

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

Dated as of February 3, 1997

by and between

BELL ATLANTIC - VIRGINIA, INC.

and

TCG VIRGINIA, INC.

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Schedules

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

This Interconnection Agreement under Sections 251 and 252 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, is effective as of the 3rd day of February, 1997 (the "Effective Date"), by and between Bell Atlantic - Virginia, Inc. ("BA"), a Virginia corporation with offices at 600 East Main Street, Richmond, Virginia 23261, and TCG Virginia, Inc. ("TCG"), a Delaware corporation with offices at Two Teleport Drive, Staten Island, New York 10311.

WHEREAS, the Parties want to interconnect their networks at mutually agreed upon points of interconnection to provide Telephone Exchange Services, Switched Exchange Access Services, and other Telecommunications Services (all as defined below) to their respective customers;

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 provide other services as required by the Act (as defined below) and additional services as set forth herein; and

WHEREAS, Sections 251, 252, and 271 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 have specific requirements for interconnection, unbundling, and service resale, commonly referred to as the "Checklist", and the Parties intend that this Agreement, when implemented, meets those Checklist requirements.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual provisions contained herein and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, TCG and BA hereby agree as follows:

This Agreement sets forth the terms, conditions and pricing under which BA and TCG (individually, a "Party" and collectively, the "Parties") will offer and provide to each other network Interconnection, access to Network Elements, ancillary services, and wholesale Telecommunications Services available for resale within each LATA in which they both operate within Virginia. As such, this Agreement is an integrated package that reflects a balancing of interests critical to the Parties. It will be submitted to the Virginia State Corporation Commission, and the Parties will specifically request that the Commission refrain from taking any action to change, suspend or otherwise delay implementation of the Agreement. So long as the Agreement remains in effect, neither Party shall advocate before any legislative, regulatory, or other public forum that any term of this Agreement be modified or eliminated, unless mutually agreed to by the Parties.

1.0 DEFINITIONS.

As used in this Agreement, the following terms shall have the meanings specified below in this Section 1. For convenience of reference only, the definitions of certain terms that are As Defined in the Act (as defined below) are set forth on Schedule 1.0.

1.1 “Act” means the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 151 *et. seq.*), as amended by the Telecommunications Act of 1996, and as from time to time interpreted in the duly authorized rules and regulations of the FCC or the Commission.

1.2 “ADSL” or “Asymmetrical Digital Subscriber Line” means a transmission technology which transmits an asymmetrical digital signal of up to 6 mbps to the Customer and up to 640 kbps from the Customer.

1.3 “Agreement” means this Interconnection Agreement under Sections 251 and 252 of the Act and all Exhibits and Schedules appended hereto.

1.4 “Ancillary Traffic,” means all traffic that is destined for ancillary services, or that may have special billing requirements, including but not limited to the following: LSV/VCI, Directory Assistance, 911/E911, Operator Services (IntraLATA call completion), IntraLATA third party, collect and calling card, 800/888 database query, LIDB, and information services requiring special billing.

1.5 “Applicable Laws” means all laws, regulations, and orders applicable to each Party’s performance of its obligations hereunder.

1.6 “As Defined in the Act” means as specifically defined by the Act and as from time to time interpreted in the duly authorized rules and regulations of the FCC or the Commission.

1.7 “As Described in the Act” means as described in or required by the Act and as from time to time interpreted in the duly authorized rules and regulations of the FCC or the Commission.

1.8 “Automatic Number Identification” or “ANI” means a signaling parameter which refers to the number transmitted through a network identifying the billing number of the calling party.

1.9 “Calling Party Number” or “CPN” is a Common Channel Signaling (“CCS”) parameter which refers to the number transmitted through a network identifying the calling party.

1.10 “Central Office Switch” means a switch used to provide Telecommunications Services, including, but not limited to:

(a) “End Office Switch” or “End Office” is a switching entity that is used to terminate Customer station Loops for the purpose of interconnection to each other and to trunks; and

(b) “Tandem Switch” or “Tandem Office” or “Tandem” is a switching entity that has billing and recording capabilities and is used to connect and switch trunk circuits between and among End Office Switches and between and among End Office Switches and carriers’ aggregation points, points of termination, or points of presence, and to provide Switched Exchange Access Services.

A Central Office Switch may also be employed as a combination End Office/Tandem Office Switch.

1.11 “CLASS Features” means certain CCS-based features available to Customers including, but not limited to: Automatic Call Back; Call Trace; Caller Identification, and future offerings.

1.12 “Collocation” means an arrangement whereby one Party’s (the “Collocating Party”) facilities are terminated in equipment necessary for Interconnection or for access to Network Elements offered by the second Party on an unbundled basis that has been installed and maintained at the premises of a second Party (the “Housing Party”). For purposes of Collocation, the “premises” of a Housing Party is limited to a Housing Party Wire Center, other mutually agreed-upon locations of the Housing Party, or any other location for which Collocation has been ordered by the FCC or Commission. Collocation may be “physical” or “virtual”. In “Physical Collocation,” the Collocating Party installs and maintains its own equipment in the Housing Party’s premises. In “Virtual Collocation,” the Housing Party owns, installs, and maintains equipment dedicated to use by the Collocating Party in the Housing Party’s premises. BA currently provides Collocation under terms, rates, and conditions as described in tariffs on file or soon to be filed with the FCC and the Commission. Upon request by either Party, BA and TCG will address the provision of additional types of Collocation arrangements, including additional physical locations and alternative utilizations of space and facilities.

1.13 “Commission” means the Virginia State Corporation Commission.

1.14 “Common Channel Signaling” or “CCS” means a method of transmitting call set-up and network control data over a digital signaling network separate from the public switched telephone network facilities that carry the actual voice or data traffic of the call. “SS7” means the common channel out of band signaling protocol developed by the Consultative Committee for International Telephone and Telegraph (“CCITT”) and the American National Standards Institute (“ANSI”). BA and TCG currently utilize this out-of-band signaling protocol. “CCSAC” or “CCSAS” means the common channel signaling access connection or service, respectively, which connects one Party’s signaling point of interconnection (“SPOI”) to the other Party’s STP for the exchange of SS7 messages.

1.15 “Competitive Local Exchange Carrier” or “CLEC” means any Local Exchange Carrier other than BA, operating as such in BA’s certificated territory in Virginia. TCG is a CLEC.

1.16 “Cross Connection” means a jumper cable or similar connection provided pursuant to Collocation at the digital signal cross connect, Main Distribution Frame or other suitable frame or panel between (i) the Collocating Party’s equipment and (ii) the equipment or facilities of the Housing Party.

1.17 “Customer” means a third-party residence or business end-user subscriber to Telecommunications Services provided by either of the Parties.

1.18 “Dialing Parity” is As Defined in the Act.

1.19 “Digital Signal Level” means one of several transmission rates in the time-division multiplex hierarchy.

1.20 “Digital Signal Level 0” or “DS0” means the 64 Kbps zero-level signal in the time-division multiplex hierarchy.

1.21 “Digital Signal Level 1” or “DS1” means the 1.544 Mbps first-level signal in the time-division multiplex hierarchy. In the time-division multiplexing hierarchy of the telephone network, DS1 is the initial level of multiplexing.

1.22 “Digital Signal Level 3” or “DS3” means the 44.736 Mbps third-level in the time-division multiplex hierarchy. In the time-division multiplexing hierarchy of the telephone network, DS3 is defined as the third level of multiplexing.

1.23 “Exchange Access” is As Defined in the Act.

1.24. “Exchange Message Record” or “EMR” means the standard used for exchange of telecommunications message information among Local Exchange Carriers for billable, non-billable, sample, settlement, and study data. EMR format is contained in BR-010-200-010 CRIS Exchange Message Record, a Bell Communications Research, Inc. (“Bellcore”) document that defines industry standards for Exchange Message Records.

1.25 “FCC” means the Federal Communications Commission.

1.26 “FCC Regulations” means the amendments to Title 47 of the Code of Federal Regulations adopted in, and the additional requirements of, the First Report and Order In the Matter of Implementation of the Local Competition Provisions in the Telecommunications Act of 1996 and Interconnection between Local Exchange and Commercial Mobile Radio Service Providers, CC Docket Nos. 96-98 and 95-185, adopted on August 1, 1996 and released on August 8, 1996, and the Second Report and Order and Memorandum Opinion and Order, CC Docket Nos. 96-98, 95-185, and 92-237, adopted and released on August 8, 1996, as each may be amended, stayed, voided, repealed, or supplemented from time to time.

1.27 “HDSL” or “High-Bit Rate Digital Subscriber Line” means a transmission technology which transmits up to 784 kbps simultaneously in both directions on a two-wire channel using a 2 Binary / 1 Quaternary (“2B1Q”) line code.

1.28 “Incumbent Local Exchange Carrier” is As Defined in the Act. For purposes of this Agreement, BA is an Incumbent Local Exchange Carrier.

1.29 “Independent Telephone Company” or “ITC” means any entity other than BA which, with respect to its operations within the Commonwealth of Virginia, is an Incumbent Local Exchange Carrier.

1.30 “Information Service Traffic” means Local Traffic or IntraLATA Toll Traffic which originates on a Telephone Exchange Service line and which is addressed to an information service provided over a Party’s information services platform (e.g., 540, 550, 556, 846, 936, and 970).

1.30.A “Inside Wire” or “Inside Wiring” means all wire, cable, terminals, hardware, and other equipment or materials on the Customer's side of the Rate Demarcation Point.

1.31 “Integrated Digital Loop Carrier” means a subscriber loop carrier system which integrates within the switch at a DS1 level that is twenty-four (24) loop transmission paths combined into a 1.544 Mbps digital signal.

1.32. “Integrated Services Digital Network” or “ISDN” means a switched network service providing end-to-end digital connectivity for the simultaneous transmission of voice and data. Basic Rate Interface-ISDN (“BRI-ISDN”) provides for digital transmission of two 64 kbps bearer channels and one 16 kbps data and signaling channel (2B+D). Primary Rate Interface-ISDN (“PRI-ISDN”) provides for digital transmission of twenty three (23) 64 kbps bearer channels and one (1) 64 kbps data and signaling channel (23 B+D).

1.33 “Interconnection” is as Described in the Act, and means the connection of separate pieces of equipment or transmission facilities within, between, or among networks. The architecture of Interconnection may include, but is not limited to, Collocation Arrangements, entrance facilities, and Mid-Span Meet arrangements.

1.34 “Interexchange Carrier” or “IXC” means a carrier that provides, directly or indirectly, interLATA or intraLATA Telephone Toll Services.

