLEC shall submit a new OSQ to update any OS/DA Rate Reference information and Branding pursuant to the rates terms and conditions of Appendices Resale and Lawful UNE, as applicable, at the rates specified in the Appendix Pricing, Schedule of Prices to this Agreement. In addition, CLEC shall pay any and all charges required for re-stenciling, re-engineering, changing locks and any other work necessary with respect to Collocation, as determined on an individual case basis.

6.4 Assignment of any Interconnection, Resale Service, Lawful Unbundled Network Element, function, facility, product or service.

6.4.1 Any assignment or transfer of any Interconnection, Resale Service, Lawful Unbundled Network Element, function, facility, product or service provisioned pursuant to this Agreement without the transfer or the assignment of this Agreement shall be deemed a CLEC to CLEC Mass Migration. The CLEC that is a Party to this Agreement shall provide AT&T-13STATE with ninety (90) calendar days advance written notice of any CLEC to CLEC Mass Migration. CLEC's written notice shall include the anticipated effective date of the assignment or transfer. The acquiring CLEC must cure any outstanding charges associated with any Interconnection, Resale Service, Lawful Unbundled Network Element, function, facility, product or service to be transferred. In addition, the acquiring CLEC may be required to tender additional assurance of payment if requested under the terms of the acquiring CLEC's agreement.

- 6.4.2 Both CLECs involved in any CLEC to CLEC Mass Migration shall comply with all Applicable Law relating thereto, including but not limited to all FCC and state Commission rules relating to notice(s) to end users. The acquiring CLEC shall be responsible for issuing all service orders required to migrate any Interconnection, Resale Service, Lawful Unbundled Network Element, function, facility, product or service provided hereunder. The appropriate service order charge or administration fee (for interconnection) will apply as specified in the Appendix Pricing, Schedule of Prices to the acquiring CLEC's agreement. The acquiring CLEC shall also submit a new OSQ to update any OS/DA Rate Reference information and Branding pursuant to the rates terms and conditions of Appendices Resale and Lawful UNE, as applicable, at the rates specified in the Appendix Pricing, Schedule of Prices to the acquiring CLEC's agreement. In addition, the acquiring CLEC shall pay any and all charges required for re-stenciling, re-engineering, changing locks and any other work necessary with respect to Collocation, as determined on an individual case basis.
- 6.5 Project Coordination
- 6.5.1 AT&T-13STATE will provide project management support to effectuate changes of the types identified in Section 6.5.2.
- 6.5.2 AT&T-13STATE will provide project management support to minimize any possible service outages during any CLEC to CLEC Mass Migration. Should AT&T-13STATE's most current version of LSOR or ASOR guidelines not support the required order activity, AT&T-13STATE will issue service orders at the manual rate, as specified in the Appendix Pricing, Schedule of Prices to this Agreement, based upon type of service provided, and on the condition that CLEC provides to AT&T-13STATE any and all information AT&T-13STATE reasonably requests to effectuate such changes.
- 6.6 When an End User changes its service provider from AT&T-13STATE to CLEC or from CLEC to AT&T-13STATE and does not retain its original telephone number, the Party formerly providing service to such End User shall furnish a referral announcement ("Referral Announcement") on the original telephone number that specifies the End User's new telephone number.
- 6.6.1 The following pertains to AT&T ILLINOIS, AT&T WISCONSIN and AT&T CALIFORNIA only:
- 6.6.1.1 Referral Announcements shall be provided by a Party to the other Party for the period of time and at the rates set forth in the referring Party's tariff(s); provided, however, if either Party provides Referral Announcements for a period different (either shorter or longer) than the period(s) stated in its tariff(s) when its End Users change their telephone numbers, such Party shall provide the same level of service to End Users of the other Party.
- 6.7 The following applies to AT&T INDIANA only:
- 6.7.1 Referral Announcements shall be provided by a Party to the other Party for the period specified in 170 IAC 7-1.1-11(l)(3)(a) and (b) and at the rates set forth in the referring Party's tariff(s). However, if either Party provides Referral Announcements for a period different than the above period(s) when its End Users change their telephone numbers, such Party shall provide the same level of service to End Users of the other Party.
- 6.8 The following applies to AT&T MICHIGAN only:
- 6.8.1 Referral Announcements shall be provided by a Party to the other Party for the period specified in Michigan Administrative Rule 484.134 and at the rates set forth in the referring Party's tariff(s). However, if either Party provides Referral Announcements for a period longer than the above period(s) when its End Users change their telephone numbers, such Party shall provide the same level of service to End Users of the other Party.

6.9 The following applies to AT&T OHIO only:

- 6.9.1 Referral Announcements shall be provided by a Party to the other Party for the period of time specified in Rule 4901:1-5-12, Ohio Administrative Code and at the rates set forth in the referring Party's tariff(s). However, if either Party provides Referral Announcements for a period longer than the above period(s) when its End Users change their telephone numbers, such Party shall provide the same level of service to End Users of the other Party.
- 6.10 Each Party shall be responsible for labor relations with its own employees. Each Party agrees to notify the other Party as soon as practicable whenever such Party has knowledge that a labor dispute concerning its employees is delaying or threatens to delay such Party's timely performance of its obligations under this Agreement and shall endeavor to minimize impairment of service to the other Party (for example, by using its management personnel to perform work or by other means) in the event of a labor dispute to the extent permitted by Applicable Law.
- 6.11 Each Party shall act in good faith in its performance under this Agreement and, in each case in which a Party's consent or agreement is required or requested hereunder, such Party shall not unreasonably withhold or delay such consent or agreement.
- 6.12 This Agreement contains comprehensive OSS terms and conditions; however, CLEC represents and covenants that it will only use OSS furnished pursuant to this Agreement for activities related to Lawful UNEs, resold services or other services covered by this Agreement, for which this Agreement contains explicit terms, conditions and rates.
- 6.13 The Parties acknowledge and agree that they do not intend to include products and services in this Agreement that do not have corresponding rates and charges. Accordingly, if this Agreement is executed and/or approved by the Commission and the Parties later discover that a product or service is included in this Agreement without an associated rate or charge, the Parties agree that they will agree upon a rate or charge to include in this Agreement before the product or service is provided or performed. If the Parties cannot agree, either Party may pursue dispute resolution under the applicable provisions of this Agreement.

