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September 27, 1999

FILED²

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Dale Hardy Roberts
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge
Missouri Public Service Commission
P.O. Box 3660
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102

Missouri Public Service Commission

RE:

AccessLine LD Services, Inc.

Case No. TA-2000-206

Dear Mr. Roberts:

Enclosed for filing in the above-referenced matter are the original and (6) copies of substitute tariff sheet nos. 2, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13 and 14, incorporating changes requested by Staff. A copy of the foregoing substitute tariff sheets has been hand-delivered or mailed this date to parties of record.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

James M. Fischer

/jr

cc:

Enclosures

Office of the Public Counsel

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2.4 <u>TIMING OF CALLS</u>

2.4.1 When Billing Charges Begin and Terminate for Phone Calls

Customer's long distance usage charge is based on the actual usage of Carrier's network. Usage begins when the called party picks up the receiver (i.e., when two-way communication, often referred to as "conversation time," is possible). When the called party picks up is determined by hardware answer supervision in which the local telephone company sends a signal to the switch or the software utilizing audio tone detection. When software answer supervision is employed, up to 60 seconds of ringing is allowed before it is billed as a usage of the network. A call is terminated when the calling or called party hangs up.

2.4.2 Billing Increments

Unless otherwise specified in this Tariff, the minimum call duration for billing purposes is six seconds for a connected call. Calls are billed in six-second increments. Billing will be rounded to the nearest penny for each call.

2.5 <u>CALCULATION OF DISTANCE</u>

Usage charges for all mileage-sensitive products are based on the airline distance between rate centers associated with the originating and terminating points of the call.

The airline mileage between rate centers is determined by applying the formula below to the vertical and horizontal coordinates associated with the rate centers involved.

- Step 1: Obtain the "V" and "H" coordinates for the serving wire center or network access point serving the Customer's location and the called/calling station.
- Step 2: Obtain the difference between the "V" coordinates. Obtain the difference between the "H" coordinates.
- Step 3: Square the differences obtained in Step 2.
- Step 4: Add the squares of the "V" difference and "H" difference obtained in Step 3.
- Step 5: Divide the sum of the square obtained in Step 4 by ten (10). Round to the next higher whole number if any fraction results from the division.
- Step 6: Obtain the square root of the whole number obtained in Step 5. Round to the next higher whole number if any fraction is obtained. This is the distance between the originating and terminating locations of the call.

Formula:

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

2.6 <u>MINIMUM SERVICE PERIOD</u>

The minimum period of service is one month (30 days), unless otherwise stated in this Tariff.

Issued: September 1, 1999

2.7 RESPONSIBILITY OF CUSTOMER

- 2.7.1 All Customers assume general responsibilities in connection with the provisions and use of Carrier's service. When facilities, equipment, and/or communications systems provided by others are connected to Carrier's facilities, Customer assumes additional responsibilities. Customers are responsible for the following:
 - A. Customer is responsible for placing orders for service, paying all charges for service rendered by Carrier, and complying with Carrier's regulations governing the service. Customer is also responsible for assuring that its users comply with regulations.
 - B. When placing an order for service, Customer must provide:
 - 1. the name(s) and address(es) of the person(s) responsible for the payment of service charges; and
 - 2. the name(s), telephone number(s), and address(es) of Customer contact person(s).
 - C. Customer must pay Carrier for the replacement or repair of Carrier's equipment when the damage results from:
 - 1. the negligence or willful act of Customer or user;
 - 2. improper use of service; or
 - 3. any use of equipment or service provided by others.

2.7.2 Availability of Service for Maintenance, Testing, and Adjustment

Upon reasonable notice, the facilities provided by Carrier shall be made available to Carrier for such tests and adjustments as may be necessary to maintain them in satisfactory condition. No interruption allowance will be granted for the time during which such tests and adjustments are made.

2.7.3 Cancellation by Customer

A. Customer may cancel service any time after meeting the minimum service period.

Termination charges will apply if Customer cancels prior to the expiration of a one-year or multi-year service agreement. Such termination charge will be equal to one month's usage as projected in Carrier's proposal for service, or the actual average monthly usage to date, whichever is higher, plus the monthly account charge for the remainder of the contract period.

Issued: September 1, 1999 Effective: October 18, 1999

2.7 <u>RESPONSIBILITY OF CUSTOMER</u> (continued)

2.7.3 <u>Cancellation by Customer</u> (continued)

B. If Customer orders service requiring special facilities dedicated to Customer's use and then cancels the order before the service begins, before completion of the minimum service period, or before completion of some other period mutually agreed upon by Customer and Carrier, a charge will be made to Customer for the nonrecoverable portions of expenditures or liabilities incurred expressly on behalf of Customer by Carrier and not fully reimbursed by installation and monthly charges. If, based on the order, any construction has either begun or been completed, but no service provided, the nonrecoverable cost of such construction shall be borne by Customer. Such charge will be determined on a case-by-case basis.