1.35 “Interim Number Portability” or “INP” means the use of existing and available call routing, forwarding, and addressing capabilities (e.g. remote call forwarding) to enable a Customer to receive Telephone Exchange Service provided by any Local Exchange Carrier operating within the exchange area with which the Customer’s telephone number(s) is associated, without having to change the telephone number presently assigned to the Customer and regardless of whether the Customer’s chosen Local Exchange Carrier is the carrier that originally assigned the number to the Customer.

1.36 “InterLATA” is As Defined in the Act.

1.37 “IntraLATA Toll Traffic” means those intraLATA calls that are not defined as Local Traffic in this Agreement.

1.38 “Line Side” means an End Office Switch connection that provides transmission, switching and optional features suitable for Customer connection to the public switched network, including loop start supervision, ground start supervision, and signaling for basic rate ISDN service.

1.39. “Line Status Verification” or “LSV” means an operator request for a status check on the line of a called party. The request is made by one Party’s operator to an operator of the other Party. The verification of the status check is provided to the requesting operator.

1.40 “Local Access and Transport Area” or “LATA” is As Defined in the Act.

1.41 “Local Exchange Carrier” or “LEC” is As Defined in the Act. The Parties to this Agreement are or will shortly become Local Exchange Carriers.

1.42. “Local Serving Wire Center” means a Wire Center that (i) 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, or any Wire Center in the LATA in which the other Party’s Wire Center, aggregation point, point of termination or point of presence is located in which the other Party has established a Collocation Arrangement or is purchasing an entrance facility, and (ii) has the necessary multiplexing capabilities for providing transport services.

1.43 “Local Telephone Number Portability” or “LTNP” means “number portability” As Defined in the Act.

1.44 “Local Traffic,” means traffic that is originated by a Customer of one Party on that Party’s network and terminates to a Customer of the other Party on that other Party’s network, within a given local calling area, or expanded area service (“EAS”) area, as defined in BA’s effective Customer tariffs, or, if the Commission has defined local calling areas applicable to all LECs, then as so defined by the Commission.

1.45. “Main Distribution Frame” or “MDF” means the primary point at which outside plant facilities terminate within a Wire Center, for interconnection to other telecommunications facilities within the Wire Center.

1.46. “MECAB” means the Multiple Exchange Carrier Access Billing (MECAB) 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 Bellcore as Special Report SR-BDS-000983, contains the recommended guidelines for the billing of an Exchange Access service provided by two or more LECs, or by one LEC in two or more states, within a single LATA.

1.47 “MECOD” means the Multiple Exchange Carriers Ordering and Design (MECOD) Guidelines for Access Services - Industry Support Interface, a document developed by the Ordering/Provisioning Committee under the auspices of OBF. The MECOD document, published by Bellcore as Special Report SR-STS-002643, establishes methods for processing orders for Exchange Access service which is to be provided by two or more LECs.

1.48 “Meet-Point Billing” or “MPB” means an arrangement whereby two or more LECs jointly provide to a third party the transport element of a Switched Exchange Access Service to one of the LECs’ End Office Switches, with each LEC receiving an appropriate share of the transport element revenues as defined by their effective Exchange Access tariffs. “Meet-Point Billing Traffic” means traffic that is subject to an effective Meet-Point Billing arrangement.

1.49. “Mid-Span Meet” means an Interconnection architecture whereby two carriers’ transmission facilities meet at a mutually agreed-upon Interconnection point utilizing a fiber hand-off and, at the delivering carrier’s option, may interface with such carrier’s collocated equipment to gain access to unbundled elements.

1.50 “Multiple Bill/Single Tariff” or “Multiple Bill/Multiple Tariff” means the MPB method whereby each LEC prepares and renders its own meet point bill in accordance with its own Tariff(s) for the portion of the jointly-provided Switched Exchange Access Service which the LEC provides.

1.51 “Network Element” is As Defined in the Act.

1.52 “Network Element Bona Fide Request” means the process described on Exhibit B that prescribes the terms and conditions relating to a Party’s request that the other Party provide a Network Element not otherwise provided by the terms of this Agreement.

1.52.A “Network Interface Device” or “NID” means the BA-provided interface terminating BA’s telecommunications network on the property where the Customer's service is located at a point determined by BA. The NID contains a FCC Part 68 registered jack from which Inside Wire may be connected to BA’s network.

1.53 “North American Numbering Plan” or “NANP” means the numbering plan used in the United States that also serves Canada, Bermuda, Puerto Rico and certain Caribbean Islands. The NANP format is a 10-digit number that consists of a 3-digit NPA code (commonly referred to as the area code), followed by a 3-digit NXX code and 4-digit line number.

1.54. “Numbering Plan Area” or “NPA” is also sometimes referred to as an area code. There are two general categories of NPAs, “Geographic NPAs” and “Non-Geographic NPAs.” A Geographic NPA is associated with a defined geographic area, and all telephone numbers bearing such NPA are associated with services provided within that geographic area. A Non-Geographic NPA, also known as a “Service Access Code” or “SAC Code,” is typically associated with a specialized

telecommunications service which may be provided across multiple geographic NPA areas; 800, 900, 700, 500 and 888 are examples of Non-Geographic NPAs.

1.55 “NXX,” “NXX Code,” or “End Office Code” means the three digit switch entity indicator (i.e. the first three digits of a seven digit telephone number).

1.56 “Permanent Number Portability” or “PNP” means the use of a database or other technical solution that comports with regulations issued by the FCC to provide LTNP for all customers and service providers.

1.57 “Port Element” or “Port” means a line card (or equivalent) and associated peripheral equipment on an End Office Switch which serves as the Interconnection between individual loops or individual Customer trunks and the switching components of an End Office Switch and the associated switching functionality in that End Office Switch. Each Port is typically associated with one (or more) telephone number(s) which serves as the Customer’s network address. The Port Element is part of the provision of unbundled local Switching Element.

1.58 “Rate Center Area” or “Exchange Area” means the specific geographic point and corresponding geographic area which has been identified by a given LEC as being associated with a particular NPA-NXX code assigned to the LEC for its provision of Telephone Exchange Services. The Rate Center Area is the exclusive geographic area which the LEC has identified as the area within which it will provide Telephone Exchange Services bearing the particular NPA-NXX designation associated with the specific Rate Center Area. A “Rate Center Point” is a specific geographic point, defined by a V&H coordinate, located within the Rate Center Area and used to measure distance for the purpose of billing Customers for distance-sensitive Telephone Exchange Services and Toll Traffic.

1.59 “Rate Demarcation Point” means the Minimum Point of Entry (“MPOE”) of the property or premises where the Customer’s service is located as determined by BA. This point is where network access recurring charges and BA responsibility stop and beyond which Customer responsibility begins.

1.60 “Rating Point” or “Routing Point” means a specific geographic point identified by a specific V&H coordinate. The Rating Point is used to route inbound traffic to specified NPA-NXXs and to calculate mileage measurements for distance-sensitive transport charges of switched access services. Pursuant to Bellcore Practice BR-795-100-100, the Rating Point may be an End Office location, or a “LEC Consortium Point of Interconnection.” Pursuant to that same Bellcore Practice, examples of the latter shall be designated by a common language location identifier (CLLI) code with (x)KD in positions 9, 10, 11, where (x) may be any alphanumeric A-Z or 0-9. The Rating Point/Routing Point must be located within the LATA in which the corresponding NPA-NXX is located. However, the Rating Point/Routing Point associated with each NPA-NXX need not be the same as the corresponding Rate Center Point, nor must it be located within the corresponding Rate Center Area, nor must there be a unique and separate Rating Point corresponding to each unique and separate Rate Center.

1.61 “Reciprocal Compensation” is As Described in the Act, and refers to the payment arrangement set forth in subsection 5.7 below.

1.62 “Service Control Point” or “SCP” means the node in the common channel signaling network to which informational requests for service handling, such as routing, are directed and processed. The SCP is a real time database system that, based on a query from a service switching point and via a Signaling Transfer Point, performs subscriber or application-specific service logic, and then sends instructions back to the SSP on how to continue call processing.

1.63 “Signaling Transfer Point” or “STP” means a specialized switch that provides SS7 network access and performs SS7 message routing and screening.

1.64 “Switched Access Detail Usage Data” means a category 1101XX record as defined in the EMR Bellcore Practice BR-010-200-010.

1.65 “Switched Access Summary Usage Data” means a category 1150XX record as defined in the EMR Bellcore Practice BR-010-200-010.

1.66 “Switched Exchange Access Service” means the offering of transmission and switching services for the purpose of the origination or termination of Toll Traffic. Switched Exchange Access Services include but may not be limited to: Feature Group A, Feature Group B, Feature Group D, 700 access, 800 access, 888 access, and 900 access.

1.67 “Switching Element” is the unbundled Network Element that provides a CLEC the ability to use switching functionality in a BA End Office switch, including all vertical services that are available on that switch, to provide Telephone Exchange Service to its end user customer(s). The Switching Element will be provisioned with a Port Element, which provides line side access to the Switching Element.

1.68 “Tariff” means any applicable federal or state tariff of a Party, or standard agreement or other document that sets forth the generally available terms and conditions under which a Party offers a particular service, facility, or arrangement.

1.69 “Technically Feasible Point” is As Described in the Act.

1.70 “Telecommunications” is As Defined in the Act.

1.71 “Telecommunications Act” means the Telecommunications Act of 1996 and any rules and regulations promulgated thereunder.

1.72 “Telecommunications Carrier” is As Defined in the Act.

1.73 “Telecommunications Service” is As Defined in the Act.

1.74 “Telephone Exchange Service,” sometimes also referred to as “Exchange Service,” is As Defined in the Act. Telephone Exchange Service generally provides the Customer with a telephonic connection to, and a unique telephone number address on, the public switched telecommunications network, and enables such Customer to place or receive calls to all other stations on the public switched telecommunications network.

1.75 [Reserved]

1.76 “Toll Traffic” means traffic that is originated by a Customer of one Party on that Party’s network and terminates to a Customer of the other Party on that Party’s network and is not Local Traffic or Ancillary Traffic. Toll Traffic may be either ‘IntraLATA Toll Traffic’ or ‘InterLATA Toll Traffic,’ depending on whether the originating and terminating points are within the same LATA.