**7. EFFECTIVE DATE, TERM AND TERMINATION**

- 7.1 In AT&T-13STATE, with the exception of AT&T OHIO, the Effective Date of this Agreement shall be ten (10) calendar days after the Commission approves this Agreement under Section 252(e) of the Act or, absent such Commission approval, the date this Agreement is deemed approved under Section 252(e)(4) of the Act. In AT&T OHIO, based on the PUC-OH, the Agreement is Effective upon filing and is deemed approved by operation of law on the 91<sup>st</sup> day after filing.
- 7.2 The term of this Agreement shall commence upon the Effective Date of this Agreement and shall expire on February 6, 2009, provided; however, should CLEC implement (i.e. provided assurance of payment, ordered facilities, and submitted ASRs for trunking) this Agreement within six (6) months of the Effective Date, then this Agreement will automatically renew for one additional year and expire on February 6, 2010 (the "Term"). Absent the receipt by one Party of written notice from the other Party within 180 calendar days prior to the expiration of the Term to the effect that such Party does not intend to extend the Term, this Agreement shall remain in full force and effect on and after the expiration of the Term until terminated by either Party pursuant to Section 7.3 or 7.4.
- 7.3 Notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement, either Party may terminate this Agreement and the provision of any Interconnection, Resale Services, Lawful Unbundled Network Elements, functions, facilities, products or services provided pursuant to this Agreement, at the sole discretion of the terminating Party, in the event that the other Party fails to perform a material obligation or breaches a material term of this Agreement and the other Party fails to cure such nonperformance or breach within forty-five (45) calendar days after written notice thereof. Any termination of this Agreement pursuant to this Section 7.3 shall take effect immediately upon delivery of written notice to the other Party that it

- failed to cure such nonperformance or breach within forty-five (45) calendar days after written notice thereof.
- 7.4 If pursuant to Section 7.2, this Agreement continues in full force and effect after the expiration of the Term, either Party may terminate this Agreement after delivering written notice to the other Party of its intention to terminate this Agreement, subject to Sections 7.5 and 7.6. Neither Party shall have any liability to the other Party for termination of this Agreement pursuant to this Section 7.4 other than its obligations under Sections 7.5 and 7.6.
- 7.5 Upon termination or expiration of this Agreement in accordance with Sections 7.2, 7.3 or 7.4:
- 7.5.1 Each Party shall continue to comply with its obligations set forth in Section 42, Scope of this Agreement; and
- 7.5.2 Each Party shall promptly pay all amounts owed under this Agreement or place any Disputed Amounts into an escrow account that complies with Section 10.4 hereof;
- 7.5.3 Each Party's confidentiality obligations shall survive; and
- 7.5.4 Each Party's indemnification obligations shall survive.
- 7.6 If either Party serves notice of expiration pursuant to Section 7.2 or Section 7.4, CLEC shall have ten (10) calendar days to provide AT&T-13STATE written confirmation if CLEC wishes to pursue a successor agreement with AT&T-13STATE or terminate its agreement. CLEC shall identify the action to be taken on each applicable (13) state(s). If CLEC wishes to pursue a successor agreement with AT&T-13STATE, CLEC shall attach to its written confirmation or notice of expiration/termination, as applicable, a written request to commence negotiations with AT&T-13STATE under Sections 251/252 of the Act and identify each of the state(s) the successor agreement will cover. Upon receipt of CLEC's Section 252(a)(1) request, the Parties shall commence good faith negotiations on a successor agreement.
- 7.7 If written notice is not issued pursuant to Section 7.2, the rates, terms and conditions of this Agreement shall continue in full force and effect until the earlier of (i) the effective date of its successor agreement, whether such successor agreement is established via negotiation, arbitration or pursuant to Section 252(i) of the Act; or (ii) the date that is ten (10) months after the date on which AT&T-13STATE received CLEC's Section 252(a)(1) request.
- 7.8 If at any time during the Section 252(a)(1) negotiation process (prior to or after the expiration date or termination date of this Agreement), CLEC withdraws its Section 252(a)(1) request, CLEC must include in its notice of withdrawal a request to adopt a successor agreement under Section 252(i) of the Act or affirmatively state that CLEC does not wish to pursue a successor agreement with AT&T-13STATE for a given state. The rates, terms and conditions of this Agreement shall continue in full force and effect until the later of: 1) the expiration of the term of this Agreement, or 2) the expiration of ninety (90) calendar days after the date CLEC provides notice of withdrawal of its Section 252(a)(1) request. If the Term of this Agreement has expired, on the earlier of (i) the ninety-first (91st) calendar day following AT&T-13STATE's receipt of CLEC's notice of withdrawal of its Section 252(a)(1) request or (ii) the effective date of the agreement following approval by the Commission of the adoption of an agreement under 252(i), the Parties shall, have no further obligations under this Agreement except those set forth in Section 7.5 of this Agreement.
- 7.9 If CLEC does not affirmatively state that it wishes to pursue a successor agreement with AT&T-13STATE in its, as applicable, notice of expiration or termination or the written confirmation required after receipt of the AT&T-owned ILEC's notice of expiration or termination, then the rates, terms and conditions of this Agreement shall continue in full force and effect until the later of 1) the expiration of the Term of this Agreement, or 2) the expiration of ninety (90) calendar days after the date CLEC provided or received notice of expiration or termination. If the Term of this Agreement has expired, on the ninety-first (91st) day following CLEC provided or received notice of expiration or termination, the

Parties shall have no further obligations under this Agreement except those set forth in Section 7.5 of this Agreement.

- 7.10 In the event of termination of this Agreement pursuant to Section 7, AT&T-13STATE and CLEC shall cooperate in good faith to effect an orderly transition of service under this Agreement; provided that CLEC shall be solely responsible (from a financial, operational and administrative standpoint) to ensure that its End Users have been transitioned to a new LEC by the expiration date or termination date of this Agreement.