2.7.4 Payment and Charges for Service

- A. Charges for service are applied on recurring and nonrecurring bases. All tariffed charges are billed in arrears on a monthly basis. Carrier provides customers with two invoicing options. Customer may choose to receive a monthly bill in the mail and remit payment for such services using a check or cash. Carrier includes its name and its toll-free telephone number, 877-880-0055, on all invoices. Alternatively, Customer may choose to pay for Carrier's services using a designated credit card account. In such instances, Carrier will post charges to Customer's credit card on the monthly anniversary of the date Customer signed up for service. Carrier provides customers paying via credit card access to an Internet account and on-line bill posting. Service continues to be provided until canceled by Customer or by Carrier in accordance with provisions of this Tariff.
- B. Payment under the first invoicing option will be due upon receipt of the monthly statement. Customer shall have at least twenty-one (21) days from the rendition of the bill to pay the charges stated. If payment is not received by Carrier within that time period, Customer's account will be considered delinquent. Additionally, a nonrecurring 1.5 percent per month penalty fee (unless a lower rate is prescribed by law in which event at the highest rate allowable by law) will accrue upon any unpaid amount commencing twenty-one (21) days after rendition of the bill.
- C. Customer is responsible for payment of all charges for service furnished to Customer, including, but not limited to all calls originated at Customer's number(s); received at Customer's number(s); billed to Customer's number(s) via third-party billing; incurred at the specific request of Customer; or placed using a calling card issued to Customer. The initial billing may include the account set-up charge where applicable. Charges based on actual usage during a month will be billed monthly in arrears. All fixed monthly and nonrecurring charges for services ordered will be billed monthly in advance.

Effective: October 18, 1999

Issued: September 1, 1999

2.7 <u>RESPONSIBILITY OF CUSTOMER</u> (continued)

2.7.4 Payment and Charges for Service (continued)

- D. Service may be denied or discontinued at Carrier's discretion upon ten (10) days' written notice, for non-payment of amounts due to Carrier, past the delinquent date. Restoration of service will be subject to all applicable installation charges.
- E. Customer is liable for all costs associated with collecting past due charges, including all attorneys' fees.
- F. Customers of toll free (e.g., 800 or 888) services are responsible for payment for all calls placed to or via Customer's toll free service number(s). This responsibility is not changed by virtue of any use, misuse, or abuse of Customer's service by Customer-provided systems, equipment, facilities, or services interconnected to Customer's toll free service, or use, misuse, or abuse occasioned by third parties, including, without limitation, Customer's employees, other common carriers, or members of the public who dial Customer's toll free service number(s) by mistake. Carrier reserves the right to not switch Customer's toll free number(s) to another carrier until Customer has paid in full all amounts owned to Carrier for such toll free service.

2.7.5 Application of Charges

The charges for service are those in effect for the period that service is furnished. If the charge for a period covered by a bill changes after the bill has been rendered, the bill will be adjusted to reflect the new charges.

2.7.6 Deposits

Carrier reserves the right to require a deposit or usage prepayment equal to one month's estimated charge and will administer such deposits and pay interest thereon at 9% interest on residential deposits.

2.7.7 Bad Check Charge

Carrier will bill Customer a one-time charge of \$20.00 if Customer's check for payment of service is returned for insufficient or uncollected funds, closed accounts, or any other insufficiency or discrepancy necessitating return of the check at the discretion of the drawee bank or other financial institution.

Issued: September 1, 1999

2.11 <u>RESPONSIBILITY OF CARRIER</u> (continued)

2.11.2 Disconnection of Service by Carrier

Carrier may discontinue service or cancel an Application for Service without incurring any liability, provided suitable notice has been given to Customer as required, for any of the following reasons:

- A. After five days' written notice (excluding Sundays and legal Holidays), for non-payment of any sum due to Carrier for service for more than 30 days beyond the date of rendition of the bill for such service. Notice of disconnection shall be separate and apart from the regular monthly bill for service;
- B. After five days' written notice (excluding Sundays and legal Holidays), in the event of a violation of any regulation governing the service under this Tariff or of any provision of this Tariff or for failure of the Customer to otherwise fulfill his contractual obligations for service or facilities subject to regulation by the Commission;
- C. After five days' written notice, for failure to post a required deposit;
- D. After five days' written notice, in the event of a material misrepresentation of identity in obtaining service or the use of service in a manner that in the opinion of Carrier constitutes fraud or abuse;
- E. After five days' written notice, upon Customer's insolvency, assignment for the benefit of creditors, filing for bankruptcy or reorganization, failing to discharge an involuntary petition within the time permitted by law, or abandonment of service;
- F. Without notice, for tampering with Carrier's equipment, hazardous conditions, or customer use of equipment where it adversely affects Carrier's equipment or services;
- G. Without notice, upon any governmental prohibition, or required alteration of the services to be provided or in the event of a violation of any law, rule, or regulation of any government authority having jurisdiction over the service;
- H. In the event of fraudulent use of Carrier's network, Carrier will discontinue service and/or seek legal recourse to recover all costs involved in enforcement of this provision.