1.77 “Transit Traffic” means any traffic that originates from or terminates at one Party’s (the “first Party’s”) network, “transits” the other Party’s (the “second Party’s”) network substantially unchanged, and terminates to or originates from a third carrier’s network, as the case may be. “Transit Traffic Service” provides the first Party with the ability to use its connection to the second Party’s Tandem and/or transport facilities for the delivery of calls which originate or terminate with the first Party and terminate to or originate from a carrier other than the second Party, such as another CLEC, another LEC, or a wireless carrier. In these cases, neither the originating nor terminating Customer is a Customer of the second Party. This service is provided through the second Party’s Tandem and/or transport facilities. “Transit Traffic” and “Transit Traffic Service” do not include or apply to traffic that is subject to an effective Meet-Point Billing arrangement.

1.78 “Trunk Side” means a Central Office Switch connection that is capable of, and has been programmed to treat the circuit as, connecting to another switching entity (e.g. another carrier’s network). Trunk Side connections offer those transmission and signaling features appropriate for the connection of switching entities.

1.79 “Unbundled Local Loop Element” or “ULL” means a transmission path that extends from a Main Distribution Frame, DSX-panel, or functionally comparable piece of equipment in the Customer’s serving End Office to the Rate Demarcation Point (or network interface device (NID) if installed) in or at a Customer’s premises. The actual loop transmission facilities used to provide an ULL may utilize any of several technologies.

1.80 “Verification with Call Interruption” or “VCI” means a service that may be requested and provided when Line Status Verification has determined that a line is busy due to an ongoing call. VCI is an operator interruption of that ongoing call to inform the called party that a calling party is seeking to complete his or her call to the called party.

1.81 “Voice Grade” means either an analog signal of 300 to 3000 Hz or a digital signal of 56/64 kilobits per second. When referring to digital voice grade service (a 56/64 kbps channel), the terms “DS-0” or “sub-DS-1” may also be used.

1.82 “Wire Center” means a building or portion thereof in which a Party has the exclusive right of occupancy and which serves as a Routing Point for Switched Exchange Access Service.

2.0 INTERPRETATION AND CONSTRUCTION.

2.1 All references to Sections, Exhibits and Schedules shall be deemed to be references to Sections of, and Exhibits and Schedules to, this Agreement unless the context shall otherwise require. The headings used in this Agreement are inserted for convenience of reference only and are not intended to be a part of or to affect the meaning of this Agreement. Unless the context shall otherwise require, any reference to any agreement, other instrument (including BA or other third party offerings, guides or practices), statute, regulation, rule or tariff is to such agreement, instrument, statute, regulation, or rule or tariff as amended and supplemented from time to time (and, in the case of a statute, regulation, rule or tariff, to any successor provision).

2.2 Subject to the terms set forth in Section 20 regarding rates and charges, each Party hereby incorporates by reference those provisions of its tariffs that govern the provision of any of the services or facilities provided hereunder. If any provision of this Agreement and an applicable tariff cannot be reasonably construed or interpreted to avoid conflict, the provision contained in this Agreement shall prevail, provided that in all cases the more specific shall prevail over the more general. If any provision contained in this main body of the Agreement and any Schedule or Exhibit hereto cannot be reasonably construed or interpreted to avoid conflict, the provision contained in this main body of the Agreement shall prevail. The fact that a condition, right, obligation, or other term appears in this Agreement but not in any such tariff shall not be interpreted as, or be deemed grounds for finding, a conflict for purposes of this Section 2.

3.0 INTERCONNECTION ACTIVATION DATES AND IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE.

Subject to the terms and conditions of this Agreement, each Party shall exercise its best efforts to adhere to the Interconnection Activation Dates and Network Implementation Schedule set forth in Schedule 3.0, and to provide fully operational service predominantly over its own Telephone Exchange Service facilities. Schedule 3.0 may be revised and supplemented from time to time upon the mutual agreement of the Parties to reflect the intention of the Parties to interconnect in additional LATAs pursuant to subsection 4.4 by attaching one or more supplementary schedules to Schedule 3.0.

4.0 INTERCONNECTION PURSUANT TO SECTION 251(c)(2)

The types of Traffic to be exchanged under this Agreement shall be Local Traffic, IntraLATA Toll (and InterLATA Toll, as applicable) Traffic, Transit Traffic, Meet Point Billing Traffic, and Ancillary Traffic. Subject to the terms and conditions of this Agreement, Interconnection of the Parties facilities and equipment for the transmission and routing of Local Traffic and Toll Traffic pursuant to this Section 4 shall be established on or before the corresponding “Interconnection Activation Date” shown for each such LATA within Virginia on Schedule 3.0 and in accordance with the standards set forth in subsection 10.2. Both Schedule 3.0 and Schedule 4.0 may be revised and supplemented from time to time upon the mutual agreement of the Parties to reflect additional or changed Interconnection Points in Virginia by attaching one or more supplementary addenda to such Schedule.

4.1 Scope

4.1.1 Section 4 describes the architecture for Interconnection of the Parties’ facilities and equipment over which the Parties shall configure the following separate and distinct trunk groups:

Traffic Exchange Trunks for the transmission and routing of terminating Local Traffic, Transit Traffic, translated LEC IntraLATA 800/888 traffic, IntraLATA Toll Traffic, and, where agreed to between the Parties and as set forth in subsection 4.2.8 below, InterLATA Toll Traffic between their respective Telephone Exchange Service customers pursuant to Section 251 (c)(2) of the Act, in accordance with Section 5 below;

Access Toll Connecting Trunks for the transmission and routing of Exchange Access traffic, including translated InterLATA 800/888 traffic, between TCG Telephone Exchange Service customers and purchasers of Switched Exchange Access Service via a BA Tandem, pursuant to Section 251(c)(2) of the Act, in accordance with Section 6 below;

Information Services Trunks for the transmission and routing of terminating Information Services Traffic in accordance with Section 7 below;

LSV/VCI Trunks for the transmission and routing of terminating LSV/VCI traffic, in accordance with Section 7 below;

911/E911 Trunks for the transmission and routing of terminating E911/911 traffic, in accordance with Section 7 below;

Directory Assistance Trunks for the transmission and routing of terminating directory assistance traffic, in accordance with subsection 19.4 below; and

Operator services (IntraLATA call completion) Trunks for the transmission and routing of terminating IntraLATA call completion traffic, in accordance with subsection 19.4 below.

Choke Trunks for traffic congestion and testing.

4.1.2 To the extent required by Section 251 of the Act, this Agreement provides for Interconnection by the Parties to each other's networks at any technically feasible point. For the purposes of this Agreement, the Parties agree that Interconnection for the transport and termination of traffic may take place, in the case of BA, at a terminating End Office, a Tandem, a Local Serving Wire Center and/or other points as specified herein, and, in the case of TCG, at a terminating End Office (or functional equivalent), a Tandem (or functional equivalent), a Local Serving Wire Center and/or other points as specified herein, and, in the case of both Parties, any mutually agreed-upon Mid-Span Meet arrangement as provided in Section 4.3 below. For purposes of Interconnection, if TCG delivers traffic to BA at a BA End Office or Tandem point of Interconnection other than the terminating End Office or Tandem subtended by the terminating End Office, then such point of Interconnection shall be deemed to be a Local Serving Wire Center. In such instances and whenever TCG utilizes a Local Serving Wire Center as point of Interconnection, TCG shall designate that such traffic be transported via a separate trunk group to the BA Tandem that is subtended by the applicable terminating End Office. In such cases, the BA Tandem subtended by the terminating End Office will serve as the BA-IP (as defined below).

4.1.3 The Parties shall initially establish interconnection points (collectively, the "Interconnection Points" or "IPs") at the available locations designated in Schedule 4.0. The mutually agreed-upon IPs on the TCG network at which TCG will provide transport and termination of traffic shall be designated as the TCG Interconnection Points ("TCG-IPs"); the mutually agreed-upon IPs on the BA network shall be designated as the BA Interconnection Points ("BA-IPs") and shall be either a BA terminating End Office or Tandem.

4.1.4 Either Party may, at any time, request that the Parties establish additional technically feasible IP(s), including, without limitation, an End Office or functional equivalent on the other Party's network. Such requests shall be made as a part of the Joint Process established pursuant to subsection 10.1; provided, however, that the Parties shall commence negotiations to determine the technically feasible and geographically relevant location(s) of the additional IP(s) as soon as reasonably practicable following a Party's request therefor. If, after sixty (60) days following said request, the Parties have been unable to reach agreement on the additional Interconnection Points, then either Party may file a complaint with the Commission to resolve such impasse or pursue with any other remedy available under law or equity. For purposes of this subsection 4.1.4, a "geographically relevant" IP shall mean an IP that is located within the same Rate Center Area as the NXXs to which traffic is terminated are assigned or, with the mutual agreement of the Parties, an existing and currently utilized IP within the LATA but outside the applicable Rate Center Area.

4.1.5 In recognition of the large number and variety of BA-IPs available for use by TCG, TCG's ability to select from among those points to minimize the amount of transport it needs to provide or purchase, and the fewer number of TCG-IPs available to BA to select from for similar purposes, and as an express condition of BA's making its LSWCs available to TCG as points of

Interconnection pursuant to subsection 4.1.2 above, TCG shall charge BA no more than TCG's Tariffed non-distance sensitive entrance facility charge for the transport of traffic from a BA-IP to a TCG-IP in any given LATA. The Parties may by mutual agreement establish additional Interconnection Points at any technically feasible points consistent with the Act.

4.1.6 The Parties shall configure separate trunk groups (as described in subsection 4.1.1 above) for traffic from TCG to BA, and for traffic from BA to TCG, respectively; however, the trunk groups shall be equipped as two-way trunks for testing purposes. As provided in Section 10 below, the Parties agree to consider as part of the Joint Process the feasibility of combining any of the separate trunk groups into a single two-way trunk group.

4.2 Physical Architectures

4.2.1 In each LATA identified in Schedule 4.0, the Parties shall utilize the TCG-IP(s) and BA-IP(s) designated in such Schedule as the points from which each Party will provide the transport and termination of traffic.

4.2.2 TCG shall have the sole right and discretion to specify any of the following methods for interconnection at any of the BA-IPs:

- (a) a Physical or Virtual Collocation facility TCG establishes at the BA-IP;
- (b) a Physical or Virtual Collocation facility established separately at the BA-IP by a third party with whom TCG has contracted for such purposes; and/or
- (c) an entrance facility and transport (where applicable) leased from BA (and any necessary multiplexing), where such facility extends to the BA-IP from a mutually agreed to point on TCG's network.

4.2.3 TCG shall provide its own facilities or purchase necessary transport for the delivery of traffic to any Collocation arrangement it establishes at a BA-IP pursuant to Section 13. BA shall provide the transport and termination of the traffic beyond the BA-IP.