## 8. END USER FRAUD

- 8.1 AT&T-13STATE shall not be liable to CLEC for any fraud associated with CLEC's End User's account, including 1+ IntraLATA toll, ported numbers, and Alternate Billing Traffic (ABT). ABT is a service that allows End Users to bill calls to account(s) that might not be associated with the originating line. There are three types of ABT calls: calling card, collect, and third number billed calls.
- 8.2 The Parties agree to cooperate with one another to investigate, minimize, and take corrective action in cases of fraud involving 1+ IntraLATA toll calls, ABT, and ported numbers. The Parties' fraud minimization procedures are to be cost-effective and implemented so as not to unduly burden or harm one Party as compared to the other.
- 8.3 In cases of suspected fraudulent activity by an End User, at a minimum, the cooperation referenced in Section 8.2 will include providing to the other Party, upon request, information concerning Customers who terminate services to that Party without paying all outstanding charges. The Party seeking such information is responsible for securing the End User's permission to obtain such information.
- 8.4 AT&T-10STATE, AT&T CALIFORNIA and AT&T CONNECTICUT will provide notification messages to CLEC on suspected occurrences of ABT-related fraud on CLEC accounts stored in the applicable LIDB. AT&T CALIFORNIA will provide such alert messages by e-mail. AT&T-10STATE and AT&T CONNECTICUT will provide via fax.
- 8.4.1 AT&T SOUTHWEST REGION 5-STATE (on behalf of itself and AT&T CONNECTICUT) and AT&T CALIFORNIA will use a Fraud Monitoring System to determine suspected occurrences of ABT-related fraud for CLEC using the same criteria AT&T SOUTHWEST REGION 5-STATE and AT&T CALIFORNIA use to monitor fraud on their respective accounts.
- 8.4.2 CLEC understands that Fraud Monitoring System alerts only identify potential occurrences of fraud. CLEC understands and agrees that it will need to perform its own investigations to determine whether a fraud situation actually exists. CLEC understands and agrees that it will also need to determine what, if any, action CLEC should take as a result of a Fraud Monitoring System alert.
- 8.4.3 The Parties will provide contact names and numbers to each other for the exchange of Fraud Monitoring System alert notification.
- 8.5 In AT&T SOUTHWEST REGION 5-STATE and AT&T CALIFORNIA ABT-related alerts are provided to CLEC at no additional charge, except as related in 8.6 below.
- 8.6 In AT&T CALIFORNIA 1+ IntraLATA toll fraud alerts are offered for Resale only under the product name Traffic Alert Referral Service (TARS). For TARS, CLEC agrees to pay a recurring usage rate as outlined in Appendix Pricing. For terms and conditions for TARS, see Appendix Resale.

## 9. ASSURANCE OF PAYMENT

- 9.1 Upon request by AT&T-13STATE, CLEC will provide AT&T-13STATE with adequate assurance of payment of amounts due (or to become due) to AT&T-13STATE.

- 9.2 Assurance of payment may be requested by AT&T-12STATE if:
- 9.2.1 at the Effective Date CLEC had not already established satisfactory credit by having made at least twelve (12) consecutive months of timely payments to AT&T-13STATE for charges incurred as a CLEC; or
  - 9.2.2 in AT&T-12STATE's reasonable judgment, at the Effective Date or at any time thereafter, there has been an impairment of the established credit, financial health, or credit worthiness of CLEC. Such impairment will be determined from information available from financial sources, including but not limited to Moody's, Standard and Poor's, and the Wall Street Journal. Financial information about CLEC that may be considered includes, but is not limited to, investor warning briefs, rating downgrades, and articles discussing pending credit problems; or
  - 9.2.3 CLEC fails to timely pay a bill rendered to CLEC by AT&T-12STATE (except such portion of a bill that is subject to a good faith, bona fide dispute and as to which CLEC has complied with all requirements set forth in Section 11.3); or
  - 9.2.4 CLEC admits its inability to pay its debts as such debts become due, has commenced a voluntary case (or has had an involuntary case commenced against it) under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code or any other law relating to insolvency, reorganization, winding-up, composition or adjustment of debts or the like, has made an assignment for the benefit of creditors or is subject to a receivership or similar proceeding.
- 9.3 Unless otherwise agreed by the Parties, the assurance of payment will consist of
- 9.3.1 a cash security deposit in U.S. dollars held by AT&T-12STATE ("Cash Deposit") or
  - 9.3.2 an unconditional, irrevocable standby bank letter of credit from a financial institution acceptable to AT&T-12STATE naming the AT&T-owned ILEC(s) designated by AT&T-12STATE as the beneficiary(ies) thereof and otherwise in form and substance satisfactory to AT&T-12STATE ("Letter of Credit").
  - 9.3.3 The Cash Deposit or Letter of Credit must be in an amount equal to three (3) months anticipated charges (including, but not limited to, recurring, non-recurring and usage sensitive charges, termination charges and advance payments), as reasonably determined by AT&T-12STATE, for the Interconnection, Resale Services, Lawful Unbundled Network Elements, Collocation or any other functions, facilities, products or services to be furnished by AT&T-12STATE under this Agreement.
    - 9.3.3.1 Notwithstanding anything else set forth in this Agreement, AT&T SOUTHWEST REGION 5-STATE will not request assurance of payment of charges reasonably anticipated by AT&T SOUTHWEST REGION 5-STATE to be incurred in Arkansas in an amount that would exceed one (1) month's projected bill for CLEC's initial market entry; provided, however, that after three (3) months of operation, AT&T SOUTHWEST REGION 5-STATE may request assurance of payment of charges reasonably anticipated by AT&T SOUTHWEST REGION 5-STATE to be incurred in Arkansas in an amount not to exceed two times projected average monthly billing to CLEC.
    - 9.3.3.2 Notwithstanding anything else set forth in this Agreement, AT&T SOUTHWEST REGION 5-STATE will not request assurance of payment of charges reasonably anticipated by AT&T SOUTHWEST REGION 5-STATE to be incurred in Oklahoma in an amount that would exceed two times projected average monthly billing to CLEC.
- 9.4 To the extent that AT&T-12STATE elects to require a Cash Deposit, the Parties intend that the provision of such Cash Deposit shall constitute the grant of a security interest in the Cash Deposit pursuant to Article 9 of the Uniform Commercial Code in effect in any relevant jurisdiction.
- 9.5 A Cash Deposit will accrue interest, however, AT&T-12STATE will not pay interest on a Letter of Credit.