2.11.3 Credit With Cancellation of Service

Where Carrier cancels a service and the final service period is less than the monthly billing period, a credit will be issued for any amounts billed in advance, prorated at 1/30th of the monthly recurring charge for each day after the service was discontinued. This credit will be issued to Customer or applied against the balance remaining on Customer's account.

Issued: September 1, 1999 Effective: October 18, 1999

2.12 INTERRUPTION OF SERVICE

Credit allowance for interruption of service which is not due to the negligence of Customer or to the failure of channels, equipment, and/or communications systems provided by Customer and other carriers are subject to the general liability provisions set forth in Section 2.14 herein. It shall be the obligation of Customer to notify Carrier immediately of any interruption in service for which a credit allowance is desired by Customer. Before giving such notice, Customer shall ascertain that the trouble is not being caused by any action or omission of Customer within his or her control, or is not in wiring or equipment, if any, furnished by Customer and connected to Carrier's terminal.

2.12.1 Credit Allowances

- A. Credit for failure of service or equipment will be allowed only when failure is caused by or occurs in facilities or equipment owned, provided and billed for, by Carrier.
- B. Credit allowances for failure of service or equipment starts when Customer notifies Carrier of the failure or when Carrier becomes aware of the failure and ceases when the operation has been restored and an attempt has been made to notify Customer.
- C. Customer shall notify Carrier of failures of service or equipment and make reasonable attempts to ascertain that the failure is not caused by Customer provided facilities, any act or omission of Customer, or in wiring or equipment connected to the terminal.
- D. Only those portions of the service or equipment disabled will be credited. No credit allowances will be made for:
 - 1. interruptions of service resulting from Carrier performing routine maintenance;
 - 2. interruptions of service for implementation of a Customer order for a change in the service;
 - 3. interruptions caused by negligence of Customer or his authorized user; or
 - 4. interruptions of service because of the failure of service or equipment provided by Customer, authorized user, or other carriers.

2.12.2 <u>Calculation of Credit Allowance</u>

Pursuant to limitations set forth in Section 2.12.1, when service is interrupted the credit allowance will be computed on the following basis:

- A. No credit shall be allowed for an interruption of less than two hours.
- B. Customer shall be credited for an interruption of two hours or more for as long as the interruption continues.

Issued: September 1, 1999

2.12 <u>INTERRUPTION OF SERVICE</u> (continued)

2.12.2 <u>Calculation of Credit Allowance</u> (continued)

- C. When a minimum usage charge is applicable and Customer fails to meet the minimum usage charge because of a service interruption, a credit shall be applied against that minimum usage charge in the following manner. For each period of two hours that the interruption continues the credit shall equal 1/360th of the monthly minimum charge. Note: in this instance a fractional period of more than one hour shall be treated as a two hour period.
- D. If notice of a dispute as to charges is not received verbally or in writing by Carrier within 30 days after billing is received by Customer, the invoice shall be considered correct and binding on Customer, unless extraordinary circumstances are demonstrated.
- E. The calculation of the credit allowance is as follows:

$$Credit = \underbrace{A \times B}_{720}$$

A = Outage time in hours

B = Total monthly charge for affected facility

2.13 <u>RESTORATION OF SERVICE</u>

The use and restoration of service in emergencies shall be in accordance with the priority system specified in Part 64, Subpart D of the Rules and Regulations of the Federal Communications Commission.

2.14 <u>LIABILITY OF CARRIER</u>

- 2.14.1 The liability of Carrier for any claim of loss, expense, or damage, due to any interruption, delay, error, omission, or defect in any service, facility, or transmission provided under the Tariff shall not exceed an amount equivalent to the proportionate charge to Customer for the period of service or the facility provided during which such interruption, delay, error, omission, or defect occurs. For the purpose of computing this amount, a month is considered to have 30 days. In no event will Carrier be liable for any indirect, consequential, or special damages, or for any lost profits, even if advised of the possibility of the same.
- 2.14.2 Carrier shall not be liable for any claim of loss, expense, or damage, due to any interruption, delay, error, omission, or other defect in service, facility, or transmission provided under this Tariff, if caused by any person or entity other than Carrier, any malfunction of any service or facility provided by any other carrier, act of God, fire, war, civil disturbance, act of government, or by any other cause beyond Carrier's control.

Issued: September 1, 1999