4.2.4 TCG may order from BA any of the Interconnection methods specified above in accordance with the order intervals and other terms and conditions, including, without limitation, rates and charges, set forth in this Agreement, in any applicable Tariff(s), or as may be subsequently agreed to between the Parties.

4.2.5 BA shall have the sole right and discretion to specify any one of the following methods for Interconnection at any of the TCG-IPs:

- (a) upon reasonable notice to TCG, a Physical Collocation facility BA establishes at the TCG-IP;

(b) a Physical or Virtual Collocation facility established separately at the TCG-IP by a third party with whom BA has contracted for such purposes; and/or

(c) an entrance facility leased from TCG (and any necessary multiplexing), where such facility extends to the TCG-IP from a mutually agreed upon point on BA's network.

4.2.6 BA shall provide its own facilities for the delivery of traffic to any Collocation arrangement it establishes at an TCG-IP pursuant to Section 13. TCG shall provide the transport and termination of the traffic beyond the TCG-IP.

4.2.7 BA may order from TCG any of the Interconnection methods specified above in accordance with the order intervals and other terms and conditions, including, without limitation, rates and charges, set forth in this Agreement, in any applicable Tariff(s), or as may be subsequently agreed to between the Parties.

4.2.8 Under any of the architectures described in this subsection 4.2, either Party may utilize the Traffic Exchange Trunks for the termination of InterLATA Toll Traffic in accordance with the terms contained in Section 5 below and pursuant to the other Party's Switched Exchange Access Service tariffs. The other Party's Switched Exchange Access Service rates shall apply to such Traffic.

4.3 Mid-Span Meets.

4.3.1 In addition to the foregoing methods of Interconnection, the Parties may agree, at either Party's request at any time, to establish (i) a Mid-Span Meet arrangement in accordance with the terms of this subsection 4.3, or (ii) a SONET backbone with an electrical interface at the DS-3 level where and on the same terms BA offers such SONET services to other carriers.

4.3.2 The establishment of any Mid-Span Meet arrangement is expressly conditioned upon the Parties' reaching prior agreement on appropriate sizing and forecasting, equipment, ordering, provisioning, maintenance, repair, testing, augment, and compensation procedures and arrangements, reasonable distance limitations, and on any other arrangements necessary to implement the Mid-Span Meet arrangement. Any Mid-Span Meet arrangement requested at a third-party premises is expressly conditioned on the Parties' having sufficient capacity at the requested location to meet such request, on unrestricted 24-hour access for both Parties to the requested location, on other appropriate protections as deemed necessary by either Party, and on an appropriate commitment that such access and other arrangements may not be restricted for a reasonable period.

4.3.3 Mid-Span Meet arrangements shall be used only for the termination of Local Traffic and IntraLATA Toll Traffic unless and until such time as the Parties have agreed to appropriate compensation arrangements relating to the exchange of other types of traffic over such Mid-Span Meet, and only where facilities are available. Any agreement to access unbundled Network Elements via a

Mid-Span Meet arrangement shall be conditioned on the resolution of the technical and other issues described in this subsection 4.3, resolution by the joint operations team of additional issues (such as inventory and testing procedures unique to the provision of unbundled Network Elements via a Mid-Span Meet), and, as necessary, completion of a joint operational and technical test. In addition, access to unbundled Network Elements via a Mid-Span Meet arrangement for access to such Elements, shall be limited to that which is required by the FCC Regulations, and shall be subject to full compensation of all relevant costs (as defined in the FCC Regulations) by the requesting Party to the other Party.

4.4 Interconnection in Additional LATAs

4.4.1 If TCG determines to offer Telephone Exchange Services in any LATA not listed in Schedule 3.0 in which BA also offers Telephone Exchange Services, TCG shall provide written notice to BA of the need to establish Interconnection in such LATA pursuant to this Agreement.

4.4.2 The notice provided in subsection 4.4.1 shall include (i) the initial Routing Point TCG has designated in the new LATA; (ii) TCG's requested Interconnection Activation Date (and related milestone dates in accordance with the format in Schedule 3.0); and (iii) a non-binding forecast of TCG's trunking requirements.

4.4.3 Unless otherwise agreed to by the Parties, the Parties shall designate the Wire Center(s) TCG has identified as its initial Routing Point(s) in the LATA as the TCG-IP(s) in that LATA and shall designate mutually agreed upon BA Local Serving Wire Center(s) that houses a Tandem Office within the LATA nearest to the TCG-IP (as measured in airline miles utilizing the V&H coordinates method) as the BA-IP(s) in that LATA, provided that, for the purpose of charging for the transport of traffic from the BA-IP to the TCG-IP, the TCG-IP shall be no further than an entrance facility away from the BA-IP.

4.4.4 The Parties shall agree upon an addendum to Schedule 3.0 to reflect the schedule applicable to each new LATA requested by TCG; provided, however, that unless agreed by the Parties, the Interconnection Activation Date in a new LATA shall not be earlier than forty-five (45) days after receipt by BA of all complete and accurate trunk orders and routing information. Within ten (10) business days of BA's receipt of TCG's notice, BA and TCG shall confirm the BA-IP, the TCG-IP and the Interconnection Activation Date for the new LATA by attaching an addendum to Schedule 3.0.

4.5 Interconnection Points for Different Types of Traffic. Each Party shall make available Interconnection Points and facilities for routing of traffic from those Interconnection Points as designated in Schedule 4.5. Any additional traffic that is not covered in Schedule 4.5 shall be subject to separate negotiations between the Parties, except that (i) either Party may deliver traffic of any type or character to the other Party for termination as long as the delivering Party pays the receiving Party's then current Switched Exchange Access rates for such traffic, and (ii) upon a bona fide request from either Party, the Parties will exercise all reasonable efforts to conclude an agreement covering the exchange of such traffic.

5.0 TRANSMISSION AND ROUTING OF TELEPHONE EXCHANGE SERVICE TRAFFIC PURSUANT TO SECTION 251(c)(2)

5.1 Scope of Traffic. Section 5 prescribes parameters for trunk groups (the “Traffic Exchange Trunks”) to be effected over the Interconnections specified in Section 4 for the transmission and routing of Local Traffic, Transit Traffic, translated LEC IntraLATA 800/888 traffic, InterLATA Toll Traffic (to the extent applicable), and IntraLATA Toll Traffic between the Parties’ respective Telephone Exchange Service Customers.

5.2 Trunk Group Connections and Ordering

5.2.1 Traffic Exchange Trunk group connections will be made at a DS-1 level or higher. Higher speed connections shall be made, when and where available, in accordance with the Joint Implementation and Grooming Process prescribed in Section 10. Ancillary Traffic trunk groups may be made below a DS-1 level, as may be agreed to by the Parties.

5.2.2 Each Party will identify its Carrier Identification Code, a three or four digit numeric obtained from Bellcore, to the other Party when ordering a trunk group.

5.3 Additional Switching System Hierarchy and Trunking Requirements

5.3.1 For purposes of routing TCG traffic to BA, the subtending arrangements between BA Tandem Switches and BA End Office Switches shall be the same as the Tandem/End Office subtending arrangements BA maintains for the routing of its own or other carriers’ traffic. For purposes of routing BA traffic to TCG, the subtending arrangements between TCG Tandem Switches (or functional equivalent) and TCG End Office Switches (or functional equivalent) shall be the same as the Tandem/End Office subtending arrangements (or functional equivalent) which TCG maintains for the routing of its own or other carriers’ traffic.

5.4 Signaling

Each Party will provide the other Party with access to its databases and associated signaling necessary for the routing and completion of the other Party’s traffic in accordance with the provisions contained in Section 17 below.

5.5 Grades of Service

The Parties shall initially engineer and shall jointly monitor and enhance all trunk groups consistent with the Joint Implementation and Grooming Process as set forth in Section 10.

5.6 Measurement and Billing

5.6.1 For billing purposes, each Party shall pass Calling Party Number (“CPN”) information on each call carried over the Traffic Exchange Trunks at such time as the originating switch is equipped for SS7 and from all switches no later than December 31, 1998. At such time as either Party has the ability, as the Party receiving the traffic, to use such CPN information to classify on an automated basis traffic delivered by the other Party as either Local Traffic or Toll Traffic, such receiving Party shall bill the originating Party the Local Traffic termination rates, Intrastate Exchange Access rates, or Interstate Exchange Access rates applicable to each minute of Traffic for which CPN is passed, as provided in Exhibit A and applicable Tariffs.

5.6.2 If, under the circumstances set forth in subsection 5.6.1, the originating Party does not pass CPN on up to ten percent (10%) of calls, the receiving Party shall bill the originating Party the Local Traffic termination rates, Intrastate Exchange Access rates, Intrastate/Interstate Transit Traffic rates, or Interstate Exchange Access rates applicable to each minute of traffic, as provided in Exhibit A and applicable Tariffs, for which CPN is passed. For the remaining up to ten percent (10%) of calls without CPN information, the receiving Party shall bill the originating Party for such traffic as Local Traffic termination rates, Intrastate Exchange Access rates, Intrastate/Interstate Transit Traffic rates, or Interstate Exchange Access rates applicable to each minute of traffic, as provided in Exhibit A and applicable Tariffs, in direct proportion to the minutes of use of calls passed with CPN information.

5.6.3 If the originating Party does not pass CPN on more than ten percent (10%) of calls, or if the receiving Party lacks the ability to use CPN information to classify on an automated basis traffic delivered by the other Party as either Local Traffic or Toll Traffic, and the originating Party chooses to combine Local and Toll Traffic on the same trunk group, it will supply an auditable Percent Local Use (“PLU”) report quarterly, based on the previous three months’ traffic, and applicable to the following three months. If the originating Party also chooses to combine Interstate and Intrastate Toll Traffic on the same trunk group, it will supply an auditable Percent Interstate Use (“PIU”) report quarterly, based on the previous three months’ terminating traffic, and applicable to the following three months. In lieu of the foregoing PLU and/or PIU reports, the Parties may agree to provide and accept reasonable surrogate measures for an agreed-upon interim period.

5.6.4 Measurement of billing minutes for purposes of determining terminating compensation shall be in conversation seconds.