- 9.6 AT&T-12STATE may, but is not obligated to, draw on the Letter of Credit or the Cash Deposit, as applicable, upon the occurrence of any one of the following events:
- 9.6.1 CLEC owes AT&T-12STATE undisputed charges under this Agreement that are more than thirty (30) calendar days past due; or
- 9.6.2 CLEC admits its inability to pay its debts as such debts become due, has commenced a voluntary case (or has had an involuntary case commenced against it) under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code or any other law relating to insolvency, reorganization, winding-up, composition or adjustment of debts or the like, has made an assignment for the benefit of creditors or is subject to a receivership or similar proceeding; or
- 9.6.3 The expiration or termination of this Agreement.
- 9.7 If AT&T-12STATE draws on the Letter of Credit or Cash Deposit, upon request by AT&T-12STATE, CLEC will provide a replacement or supplemental letter of credit or cash deposit conforming to the requirements of Section 9.3.
- 9.8 Notwithstanding anything else set forth in this Agreement, if AT&T-12STATE makes a request for assurance of payment in accordance with the terms of this Section, then AT&T-12STATE shall have no obligation thereafter to perform under this Agreement until such time as CLEC has furnished AT&T-12STATE with the assurance of payment requested; provided, however, that AT&T-12STATE will permit CLEC a minimum of ten (10) Business Days to respond to a request for assurance of payment before invoking this Section.
- 9.8.1 If CLEC fails to furnish the requested adequate assurance of payment on or before the date set forth in the request, AT&T-12STATE may also invoke the provisions set forth in Section 11.5 through Section 11.7.
- 9.9 A cash deposit held by AT&T-12STATE shall be returned to CLEC at the expiration of twelve months from the date the CLEC receives its first bill under this Agreement after paying the cash deposit, so long as CLEC made satisfactory payment of all charges billed under this Agreement during that twelve month period. For purposes of the preceding sentence, "satisfactory payment" shall mean that payment was made after the date the bill is due no more than one time during the twelve month period and that no payment was made by a check that was subsequently dishonored. If the CLEC does not meet these refund criteria, the deposit may be retained for an additional six months, at the end of which another review will be made to determine whether CLEC has made satisfactory payment (as defined in the preceding sentence) of all charges within the twelve months immediately preceding that review.
- 9.10 The fact that a Cash Deposit or Letter of Credit is requested by AT&T-12STATE shall in no way relieve CLEC from timely compliance with all payment obligations under this Agreement (including, but not limited to, recurring, non-recurring and usage sensitive charges, termination charges and advance payments), nor does it constitute a waiver or modification of the terms of this Agreement pertaining to disconnection or re-entry for non-payment of any amounts required to be paid hereunder.
- 9.11 For adequate assurance of payment of amounts due (or to become due) to AT&T CONNECTICUT, see the applicable DPUC ordered tariff.

## 10. BILLING AND PAYMENT OF CHARGES

- 10.1 Unless otherwise stated, each Party will render monthly bill(s) to the other for Interconnection, Resale Services, Lawful Unbundled Network Elements, Collocation, functions, facilities, products and services provided hereunder at the rates set forth in the applicable Appendix Pricing, as set forth in applicable tariffs or other documents specifically referenced herein and, as applicable, as agreed upon by the Parties or authorized by a Party.
- 10.1.1 Remittance in full of all bills rendered by AT&T-10STATE and AT&T CALIFORNIA is due within thirty (30) calendar days of each bill date (the "Bill Due Date"). Payment must be made in accordance with the terms set forth in Section 10.3 of this Agreement.



- 10.1.2 Remittance in full of all bills rendered by AT&T NEVADA is due in accordance with the terms set forth in the Commission C2-A Tariff, with the date on which amounts are due referred to herein as the "Bill Due Date."
- 10.1.3 Remittance in full of all bills rendered by AT&T CONNECTICUT is due in accordance with the terms set forth in the Connecticut Access Service Tariff approved by the DPUC, with the date on which amounts are due referred to herein as the "Bill Due Date."
- 10.1.4 Remittance in full of all bills rendered by CLEC is due within thirty (30) calendar days of each bill date (the "Bill Due Date").
- 10.1.5 If CLEC fails to remit payment for any charges by the Bill Due Date, or if payment for any portion of the charges is received from CLEC after the Bill Due Date, or if payment for any portion of the charges is received in funds which are not immediately available to AT&T-12STATE as of the Bill Due Date (individually and collectively, "Past Due"), then a late payment charge will be assessed as provided below, as applicable.
- 10.1.5.1 If any charge incurred under this Agreement that is billed out of any AT&T-8STATE billing system other than the AT&T SOUTHWEST REGION 5-STATE Customer Records Information System (CRIS) is Past Due, the unpaid amounts will accrue interest from the day following the Bill Due Date until paid at the lesser of (i) the rate used to compute the Late Payment Charge in the applicable AT&T-8STATE intrastate access services tariff for that state and (ii) the highest rate of interest that may be charged under Applicable Law. The method and timing for application of interest to any charge incurred under this Agreement that is billed out of any AT&T-8STATE billing system other than AT&T SOUTHWEST REGION 5-STATE's CRIS will comply with the process set forth in the applicable AT&T-8STATE intrastate access services tariff for that state.
- 10.1.5.2 If any charge incurred under this Agreement that is billed out of AT&T SOUTHWEST REGION 5-STATE's CRIS is Past Due, the unpaid amounts will accrue interest from the day following the Bill Due Date until paid. The interest rate applied to AT&T SOUTHWEST REGION 5-STATE CRIS-billed Past Due unpaid amounts will be the lesser of (i) the rate used to compute the Late Payment Charge contained in the applicable AT&T SOUTHWEST REGION 5-STATE intrastate retail tariff governing Late Payment Charges to AT&T SOUTHWEST REGION 5-STATE's retail End Users that are business End Users in that state and (ii) the highest rate of interest that may be charged under Applicable Law. The method and timing for application of interest to any charge incurred under this Agreement that is billed out of AT&T SOUTHWEST REGION 5-STATE's CRIS will be governed by the AT&T SOUTHWEST REGION 5-STATE intrastate retail tariff governing Late Payment Charges to AT&T SOUTHWEST REGION 5-STATE's retail End Users that are business End Users in that state.
- 10.1.5.3 If any charge incurred under this Agreement that is billed out of any AT&T MIDWEST REGION 5-STATE billing system is Past Due, the unpaid amounts will accrue interest from the Bill Due Date at the lesser of (i) one and one-half percent (1 ½%) per month and (ii) the highest rate of interest that may be charged under Applicable Law, compounded daily from the day following the Bill Due Date to and including the date that the payment is actually made and available.
- 10.2 If any charge incurred by AT&T-13STATE under this Agreement is Past Due, the unpaid amounts will accrue interest from the day following the Bill Due Date until paid. The interest rate applied will be the lesser of (i) the rate used to compute the Late Payment Charge contained in the applicable AT&T-13STATE intrastate access services tariff for that state and (ii) the highest rate of interest that may be charged under Applicable Law, compounded daily from the Bill Due Date to and including the date that the payment is actually made and available.

- 10.3 CLEC shall make all payments to AT&T-12STATE via electronic funds credit transfers through the Automated Clearing House Association (ACH) network to the financial institution designated by AT&T-12STATE. Remittance information will be communicated together with the funds transfer via the ACH network. CLEC must use the CCD+ or the CTX transaction set. CLEC and AT&T-12STATE will abide by the National Automated Clearing House Association (NACHA) Rules and Regulations. Each ACH credit transfer must be received by AT&T-12STATE no later than the Bill Due Date of each bill or Late Payment Charges will apply. AT&T-12STATE is not liable for any delays in receipt of funds or errors in entries caused by CLEC or Third Parties, including CLEC's financial institution. CLEC is responsible for its own banking fees.
- 10.3.1 Processing of payments not made via electronic funds credit transfers through the ACH network may be delayed. CLEC is responsible for any Late Payment Charges resulting from CLEC's failure to use electronic funds credit transfers through the ACH network.
- 10.3.2 CLEC must make all payments to AT&T CONNECTICUT in "immediately available funds." All payments to AT&T CONNECTICUT must be made using one of the methods set forth in the Connecticut Access Service Tariff approved by the DPUC or via electronic funds credit transfers through the Automated Clearing House Association (ACH) network to the financial institution designated by AT&T CONNECTICUT. If CLEC makes payment through funds transfer via the ACH network, remittance information will be communicated together with the funds transfer via the ACH network. If CLEC makes payment through funds transfer via the ACH network, CLEC must use the CCD+ or the CTX transaction set. CLEC and AT&T CONNECTICUT will abide by the National Automated Clearing House Association (NACHA) Rules and Regulations. Each payment must be received by AT&T CONNECTICUT no later than the Bill Due Date of each bill or Late Payment Charges will apply. AT&T CONNECTICUT is not liable for any delays in receipt of funds or errors in entries caused by CLEC or Third Parties, including CLEC's financial institution. CLEC is responsible for its own banking fees.
- 10.4 If any portion of an amount due to a Party (the "Billing Party") under this Agreement is subject to a bona fide dispute between the Parties, the Party billed (the "Non-Paying Party") must, prior to the Bill Due Date, give written notice to the Billing Party of the amounts it disputes ("Disputed Amounts") and include in such written notice the specific details and reasons for disputing each item listed in Section 12.4.1. The Disputing Party should utilize any existing and preferred form provided by the Billing Party to communicate disputes to the Billing Party. On or before the Bill Due Date, the Non-Paying Party must pay (i) all undisputed amounts to the Billing Party, and (ii) all Disputed Amounts [other than disputed charges arising from Appendix Intercarrier Compensation] into an interest bearing escrow account with a Third Party escrow agent mutually agreed upon by the Parties.
- 10.5 Disputed Amounts in escrow will be subject to Late Payment Charges as set forth in Section 10.1.5.
- 10.6 Requirements to Establish Escrow Accounts.
- 10.6.1 To be acceptable, the Third Party escrow agent must meet all of the following criteria:
- 10.6.1.1 The financial institution proposed as the Third Party escrow agent must be located within the continental United States;
  - 10.6.1.2 The financial institution proposed as the Third Party escrow agent may not be an Affiliate of either Party; and
  - 10.6.1.3 The financial institution proposed as the Third Party escrow agent must be authorized to handle ACH (credit transactions) (electronic funds) transfers.
- 10.6.2 In addition to the foregoing requirements for the Third Party escrow agent, the disputing Party and the financial institution proposed as the Third Party escrow agent must agree in writing furnished to the Billing Party that the escrow account will meet all of the following criteria:
- 10.6.2.1 The escrow account must be an interest bearing account;