5.7 Reciprocal Compensation Arrangements -- Section 251(b)(5).

Reciprocal Compensation arrangements address the transport and termination of Local Traffic. BA’s delivery of Traffic to TCG that originated with a third carrier is addressed in subsection 7.3. Unless and until such time as other settlement processes are implemented, where TCG delivers local traffic from a third carrier, that would be defined as local pursuant to an interconnection agreement between BA and that carrier, then TCG shall compensate BA at the rate that third carrier would have compensated BA. Where TCG delivers Traffic (other than Local Traffic) to BA, except as may be set

forth herein or subsequently agreed to by the Parties, TCG shall pay BA the same amount that such carrier would have paid BA for termination of that Traffic at the location the Traffic is delivered to BA by TCG. Compensation for the transport and termination of traffic not specifically addressed in this subsection 5.7 shall be as provided elsewhere in this Agreement, or if not so provided, as required by the Tariffs of the Party transporting and/or terminating the traffic. BA shall provide notice to TCG of any BA filing to the Commission that would alter the classification of particular traffic as Local or IntraLATA Toll Traffic.

5.7.1 Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed to limit either Party's ability to designate the areas within which that Party's Customers may make calls which that Party rates as "local" in its Customer Tariffs.

5.7.2 The Parties shall compensate each other for the transport and termination of Local Traffic in an equal and symmetrical manner at the rates provided in the Detailed Schedule of Itemized Charges (Exhibit A hereto) or, if not set forth therein, in the applicable Tariff(s) of the terminating Party, as the case may be. Until such time as the Commission adopts permanent rates consistent with the requirements of the FCC Regulations, the rates set forth in Exhibit A shall be applied as interim rates as more fully described in Exhibit A and subsection 20.1.2 below. These rates (interim and permanent) are to be applied at the TCG-IP for traffic delivered by BA, and at the BA-IP for traffic delivered by TCG. No additional charges, including port or transport charges, shall apply for the termination of Local Traffic delivered to the BA-IP or the TCG-IP, except as set forth in Exhibit A. When Local Traffic is terminated over the same trunks as Toll Traffic, any port or transport or other applicable access charges related to the Toll Traffic shall be prorated to be applied only to the Toll Traffic.

5.7.3 The Reciprocal Compensation arrangements set forth in this Agreement are not applicable to Switched Exchange Access Service. All Switched Exchange Access Service and all Toll Traffic shall continue to be governed by the terms and conditions of the applicable federal and state Tariffs.

5.7.4 Compensation for transport and termination of all Traffic which has been subject to performance of INP by one Party for the other Party pursuant to Section 14 shall be as specified in subsection 14.5.

5.7.5 The designation of Traffic as Local or Toll for purposes of compensation shall be based on the actual originating and terminating points of the complete end-to-end call, regardless of the carrier(s) involved in carrying any segment of the call.

5.7.6 Each Party reserves the right to measure and audit all Traffic, up to a maximum of two audits per calendar year, to ensure that proper rates are being applied appropriately, provided, however, that either Party shall have the right to conduct additional audit(s) if the preceding audit disclosed material errors or discrepancies. Each Party agrees to provide the necessary Traffic data or

permit the other Party's recording equipment to be installed for sampling purposes in conjunction with any such audit.

5.7.7 The Parties will engage in settlements of intraLATA intrastate alternate-billed calls (e.g. collect, calling card, and third-party billed calls) originated or authorized by their respective Customers in Virginia in accordance with the terms of an appropriate IntraLATA Telecommunications Services Settlement Agreement between the Parties substantially in the form appended hereto as Exhibit D.

6.0 TRANSMISSION AND ROUTING OF EXCHANGE ACCESS TRAFFIC PURSUANT TO 251(c)(2).

6.1 Scope of Traffic

Section 6 prescribes parameters for certain trunks to be established over the Interconnections specified in Section 4 for the transmission and routing of traffic between TCG Telephone Exchange Service Customers and Interexchange Carriers ("Access Toll Connecting Trunks"), in any case where TCG elects to have its End Office Switch subtend a BA Tandem. This includes casually-dialed (10XXX and 101XXXX) traffic.

6.2 Trunk Group Architecture and Traffic Routing

6.2.1 Each party shall have the option to establish Access Toll Connecting Trunks by which it will provide tandem-transported Switched Exchange Access Services to Interexchange Carriers to enable such Interexchange Carriers to originate and terminate traffic to and from its Customers.

6.2.2 Access Toll Connecting Trunks shall be used solely for the transmission and routing of Exchange Access to allow the establishing Party's Customers to connect to or be connected to the interexchange trunks of any Interexchange Carrier which is connected to the other Party's Tandem.

6.2.3 The Access Toll Connecting Trunks shall be two-way trunks connecting an End Office Switch one Party utilizes to provide Telephone Exchange Service and Switched Exchange Access in a given LATA to a Tandem the other Party utilizes to provide Exchange Access in such LATA.

6.2.4 To the extent that a TCG switch subtends a BA Access Tandem, the Parties shall jointly determine which BA Tandem(s) will be subtended by each TCG End Office Switch. TCG's End Office switch shall subtend the BA Tandem that would have served the same Rate Center Area on BA's network. Alternative configurations will be discussed as part of the Joint Process.

6.3 Meet-Point Billing Arrangements

6.3.1 TCG and BA will establish Meet-Point Billing arrangements in order to provide a common transport option to Switched Access Services Customers via a Tandem Switch in accordance with the Meet-Point Billing guidelines contained in the OBF's MECAB and MECOD documents, except as modified herein, and BA's Virginia Tariff Number 217, Section 2.4.8. The arrangements described in this Section 6 are intended to be used to provide Switched Exchange Access Service that originates and/or terminates on a Telephone Exchange Service that is provided by either Party, where the transport component of the Switched Exchange Access Service is routed through a Tandem Switch that is provided by BA.

6.3.2 In each LATA, the Parties shall establish MPB arrangements between the applicable Rating Point/BA Local Serving Wire Center combinations.

6.3.3 Interconnection for the MPB arrangement shall occur at the BA-IP in the LATA, unless otherwise agreed to by the Parties.

6.3.4 TCG and BA will use reasonable efforts, individually and collectively, to maintain provisions in their respective state access tariffs, and/or provisions within the National Exchange Carrier Association ("NECA") tariff No. 4, or any successor Tariff sufficient to reflect the MPB arrangements established pursuant to this Agreement.

6.3.5 Each Party shall implement the "Multiple Bill/Single Tariff" or "Multiple Bill/Multiple Tariff" option, as appropriate, in order to bill an IXC for the portion of the jointly provided telecommunications service provided by that Party.

6.3.6 The rate elements to be billed by each Party are as set forth in Schedule 6.3. The actual rate values for each Party's affected access service rate element shall be the rates contained in that Party's own effective federal and state access tariffs, or other document that contains the terms under which that Party's access services are offered. The MPB billing percentages for each Rating Point/BA Local Serving Wire Center combination shall be calculated in accordance with the formula set forth in subsection 6.3.17 below.

6.3.7 Each Party shall provide the other Party with the billing name, billing address, and Carrier Identification Code ("CIC") of the IXC, and identification of the IXC's Local Serving Wire Center in order to comply with the MPB notification process as outlined in the MECAB document via facsimile or such other media as the Parties may agree to.

6.3.8 BA shall provide TCG with the Switched Access Detail Usage Data (category 1101XX records) on magnetic tape or via such other media as the Parties may agree to, no later than ten (10) business days after the date the usage occurred.

6.3.9 TCG shall provide BA with the Switched Access Summary Usage Data (category 1150XX records) on magnetic tape or via such other media as the Parties may agree, no later than ten (10) business days after the date of its rendering of the bill to the relevant IXC, which bill shall be rendered no less frequently than monthly.

6.3.10 All usage data to be provided pursuant to subsections 6.3.8 and 6.3.9 above shall be sent to the following addresses:

To TCG: Controller
 Teleport Communications Group
 Two Teleport Drive
 Staten Island, NY 10311

To BA: Bell Atlantic
 Richmond RAO
 Attn: Tape File Room - 300
 3011 Hungary Springs Road
 Richmond, VA 23228

Either Party may change its address for receiving usage data by notifying the other Party in writing.

6.3.11 Each Party shall coordinate and exchange the billing account reference (“BAR”) and billing account cross reference (“BACR”) numbers or Operating Company Number (“OCN”), as appropriate, for the MPB Service. Each Party shall notify the other if the level of billing or other BAR/BACR elements change, resulting in a new BAR/BACR number, or if the OCN changes.

6.3.12 Errors may be discovered by TCG, the IXC or BA. Each Party agrees to provide the other Party with notification of any errors it discovers within two (2) business days of the date of such discovery. In the event of a loss of data, both Parties shall cooperate to reconstruct the lost data and, if such reconstruction is not possible, shall accept a reasonable estimate of the lost data based upon prior usage data.

6.3.13 Either Party may request a review or audit of the various components of access recording up to a maximum of two (2) audits per calendar year. All costs associated with each review and audit shall be borne by the requesting Party. Such review or audit shall be conducted subject to confidentiality protection and during regular business hours. A Party may conduct additional audits, at its expense, upon the other Party’s consent, which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld. However, once an audit of a particular time period has been conducted, such time period shall be excluded from future audits except and to the extent such time period is also relevant to the audit of a previously unaudited time period.

6.3.14 Nothing contained in this subsection 6.3 shall create any liability for damages, losses, claims, costs, injuries, expenses or other liabilities whatsoever on the part of either Party (other than as may be set forth in MECAB or in any applicable Tariff).

6.3.15 The Parties shall not charge one another for the services rendered or information provided pursuant to this subsection 6.3.

6.3.16 MPB will apply for all traffic bearing the 500, 900, 800/888 (to the extent provided by an IXC) or any other non-geographic NPA which may be likewise designated for such traffic in the future.

6.3.17 In the event TCG determines to offer Telephone Exchange Services in another LATA in which BA operates a Tandem Switch, BA shall permit and enable TCG to subtend the BA Tandem Switch(es) designated for the BA End Offices in the area where the TCG Rating Point(s) associated with the NPA-NXX(s) to/from which the Switched Exchange Access Services are homed. The MPB billing percentages for each new Rating Point/BA Local Serving Wire Center combination shall be calculated according to the following formula:

$$a / (a + b) = \text{TCG Billing Percentage}$$

and

$$b / (a + b) = \text{BA Billing Percentage}$$

where:

a = the airline mileage between the Rating Point and the actual point of interconnection for the MPB arrangement; and

b = the airline mileage between the BA Local Serving Wire Center and the actual point of interconnection for the MPB arrangement.