- 10.6.2.2 all charges associated with opening and maintaining the escrow account will be borne by the disputing Party;
- 10.6.2.3 that none of the funds deposited into the escrow account or the interest earned thereon may be used to pay the financial institution's charges for serving as the Third Party escrow agent;
- 10.6.2.4 all interest earned on deposits to the escrow account will be disbursed to the Parties in the same proportion as the principal; and
- 10.6.2.5 disbursements from the escrow account will be limited to those:
  - 10.6.2.5.1 authorized in writing by both the disputing Party and the Billing Party (that is, signature(s) from representative(s) of the disputing Party only are not sufficient to properly authorize any disbursement); or
  - 10.6.2.5.2 made in accordance with the final, non-appealable order of the arbitrator appointed pursuant to the provisions of Section 12.7; or
  - 10.6.2.5.3 made in accordance with the final, non-appealable order of the court that had jurisdiction to enter the arbitrator's award pursuant to Section 12.7.
- 10.6.3 Disputed Amounts in escrow will be subject to Late Payment Charges as set forth in Section 10.1.5.
- 10.6.4 Issues related to Disputed Amounts shall be resolved in accordance with the procedures identified in the Dispute Resolution provisions set forth in Section 12.
- 10.7 If the Non-Paying Party disputes any charges and any portion of the dispute is resolved in favor of such Non-Paying Party, the Parties will cooperate to ensure that all of the following actions are completed:
  - 10.7.1 the Billing Party will credit the invoice of the Non-Paying Party for that portion of the Disputed Amounts resolved in favor of the Non-Paying Party, together with any Late Payment Charges assessed with respect thereto no later than the second Bill Due Date after resolution of the dispute;
    - 10.7.1.1 within ten (10) Business Days after resolution of the dispute, the portion of the escrowed Disputed Amounts resolved in favor of the Non-Paying Party will be released to the Non-Paying Party, together with any interest accrued thereon;
    - 10.7.1.2 within ten (10) Business Days after resolution of the dispute, the portion of the escrowed Disputed Amounts resolved in favor of the Billing Party will be released to the Billing Party, together with any interest accrued thereon; and
    - 10.7.1.3 no later than the third Bill Due Date after the resolution of the dispute, the Non-Paying Party will pay the Billing Party the difference between the amount of accrued interest the Billing Party received from the escrow disbursement and the amount of Late Payment Charges the Billing Party is entitled to receive pursuant to Section 10.1.5.
- 10.8 If the Non-Paying Party disputes any charges and the entire dispute is resolved in favor of the Billing Party, the Parties will cooperate to ensure that all of the actions required by Section 10.7.1.1 and Section 10.7.1.3 are completed within the times specified therein.
  - 10.8.1 Failure by the Non-Paying Party to pay any charges determined to be owed to the Billing Party within the time specified in Section 10.7 shall be grounds for termination of the Interconnection, Resale Services, Lawful Unbundled Network Elements, Collocation, functions, facilities, products and services provided under this Agreement.
- 10.9 If either Party requests one or more additional copies of a bill, the requesting Party will pay the Billing Party a reasonable fee for each additional copy, unless such copy was requested due to failure in delivery of the original bill or correction(s) to the original bill.

10.9.1 Each additional copy of any bill provided for billing from **AT&T SOUTHWEST REGION 5-STATE**'s CABS billing system will incur charges as specified in Access Service Tariff FCC No. 73 Section 13 Alternate Bill Media.

10.9.2 Bills provided to CLEC from **AT&T SOUTHWEST REGION 5-STATE**'s CRIS system through Bill Plus will incur charges as specified in Appendix Pricing.

#### 10.10 Exchange of Billing Message Information

10.10.1 **AT&T-13STATE** will provide CLEC a specific Daily Usage File ("DUF" or "Usage Extract") for Resale Services provided hereunder ("Customer Usage Data"). Such Customer Usage Data will be provided by **AT&T-13STATE** in accordance with Exchange Message Interface (EMI) guidelines supported by OBF. Any exceptions to the supported formats will be noted in the DUF implementation requirements documentation for each AT&T-owned ILEC. The DUF will include (i) specific daily usage, including both Local Traffic (if and where applicable) and LEC-carried IntraLATA Toll Traffic, in EMI format for usage sensitive services furnished in connection with each Resale Service to the extent that similar usage sensitive information is provided to retail End Users of **AT&T-13STATE** within that state, (ii) with sufficient detail to enable CLEC to bill its End Users for usage sensitive services furnished by **AT&T-13STATE** in connection with Resale Service provided by **AT&T-13STATE**. Procedures and processes for implementing the interfaces with **AT&T-13STATE** will be included in implementation requirements documentation.

10.10.2 To establish file transmission for the Daily Usage File, CLEC must provide to **AT&T-13STATE** a separate written request for each state no less than sixty (60) calendar days prior to the desired first transmission date for each file.

10.10.3 Call detail for LEC-carried calls that are alternately billed to CLEC End Users' lines provided by **AT&T-13STATE** through Resale will be forwarded to CLEC as rated call detail on the DUF.

10.10.4 **AT&T SOUTHWEST REGION 5-STATE** will bill CLEC for Usage Extract furnished by **AT&T SOUTHWEST REGION 5-STATE** in accordance with the price(s) provided in the applicable Appendix Pricing under "Electronic Billing Information Data (Daily Usage) per message" or "Provision of Message Detail a.k.a. Daily Usage File (DUF)."

10.10.5 Interexchange call detail on Resale Services that is forwarded to **AT&T-13STATE** for billing, which would otherwise be processed by **AT&T-13STATE** for its retail End Users, will be returned to the IXC and will not be passed through to CLEC. This call detail will be returned to the IXC with a transaction code indicating that the returned call originated from a resold account. Billing for Information Services and other ancillary services traffic on Resale Services will be passed through when **AT&T-13STATE** records the message.

10.11 When CLEC serves its end user via switch-based service, both Parties will settle tariffed ABT charges for calls accepted by each Party's end users, except in AT&T Connecticut. The originating Party will pay the Party that has the billable end user a Billing and Collection (B&C) fee per billed message as set forth in the pricing schedule.

## 11. **NONPAYMENT AND PROCEDURES FOR DISCONNECTION**

11.1 If a Party is furnished Interconnection, Resale Services, Lawful Unbundled Network Elements, Collocation, functions, facilities, products and services under the terms of this Agreement in more than one (1) state, Sections 11.1 through 11.7, inclusive, shall be applied separately for each such state.

11.2 Failure to pay charges shall be grounds for disconnection of Interconnection, Resale Services, Lawful Unbundled Network Elements, Collocation, functions, facilities, products and services furnished under this Agreement. If a Party fails to pay any charges billed to it under this Agreement, including but not limited to any Late Payment Charges or miscellaneous charges ("Unpaid Charges"), and any portion of such Unpaid Charges remain unpaid after the Bill Due Date, the Billing Party will notify the Non-Paying Party in writing that in order to avoid disruption or disconnection of the Interconnection, Resale

Services, Lawful Unbundled Network Elements, Collocation, functions, facilities, products and services furnished under this Agreement, the Non-Paying Party must remit all Unpaid Charges to the Billing Party within ten (10) Business Days following receipt of the Billing Party's notice of Unpaid Charges.

11.2.1 AT&T INDIANA will also provide any written notification to the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission as required by rule 170 IAC 7-6.

11.2.2 AT&T KANSAS will also provide any written notification to the Kansas Corporation Commission as required by Order Number 5 (dated March 25, 2002) in Docket 01-GIMT-649-GIT.

11.2.3 AT&T MISSOURI will also provide any written notification to the Missouri Public Service Commission as required by Rule 4 CSR 240-32.120.

11.3 If the Non-Paying Party desires to dispute any portion of the Unpaid Charges, the Non-Paying Party must complete all of the following actions not later than ten (10) Business Days following receipt of the Billing Party's notice of Unpaid Charges:

11.3.1 notify the Billing Party in writing which portion(s) of the Unpaid Charges it disputes, including the total amount disputed ("Disputed Amounts") and the specific details listed in Section 12.4.1 of this Agreement, together with the reasons for its dispute; and

11.3.2 pay all undisputed Unpaid Charges to the Billing Party; and

11.3.3 pay all Disputed Amounts [other than disputed charges arising from Appendix Inter-carrier Compensation] into an interest bearing escrow account that complies with the requirements set forth in Section 10.6; and

11.3.4 furnish written evidence to the Billing Party that the Non-Paying Party has established an interest bearing escrow account that complies with all of the terms set forth in Section 10.6 and deposited a sum equal to the Disputed Amounts [other than disputed charges arising from Appendix Inter-carrier Compensation] into that account. Until evidence that the full amount of the Disputed Charges [other than disputed charges arising from Appendix Inter-carrier Compensation] has been deposited into an escrow account that complies with Section 10.6 is furnished to the Billing Party, such Unpaid Charges will not be deemed to be "disputed" under Section 12.

11.4 Issues related to Disputed Amounts shall be resolved in accordance with the procedures identified in the Dispute Resolution provision set forth in Section 12.

11.5 AT&T-12STATE

11.5.1 If the Non-Paying Party fails to (a) pay any undisputed Unpaid Charges in response to the Billing Party's Section 11.2 notice, (b) deposit the disputed portion of any Unpaid Charges into an interest bearing escrow account that complies with all of the terms set forth in Section 10.6 within the time specified in Section 11.3, (c) timely furnish any assurance of payment requested in accordance with Section 9 or (d) make a payment in accordance with the terms of any mutually agreed payment arrangement, the Billing Party may, in addition to exercising any other rights or remedies it may have under Applicable Law, provide written demand to the Non-Paying Party for payment of any of the obligations set forth in (a) through (d) of this Section within ten (10) Business Days. On the day that the Billing Party provides such written demand to the Non-Paying Party, the Billing Party may also exercise any or all of the following options:

11.5.1.1 suspend acceptance of any application, request or order from the Non-Paying Party for new or additional Interconnection, Resale Services, Lawful Unbundled Network Elements, Collocation, functions, facilities, products or services under this Agreement; and/or

11.5.1.2 suspend completion of any pending application, request or order from the Non-Paying Party for new or additional Interconnection, Resale Services, Lawful Unbundled

Network Elements, Collocation, functions, facilities, products or services under this Agreement.

11.5.2 Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Agreement, the Billing Party's exercise of any of its options under Section 11.5.1, Section 11.5.1.1 and Section 11.5.1.2:

11.5.2.1 will not delay or relieve the Non-Paying Party's obligation to pay all charges on each and every invoice on or before the applicable Bill Due Date, and

11.5.2.2 will exclude any affected application, request, order or service from any otherwise applicable performance interval, Performance Benchmark or Performance Measure.

**11.6 AT&T MIDWEST REGION 5-STATE only**

11.6.1 If the Non-Paying Party fails to pay the Billing Party on or before the date specified in the demand provided under Section 11.5.1 of this Agreement, the Billing Party may, in addition to exercising any other rights or remedies it may have under Applicable Law,

11.6.1.1 cancel any pending application, request or order from the Non-Paying Party for new or additional Interconnection, Resale Services, Lawful Unbundled Network Elements, Collocation, functions, facilities, products or services under this Agreement; and

11.6.1.2 discontinue providing any Interconnection, Resale Services, Lawful Unbundled Network Elements, Collocation, functions, facilities, products or services furnished under this Agreement.

11.6.1.2.1 Notwithstanding any inconsistent provisions in this Agreement, discontinuance of service by AT&T INDIANA will comply with Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission rule 170 IAC 7-6.

11.6.1.2.2 The Billing Party has no liability to the Non-Paying Party or its End Users in the event of discontinuance of service.

11.6.1.2.3 Additional charges may become applicable under the terms of this Agreement following discontinuance of service.

**11.7 AT&T-7STATE only**

11.7.1 Any demand provided by AT&T-7STATE to CLEC under Section 11.5.1 will further specify that upon disconnection of CLEC, AT&T-7STATE will cause CLEC's End Users that are provisioned through Resale Services to be transferred to AT&T-7STATE local service.

11.7.1.1 A copy of the demand provided to CLEC under Section 11.7.1 will be provided to the Commission.

11.7.2 If the Non-Paying Party fails to pay the Billing Party on or before the date specified in the demand provided under Section 11.5.1 of this Agreement, the Billing Party may, in addition to exercising any other rights or remedies it may have under Applicable Law,

11.7.2.1 cancel any pending application, request or order for new or additional Interconnection, Resale Services, Lawful Unbundled Network Elements, Collocation, functions, facilities, products or services under this Agreement; and

11.7.2.2 disconnect any Interconnection, Resale Services, Lawful Unbundled Network Elements, Collocation, functions, facilities, products or services furnished under this Agreement.

11.7.2.2.1 Notwithstanding any inconsistent provisions in this Agreement, disconnection of service by AT&T KANSAS will comply with Kansas Corporation Commission Order Number 5 (dated March 25, 2002) in Docket 01-GIMT-649-GIT.