TCG shall inform BA of the LATA in which it intends to offer Telephone Exchange Services and its calculation of the billing percentages which should apply for such arrangement, as part of the notice required by subsection 4.4.1 above. Within ten (10) business days of TCG's delivery of notice to BA, BA and TCG shall confirm the new Rating Point/BA Local Serving Wire Center combination and billing percentages. Nothing in this subsection 6.3.17 shall be construed to limit TCG's ability to select to interconnect with BA in additional LATAs by means of Interconnection at a Local Serving Wire Center, to the extent that such Interconnection is permitted under this Agreement.

6.3.18 Within thirty (30) days of a request by TCG, BA agrees to notify all switched access users with a Carrier Identification Code in a LATA in which the Parties have newly established Interconnection arrangements pursuant to this Agreement that BA and TCG have entered in a Meet Point Billing arrangement.

6.4 800/888 Traffic

The following terms shall apply when either Party delivers 800/888 calls to the other Party for completion.

6.4.1 When TCG delivers translated 800/888 calls to BA for completion

(a) to an IXC, TCG shall:

- (i) Provide a MPB record in an industry standard format to BA; and
- (ii) Bill the IXC the appropriate TCG query charge associated with the call.

(b) as an IntraLATA call to BA or another LEC in the LATA, TCG shall:

(i) Provide a copy record in an industry standard format to BA or the terminating LEC;

(ii) Submit the call records to ITORP for payment by BA or the LEC that is the 800/888 service provider of TCG's and any intermediate LEC's Tariffed Exchange Access charges and query charges.

6.4.2 When BA delivers translated 800/888 calls originated by BA's or another LEC's Customers to TCG for completion

(a) to TCG in its capacity as an IXC, BA shall:

- (i) Bill TCG the appropriate BA query charge associated with the call; and
- (ii) Bill TCG the appropriate FGD Exchange Access charges associated with the call.

(b) as an IntraLATA call to TCG in its capacity as a LEC,

(i) the originating LEC shall submit the appropriate call records to BA for processing under the IntraLATA Toll Originating Responsibility Plan ("ITORP") for payment by TCG of BA's (and another LEC's, if appropriate) tariffed Exchange Access charges; and

(ii) TCG shall pay the originating LEC's appropriate query charge associated with the call.

6.4.3 The settlement of all IntraLATA 800/888 calls exchanged pursuant to this subsection 6.4 shall be in accordance with the terms of an appropriate IntraLATA Telecommunications Services Settlement Agreement between the Parties substantially in the form appended hereto as Exhibit D.

7.0 TRANSPORT AND TERMINATION OF OTHER TYPES OF TRAFFIC

7.1 Information Services Traffic

The following provisions shall apply only to TCG-originated Information Services Traffic directed to an information services platform connected to BA's network. At such time as TCG connects Information Services platforms to its network, the Parties shall agree upon a comparable arrangement for BA-originated Information Services Traffic.

7.1.1 TCG shall have the option to route Information Services Traffic that originates on its own network to the appropriate information services platform(s) connected to BA's network. In the event TCG exercises such option, TCG will establish a dedicated trunk group to the BA information services serving switch. This trunk group will be utilized to allow TCG to route information service traffic originated on its network to BA.

7.1.2 TCG shall provide an electronic file transfer or monthly magnetic tape containing recorded call detail information to BA.

7.1.3 BA shall provide to TCG via electronic file transfer or magnetic tape or other means as available all necessary information to rate the Information Services Traffic to TCG's Customers pursuant to the BA's agreements with each information services provider. Information shall be provided in as timely a fashion as practical in order to facilitate record review and reflect actual prices set by the individual information services providers.

7.1.4 TCG shall bill and collect such information services provider charges and remit the amounts collected to BA less:

- (a) The Information Services Billing and Collection fee set forth in Exhibit A; and
- (b) An uncollectibles reserve calculated based on the uncollectibles reserve in BA's billing and collection agreement with the applicable information services provider; and
- (c) Customer adjustments provided by TCG.

TCG shall provide to BA sufficient information regarding uncollectibles and Customer adjustments to allow BA to pass through the adjustments to the information services provider, and BA shall pass through such adjustments. However, if the information services provider disputes such

adjustments and refuses to accept such adjustments, TCG shall reimburse BA for all such disputed adjustments. Final resolution regarding all disputed adjustments shall be solely between TCG and the information services provider.

7.1.5 Nothing in this Agreement shall restrict either Party from offering, or obviate either Party's obligations, if any, under Applicable Laws to offer, to its Telephone Exchange Service Customers the ability to block the completion of Information Service Traffic or from establishing such blocking as the default and requiring that such Customers make an affirmative request to remove the blocking.

7.1.6 The Information Services Traffic addressed herein does not include 555 traffic or similar traffic with AIN service interfaces, which traffic shall be subject to separate arrangements between the Parties.

7.2 LSV/VCI Traffic

7.2.1 If in the future Party A decides or is required by a regulatory body of competent jurisdiction to offer LSV and VCI services to enable its Customers to verify and/or interrupt calls of Party B's Customers, Party B shall accept and respond to LSV and VCI requests from the operator bureau of the Party A. Each Party shall compensate the other Party for LSV and VCI inquiries in accordance with the other Party's Tariffed rates, the terms of the Directory Assistance and Call Completion Agreement appended hereto as Exhibit C, or as may be agreed to by the Parties.

7.2.2 The Party B operator shall only verify the status of the line (LSV) or interrupt the line to inform the called party that there is a call waiting. The Party B operator will not complete the telephone call of the Customer initiating the LSV/VCI request. The Party B operator will only make one LSV/VCI attempt per Customer operator bureau telephone call, and the applicable charges apply whether or not the called party releases the line.

7.2.3 Each Party's operator bureau shall accept LSV and VCI inquiries from the operator bureau of the other Party in order to allow transparent provision of LSV/VCI Traffic between the Parties' networks.

7.3 Transit Service

7.3.1 Each Party shall exercise all reasonable efforts to enter into a reciprocal local traffic exchange arrangement (either via written agreement or mutual tariffs) with any wireless carrier, ITC, CLEC, or other LEC to which it sends, or from which it receives, local traffic that transits the other Party's facilities over Traffic Exchange Trunks. If either Party fails to enter into such an arrangement as quickly as commercially reasonable following the Effective Date and to provide written notification of such Agreement, including the relevant rates therein, to the other Party, but continues to utilize the other Party's Transit Service for the exchange of local traffic with such wireless carrier, ITC, CLEC, or other LEC, then the Party utilizing the Transit Service shall, in addition to paying the rate set

forth in Exhibit A for said Transit Service, pay the other Party any charges or costs such terminating third party carrier imposes or levies on the other Party for the delivery or termination of such Traffic, including any switched access charges, plus all reasonable expenses incurred by the other Party in delivering or terminating such Traffic and/or resulting from the utilizing Party's failure to secure said reciprocal local traffic exchange arrangement. Each Party will, upon request, provide the other Party with all reasonable cooperation and assistance in obtaining such arrangements. In addition, neither Party shall take any actions to prevent the other Party from entering into a direct and reciprocal local traffic exchange arrangement (either via written agreement or mutual tariffs) with any wireless carrier, ITC, CLEC, or other LEC to which it sends, or from which it receives, local traffic that does not utilize the Transit Service of the first Party. The Parties agree to work cooperatively in appropriate industry fora to promote the adoption of reasonable industry guidelines relating to Transit Traffic.

7.3.2 Transit Traffic that is originated by an ITC or wireless carrier shall be settled in accordance with the terms of an appropriate IntraLATA Telecommunications Services Settlement Agreement between the Parties substantially in the form appended hereto as Exhibit D. Meet-Point Billing compensation arrangements as described in subsection 6.3 shall be utilized for compensation for the joint handling of Toll Traffic.

7.3.3 BA expects that most networks involved in Transit Traffic will deliver each call to each involved network with CCS and the appropriate Transactional Capabilities Application Part ("TCAP") message to facilitate full interoperability of those services supported by BA and billing functions. In all cases, each Party shall follow the Exchange Message Record ("EMR") standard and exchange records between the Parties and with the terminating carrier to facilitate the billing process to the originating network.

7.3.4 Transit Traffic shall be routed over the Traffic Exchange Trunks described in Section 5 above.

7.4 911/E911 Arrangements

7.4.1 TCG may, at its option, interconnect to the BA 911/E911 selective routers or 911 Tandem Offices, as appropriate, that serve the areas in which TCG provides Telephone Exchange Services, for the provision of 911/E911 services and for access to all subtending Public Safety Answering Points ("PSAP"). In such situations, BA will provide TCG with the appropriate CLLI codes and specifications of the Tandem Office serving area. In areas where only 911 is available, TCG will transport its 911 traffic directly to the local PSAP.

7.4.2 Path and route diverse interconnections for 911/E911 shall be made at the TCG-IP, the BA-IP, or other points as necessary and mutually agreed, and as required by law or regulation.

7.4.3 Within thirty (30) days of its receipt of a request from TCG, BA will provide TCG with the following at no charge:

(a) a file on diskette or other mutually agreed upon medium containing the Master Street Address Guide ("MSAG") for each county within the LATA(s) specified in this Agreement, which MSAG shall be updated no more frequently than monthly and a complete copy of which shall be made available on an annual basis. Upon a special request from TCG due to extraordinary and extenuating circumstances (e.g. corrupted file), BA will provide TCG with an additional copy of the MSAG at a nominal charge;

(b) a list of the address, CLLI code, and an associated NXX of each 911/E911 selective router or 911 Tandem office(s) in the area in which TCG plans to offer Telephone Exchange Service;

(c) a list of the address, CLLI code, associated NXX, contact name and phone number of each PSAP in each county in the area in which TCG plans to offer Telephone Exchange Service;

(d) a list of BA personnel who currently have responsibility for each county's 911 requirements;

(e) the ten-digit subscriber number for each PSAP or the "main" PSAP that subtends each BA 911/E911 selective router or 911 Tandem to which TCG is interconnected for the transfer of "0-" calls to the PSAP;

(f) any special 911 trunking requirements for each 911/E911 selective router or 911 Tandem;

(g) an electronic interface, when available, through which TCG shall input and provide a daily update of 911/E911 database information related to appropriate TCG Customers. Until such time as an electronic interface is available, TCG shall provide BA with all appropriate 911 information such as name, address, and telephone number in writing for BA's entry into the 911 database system. Any 911-related data exchanged between the Parties prior to the availability of an electronic interface shall conform to BA standards, whereas 911-related data exchanged electronically shall conform to the National Emergency Number Association standards;

(h) return of any TCG E911 data entry files containing errors, so that TCG may ensure the accuracy of the Customer records; and

(i) a Design Layout Record ("DLR") of a 911 (CAMA) trunk, if applicable.