11.7.3 On the same date that Resale Services to CLEC are disconnected, AT&T-7STATE will transfer CLEC's End Users provisioned through Resale Services to AT&T-7STATE's local service. To the extent available at retail from AT&T-7STATE, the Resale End Users transferred to AT&T-

7STATE's local service will receive the same services that were provided through CLEC immediately prior to the time of transfer; provided, however, AT&T-7STATE reserves the right to toll restrict (both interLATA and intraLATA) such transferred End Users.

11.7.3.1 Notwithstanding any inconsistent provisions in this Agreement, the transfer of Resale End Users to AT&T MISSOURI will comply with Missouri Public Service Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-32.120.

11.7.3.2 AT&T-7STATE will inform the Commission of the names of all Resale End Users transferred through this process.

11.7.3.3 Conversion charges and service establishment charges for transferring Resale End Users to AT&T-7STATE as specified in Section 11.7.3 will be billed to CLEC.

11.7.3.4 The Billing Party has no liability to the Non-Paying Party or its End Users in the event of disconnection of service in compliance with Section 11.7.2. AT&T-7STATE has no liability to CLEC or CLEC's End Users in the event of disconnection of service to CLEC and the transfer of any Resale End Users to AT&T-7STATE local service in connection with such disconnection.

11.7.4 Within five (5) calendar days following the transfer, AT&T-7STATE will notify each transferred Resale End User that because of CLEC's failure to pay AT&T-7STATE, the End User's local service is now being provided by AT&T-7STATE. This notice will also advise each transferred Resale End User that the End User has thirty (30) calendar days from the date of transfer to select a new Local Service Provider.

11.7.4.1 Notwithstanding any inconsistent provisions in this Agreement, notice of transfer to Missouri Resale End Users will comply with Missouri Public Service Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-32.120.

11.7.4.1.1 Notwithstanding any inconsistent provisions in this Agreement, notice of transfer to Kansas Resale End Users will comply with Kansas Corporation Commission Order No. 5 (dated March 25, 2002) in Docket 01-GIMT-649-GIT.

11.7.5 The transferred Resale End User shall be responsible for any and all charges incurred during the selection period other than those billed to CLEC under Section 11.7.3.3.

11.7.6 If any Resale End User transferred to AT&T-7STATE's local service under Section 11.7.3 of this Agreement fails to select a new Local Service Provider within thirty (30) calendar days of the transfer, AT&T-7STATE may terminate the transferred Resale End User's service.

11.7.6.1 AT&T-7STATE will notify the Commission of the names of all transferred Resale End Users whose local service was terminated pursuant to Section 11.7.5.

11.7.6.2 Nothing in this Agreement shall be interpreted to obligate AT&T-7STATE to continue to provide local service to any transferred Resale End User beyond the thirty (30) calendar day selection period. Nothing herein shall be interpreted to limit any and all disconnection rights AT&T-7STATE has with regard to such transferred Resale End Users under Applicable Law; provided, however,

11.7.6.2.1 in AT&T CALIFORNIA only, following expiration of the selection period and disconnection of such transferred Resale End Users, where facilities permit, AT&T CALIFORNIA will furnish transferred and subsequently disconnected local residential End Users with "quick dial tone."

## 11.8 AT&T CONNECTICUT only

11.8.1 For nonpayment and procedures for disconnection for AT&T CONNECTICUT, see the applicable DPUC ordered tariff.

## 11.9 Limitation on Back-billing and Credit Claims:

11.9.1 Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Agreement, a Party shall be entitled to

11.9.1.1 Back-bill for or claim credit for any charges for services provided pursuant to this Agreement that are found to be unbilled, under-billed or over-billed, but only when such charges appeared or should have appeared on a bill dated within the twelve (12) months immediately preceding the date on which the Billing Party provided written notice to the Billed Party of the amount of the back-billing or the Billed Party provided written notice to the Billing Party of the claimed credit amount. The Parties agree that the twelve (12) month limitation on back-billing and credit claims set forth in the preceding sentence shall be applied prospectively only after the Effective Date of this Agreement, meaning that the twelve month period for any back-billing or credit claims may only include billing periods that fall entirely after the Effective Date of this Agreement and will not include any portion of any billing period that began prior to the Effective Date of this Agreement.

11.9.1.2 Back-billing and credit claims, as limited above, will apply to all Interconnection, Resale Services, Unbundled Network Elements, Collocation, facilities, functions, product and services purchased under this Agreement. Inter-carrier Compensation is specifically excluded from this Section and is addressed separately in the Inter-carrier Compensation Attachment.

## 12. DISPUTE RESOLUTION

### 12.1 Finality of Disputes

12.1.1 Except as otherwise specifically provided for in this Agreement, no claim may be brought for any dispute arising from this Agreement more than twenty-four (24) months from the date the occurrence which gives rise to the dispute is discovered or reasonably should have been discovered with the exercise of due care and attention.

12.1.2 Notwithstanding anything contained in this Agreement to the contrary, a Party shall be entitled to dispute only those charges which appeared on a bill dated within the twelve (12) months immediately preceding the date on which the Billing Party received notice of such Disputed Amounts.

### 12.2 Alternative to Litigation

12.2.1 The Parties desire to resolve disputes arising out of this Agreement without litigation. Accordingly, the Parties agree to use the following Dispute Resolution procedures with respect to any controversy or claim arising out of or relating to this Agreement or its breach.

### 12.3 Commencing Dispute Resolution

12.3.1 Dispute Resolution shall commence upon one Party's receipt of written notice of a controversy or claim arising out of or relating to this Agreement or its breach. No Party may pursue any claim unless such written notice has first been given to the other Party. There are three (3) separate Dispute Resolution methods:

12.3.1.1 Service Center (**AT&T MIDWEST REGION 5-STATE**), LSC (**AT&T-7STATE**) or LEC-C (**AT&T CONNECTICUT**) or Collocation Service Center (CSC);

12.3.1.2 Informal Dispute Resolution; and

12.3.1.3 Formal Dispute Resolution, each of which is described below.

12.4 LSC/Service Center/LEC-C or CSC Dispute Resolution - the following Dispute Resolution procedures will apply with respect to any billing dispute arising out of or relating to the Agreement. Written notice sent to **AT&T-13STATE** for Disputed Amounts must be made on the "13 Billing Claims Dispute Form".