7.4.4 In cases where a Customer of one Party elects to discontinue its service and become the Customer of the other Party ("Party B") but desires to retain its original telephone number pursuant to an INP arrangement, Party B will outpulse the telephone number to which the call has been forwarded (i.e. the Customer's ANI) to the 911 Tandem Office. Party B will also provide the 911

database with both the forwarded number and the directory number, as well as the appropriate address information of the Customer.

7.4.5 BA and TCG will use their best efforts to facilitate the prompt, robust, reliable and efficient interconnection of TCG systems to the 911/E911 platforms.

7.4.6 BA and TCG will work cooperatively to arrange meetings with PSAPs to answer any technical questions the PSAPs, or county or municipal coordinators may have regarding the 911/E911 arrangements.

7.4.7 The Parties acknowledge that the provision of INP, until PNP with full 911 compatibility is available, creates a special need to have the Automatic Location Identification (“ALI”) screen reflect two number: the “old” number and the “new” number assigned by TCG. The Parties acknowledge further the objective of including the five character Telephone Company Identification (“TCI”) of the company that provides service to the calling line as part of the ALI display. Until such time as TCI is operational, however, BA and TCG agree to supply and use the three-letter Access Carrier Name Abbreviation (“ACNA”) as the carrier identifier.

7.4.8 TCG will compensate BA for connections to its 911/E911 pursuant to Exhibit A.

7.4.9 TCG will comply with all applicable rules and regulations pertaining to the provision of 911/E911 services in Virginia.

7.5 Ancillary Traffic Generally Ancillary Traffic that may be terminated at a BA Local Serving Wire Center pursuant to subsection 4.5 above shall be subject to a separate transport charge for transport from the Local Serving Wire Center to the appropriate Tandem Office, as set forth in Exhibit A.

8.0 NUMBER RESOURCES, RATE CENTERS AND RATING POINTS

8.1 Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed to limit or otherwise adversely affect in any manner either Party’s right to employ or to request and be assigned any Central Office (NXX) Codes pursuant to the Central Office Code Assignment Guidelines, as may be amended from time to time, or to establish, by Tariff or otherwise, Rate Centers and Rating Points corresponding to such NXX codes. Until such time as number administration is provided by a third party, BA shall provide TCG access to telephone numbers by assigning NXX codes to TCG in accordance with such Assignment Guidelines.

8.2 It shall be the responsibility of each Party to program and update its own switches and network systems in accordance with the Local Exchange Routing Guide (“LERG”) in order to recognize and route traffic to the other Party’s assigned NXX codes at all times. Neither Party shall impose any

fees or charges whatsoever on the other Party for such activities, except as expressly set forth in this Agreement.

8.3 Unless mandated otherwise by a Commission order, the Rate Center Areas will be the same for each Party. During the term of this Agreement, TCG shall adopt the Rate Center Areas and Rate Center Points that the Commission has approved for BA, in all areas where BA and TCG service areas overlap, and TCG shall assign whole NPA-NXX codes to each Rate Center unless the LEC industry adopts alternative methods of utilizing NXXs in the manner adopted by the NANP.

8.4 TCG will also designate a Routing Point for each assigned NXX code. TCG shall designate one location for each Rate Center Area as the Routing Point for the NPA-NXXs associated with that Area, and such Routing Point shall be within the same LATA as the Rate Center Area but not necessarily within the Rate Center Area itself.

8.5 Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained herein, nothing in this Agreement is intended to, and nothing in this Agreement shall be construed to, in any way constrain TCG's choices regarding the size of the local calling area(s) that TCG may establish for its Customers, which local calling areas may be larger than, smaller than, or identical to, BA's local calling areas.

9.0 NETWORK MAINTENANCE AND MANAGEMENT; OUTAGES

9.1 The Parties will work cooperatively to install and maintain a reliable network. TCG and BA will exchange appropriate information (e.g., maintenance contact numbers, escalation procedures, network information, information required to comply with law enforcement and other security agencies of the Government) to achieve this desired reliability. In addition, the Parties will work cooperatively to apply sound network management principles to alleviate or to prevent congestion.

9.2 Each Party recognizes a responsibility to follow the standards that may be agreed to between the Parties and to employ characteristics and methods of operation that will not interfere with or impair the service or any facilities of the other or any third parties connected with or involved directly in the network of the other.

9.3 Interference or Impairment

If Party A reasonably determines that the characteristics and methods of operation used by Party B will or may interfere with or impair its provision of services, Party A shall have the right to discontinue Interconnection subject, however, to the following:

9.3.1 Party A shall have given Party B at least ten (10) days' prior written notice of the interference or impairment or potential interference or impairment and the need to correct the condition within said time period; and,

9.3.2 Party A shall have concurrently provided a copy of the notice provided to Party B under (a) above to the appropriate federal and/or state regulatory bodies.

9.3.3 Notice in accord with subsections 9.3.1 and 9.3.2 above shall not be required in emergencies and Party A may immediately discontinue Interconnection if reasonably necessary to meet its obligations. In such case, however, Party A shall use all reasonable means to notify Party B and the appropriate federal and/or state regulatory bodies.

9.3.4 Upon correction of the interference or impairment, Party A will promptly renew the Interconnection. During such period of discontinuance, there will be no compensation or credit allowance by Party A to Party B for interruptions.

9.4 Repeated or Willful Noncompliance

The Interconnection provided hereunder may be discontinued by either Party upon thirty (30) days written notice to the other for repeated or willful violation of and/or a refusal to comply with this Agreement in any material respect. The Party discontinuing will notify the appropriate federal and/or state regulatory bodies concurrently with the notice to the other Party of the prospective discontinuance.

9.5 Outage Repair Standard

In the event of an outage or trouble in any arrangement, facility, or service being provided by a Party hereunder, the providing Party will follow procedures for isolating and clearing the outage or trouble that are no less favorable than those that apply to comparable arrangements, facilities, or services being provided by the providing Party to any other carrier whose network is connected to that of the providing Party. TCG and BA may agree to modify those procedures from time to time based on their experience with comparable Interconnection arrangements with other carriers.

9.6 Notice of Changes -- Section 251(c)(5).

If a Party makes a change in the information necessary for the transmission and routing of services using that Party's network, or any other change in its network which it believes will materially affect the interoperability of its network with the other Party's network, the Party making the change shall provide at least ninety (90) days advance written notice of such change to the other Party, and shall use all reasonable efforts to provide at least one hundred eighty (180) days notice where practicable; provided, however, that if a longer period of notice is required by the FCC's or Commission's rules, including, e.g., the Network Disclosure rules set forth in the FCC Regulations, the Party will comply with such rules.

10. JOINT NETWORK IMPLEMENTATION AND GROOMING PROCESS; INSTALLATION, MAINTENANCE, TESTING AND REPAIR.

10.1 Joint Network Implementation and Grooming Process. On or before March 1, 1997, unless the Parties agree to a different date, TCG and BA shall jointly develop an implementation and grooming process (the “Joint Process”) which shall define and detail, inter alia,

(a) standards to ensure that Interconnection trunk groups experience a grade of service, availability and quality which is comparable to that achieved on interoffice trunks within BA’s network and in accord with all appropriate relevant industry-accepted quality, reliability and availability standards. Trunks provided by either Party for Interconnection services will be engineered using a design blocking objective of B.01;

(b) the respective duties and responsibilities of the Parties with respect to the administration and maintenance of the trunk groups, including, but not limited to, standards and procedures for notification and discoveries of trunk disconnects;

(c) disaster recovery provision escalations;

(d) migration from one-way to two-way Interconnection Trunks upon mutual agreement of the Parties;

(e) the procedures to govern any TCG request for information concerning available BA network facilities that TCG may purchase as unbundled Network Elements to connect the beginning and end points within given exchanges specified by TCG in its request; and

(f) additional technically feasible and geographically relevant IPs in a LATA as provided in subsection 4.1.4 above; and

(g) such other matters as the Parties may agree, including, e.g., End Office to End Office high usage trunks as good engineering practices may dictate.

Nothing in this subsection 10.1 shall affect either Party’s obligations to meet the milestone dates set forth in Schedule 3.0 hereof.

10.2 Installation, Maintenance, Testing and Repair Unless otherwise agreed to by the Parties, Interconnection shall be equal in quality to that provided by each of the Parties to itself or any subsidiary, affiliate, or third party. For purposes of this Agreement, “equal in quality” means the same or equivalent interface specifications, provisioning, installation, maintenance, testing and repair intervals for the same or equivalent services under like circumstances. If either Party is unable to fulfill its obligations under this subsection 10.2, it shall notify the other Party of its inability to do so and will negotiate alternative intervals in good faith. The Parties agree that the standards to be used by each Party for isolating and clearing any disconnections and/or other outages or troubles shall be no less favorable than those applicable to comparable arrangements, facilities, or services being provided by such Party to any other carrier whose network is connected to that of the providing Party.

10.3 Forecasting Requirements for Trunk Provisioning. Within ninety (90) days of executing this Agreement, TCG shall provide BA a one (1) year traffic forecast. This initial forecast will provide the amount of traffic to be delivered to BA over each of the Traffic Exchange Trunk groups. The forecast shall be updated and provided to BA on a quarterly basis. All forecasts shall include Access Carrier Terminal Location (ACTL), traffic type (local/toll, operator services, 911, etc.), code (identifies trunk group), A location/Z location (CLLI codes for TCG-IPs and BA-IPs), interface type (e.g., DS1), and trunks in service each year (cumulative).

10.3.1 Initial Forecasts/Trunking Requirements. Because BA's trunking requirements will, at least during an initial period, be dependent on the customer segments and service segments within customer segments to whom TCG decides to market its services, BA will be largely dependent on TCG to provide accurate trunk forecasts for both inbound (from BA) and outbound (from TCG) traffic. BA will, as an initial matter and upon request, provide the same number of trunks to terminate local traffic to TCG as TCG provides to terminate local traffic to BA, unless TCG expressly identifies particular situations that are expected to produce traffic that is substantially skewed in either the inbound or outbound direction, in which case BA will provide the number of trunks TCG suggests. Upon the establishment of any new set of trunks for traffic from BA to TCG, BA will monitor traffic for ninety (90) days, and will, as necessary at the end of that period, either augment trunks or disconnect trunks, based on the application of reasonable engineering criteria to the actual traffic volume experienced. If, after such initial 90-day period, BA has determined that any trunks in excess of four (4) T-1s are not warranted by actual traffic volumes, then, on ten (10) days' written notice, BA may hold TCG financially responsible for such trunks (up to the Tariffed recurring and non-recurring rates therefor) in excess of four (4) T-1s retroactive to the start of the 90-day period until such time as they are justified by actual traffic volumes, based on the application of reasonable engineering criteria. Similarly, in the event TCG's subsequent forecasts result in BA's provision of trunks that are not warranted by actual traffic volumes over the 90-day period immediately following such forecast, BA may hold TCG financially responsible for all such unwarranted trunks (up to the Tariffed recurring and non-recurring rates therefor) retroactive to the start of the 90-day period until such time as they are justified by actual traffic volumes, based on the application of reasonable engineering criteria. In the event, however, BA establishes trunks that are fewer than the number of trunks suggested by TCG in the relevant and timely quarterly forecast and such failure results in a shortage of trunk capacity to handle the ensuing traffic from BA to TCG, BA shall not hold TCG financially responsible for any unwarranted trunks in the following quarter up to the number of forecasted but non-provisioned trunks that were warranted by actual traffic volume during the preceding quarter. To the extent that BA requires TCG to install trunks for delivery of traffic to BA, TCG may apply the same procedures with respect to BA's trunking requirements.

10.3.2 Future Forecasts/Trunking Requirement. The Parties agree to determine and develop reciprocal forecast requirements at the end of two (2) years following the Service Activation Date (as set forth in Schedule 3.0).

11.0 UNBUNDLED ACCESS -- SECTION 251(c)(3).

To the extent required of each Party by Section 251 of the Act, each Party shall offer to the other Party nondiscriminatory access to Network Elements on an unbundled basis at any technically feasible point. BA shall unbundle and separately price and offer Network Elements such that TCG will be able to lease and interconnect to whichever of the Network Elements TCG requires, and to combine the BA-provided elements with any facilities and services that TCG may itself provide, except that TCG shall not recombine Network Elements purchased from BA for use as a substitute for the purchase at wholesale rates of Telecommunications Services that BA provides unless otherwise mandated by the FCC or the Commission or agreed to by BA with other carriers.

11.1 Available Network Elements

At the request of TCG, BA shall provide TCG access to the following unbundled Network Elements in accordance with the requirements of the FCC Regulations:

- 11.1.1 Local Loops, as set forth in subsection 11.2;
- 11.1.2 The Network Interface Device, as set forth in subsection 11.3;
- 11.1.3 Switching Capability, as set forth in subsection 11.4;
- 11.1.4 Interoffice Transmission Facilities, as set forth in subsection 11.5;
- 11.1.5 Signaling Links and Call-Related Databases, as set forth in Section 17;
- 11.1.6 Operations Support Systems, as set forth in subsection 11.6; and
- 11.1.7 Operator Services and Directory Assistance, as set forth in subsection 19.4.

11.2 Unbundled Local Loop (“ULL”) Transmission Types

Subject to subsection 11.7, BA shall allow TCG to access the following ULL types (in addition to those ULLs available under applicable tariffs) unbundled from local switching and local transport in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in this subsection 11.2.

11.2.1 “2-Wire Analog Voice Grade ULL” or “Analog 2W” provides an effective 2-wire channel with 2-wire interfaces at each end that is suitable for the transport of analog voice grade (nominal 300 to 3000 Hz) signals and loop-start signaling. The service is more fully described in Bell Atlantic TR-72565. If “Customer-Specified Signaling” is requested, the service will operate with one of the following signaling types that may be specified when the service is ordered: loop-start, ground-start, loop-reverse-battery, and no signaling. The service is more fully described in Bell Atlantic TR-72570.

11.2.2 “4-Wire Analog Voice Grade ULL” or “Analog 4W” provides an effective 4-wire channel with 4-wire interfaces at each end that is suitable for the transport of analog voice grade (nominal 300 to 3000 Hz) signals. The service will operate with one of the following signaling types that may be specified when the service is ordered: loop-start, ground-start, loop-reverse-battery, duplex, and no signaling. The service is more fully described in Bell Atlantic TR-72570.

11.2.3 “2-Wire ISDN Digital Grade ULL” or “BRI ISDN” provides a channel with 2-wire interfaces at each end that is suitable for the transport of 160 kbps digital services using the ISDN 2B1Q line code.

11.2.4 “2-Wire ADSL-Compatible ULL” or “ADSL 2W” provides a channel with 2-wire interfaces at each end that is suitable for the transport of digital signals up to 6Mbps toward the Customer and up to 640 kbps from the Customer. BA will offer ADSL-Compatible ULLs only when the technology BA uses to provide such ULLs is compatible with that of TCG. In addition, ADSL-Compatible ULLs will be available only where existing copper facilities can meet applicable industry standards.

11.2.5 “2-Wire HDSL-Compatible ULL” or “HDSL 2W” provides a channel with 2-wire interfaces at each end that is suitable for the transport of 784 kbps digital signals simultaneously in both directions using the 2B1Q line code. HDSL compatible ULLs will be available only where existing copper facilities can meet the specifications.

11.2.6 “4-Wire HDSL-Compatible ULL” or “HDSL 4W” provides a channel with 4-wire interfaces at each end. Each 2-wire channel is suitable for the transport of 784 kbps digital signals simultaneously in both directions using the 2B1Q line code. HDSL compatible ULLs will be available only where existing copper facilities can meet the specifications.

11.2.7 “4-Wire DS1-compatible ULL” provides a channel with 4-wire interfaces at each end. Each 4-wire channel is suitable for the transport of 1.544 mbps digital signals simultaneously in both directions using PCM line code. DS-1-compatible ULLs will be available where existing copper facilities can meet the specifications.

11.2.8 ULLs will be offered on the terms and conditions specified herein and on such other terms in applicable Tariffs that are not inconsistent with the terms and conditions set forth herein. BA shall make ULLs available to TCG at the rates specified by the Commission, as amended from time to time, subject to the provisions of subsection 11.1.9 below.

11.2.9 BA will make Analog 2-Wire ULLs available for purchase by TCG in accordance with the schedule set forth in Schedule 3.0. BA will make BRI ISDN, Analog 4W ULLs and 4-Wire DS-1-compatible ULLs available for purchase by TCG by the later of January 1, 1997, or the date when the ULL milestone contained in Schedule 3.0 is achieved in the LATA. BA will make HDSL 4-Wire, HDSL 2-Wire, and ADSL 2-Wire ULLs available to TCG no later than the date on which it makes such ULLs commercially available to any other Telecommunications Carrier in Virginia,

unless such date is earlier than the ULL milestone date contained in Schedule 3.0 with respect to a particular LATA, in which case the ULL milestone date shall apply.

11.3 Network Interface Device

At the request of TCG, BA shall permit TCG to connect a carrier's loop to the Inside Wiring of a Customer's premises through BA's NID in the manner set forth in Schedule 11.3. TCG must establish the connection to BA's NID through an adjoining NID deployed by TCG. The Customer shall be responsible for resolving any conflicts between service providers for access to Customer's premises and Inside Wire.

11.4 Unbundled Switching Elements

BA shall make available to TCG the local Switching Element and tandem Switching Element unbundled from transport, local loop transmission, or other services in accordance with all Applicable Laws and as more fully described in Schedule 11.4.

11.5 Interoffice Transmission Facilities

BA shall provide TCG local transport from the trunk side of BA's Central Office Switches unbundled from switching, unbundled interoffice transmission facilities, and other services in accordance with Exhibit A.

11.6 Operations Support Systems

BA shall provide TCG with access via electronic interfaces or electronic bonding to databases required for pre-ordering, ordering, provisioning, maintenance and repair, and billing as soon as practicable. Until such electronic access is established, BA shall provide TCG with comparable information via facsimile or other mutually agreed upon medium.

11.7 Limitations on Unbundled Access

11.7.1 TCG shall access BA's unbundled Network Elements specifically identified in this Agreement via Collocation in accordance with Section 13 at the BA Wire Center where those elements exist or other mutually agreed upon means of Interconnection, and each ULL or Port shall, in the case of Collocation, be delivered to TCG's Collocation by means of a Cross Connection.

11.7.2 BA shall provide TCG access to its Unbundled Local Loops at each of BA's Wire Centers for loops terminating in that Wire Center. In addition, if TCG requests one or more ULLs provisioned via Integrated Digital Loop Carrier or Remote Switching technology deployed as a ULL concentrator, BA shall, where available, move the requested ULL(s) to a spare, existing physical ULL at no additional charge to TCG. If, however, no spare physical ULL is available, BA shall within three (3) business days of TCG's request notify TCG of the lack of available facilities. TCG may then at its

discretion make a Network Element Bona Fide Request to BA to provide the Unbundled Local Loop through the demultiplexing of the integrated digitized ULL(s). TCG may also make a Network Element Bona Fide Request for access to Unbundled Local Loops at the ULL concentration site point. Alternatively, TCG may choose to avail itself of BA's Special Construction services, as set forth in Exhibit A, for the provisioning of such ULL(s). Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Agreement, the provisioning intervals set forth in subsection 11.9 and the Performance Criteria and Performance Interval Dates set forth in subsection 27.1 and Schedule 27, respectively, shall not apply to ULLs provided under this subsection 11.7.2.

11.7.3 If TCG orders a ULL type and the distance requested on such ULL exceeds the transmission characteristics in applicable technical references, distance extensions may be required and additional rates and charges shall apply as set forth in Exhibit A or applicable Tariffs.

11.7.4 BA will exercise all reasonable efforts to ensure that the service intervals that apply to ULLs and unbundled Ports are comparable to the (i) repair intervals that apply to the bundled dial tone line service, and (ii) installation intervals that apply to other BA-coordinated services, except as provided in Section 27. Although BA will make commercially reasonable efforts to ensure that ULLs and unbundled ports meet specified or agreed-upon technical standards, BA makes no warranty that the ULLs or unbundled Ports supplied by BA hereunder will be compatible with the services TCG may offer to its Customers if they are used in a manner not contemplated by the Parties.

11.8 Availability of Other Network Elements on an Unbundled Basis

11.8.1 BA shall, upon request of TCG, and to the extent technically feasible, provide to TCG access to its Network Elements on an unbundled basis for the provision of TCG's Telecommunications Service. Any request by TCG for access to an BA Network Element that is not already available and is not specifically required to be offered under regulations or orders of the FCC or the Commission shall be treated as a Network Element Bona Fide Request. TCG shall provide BA access to its Network Elements as mutually agreed by the Parties or as required by the Commission or FCC.

11.8.2 A Network Element obtained by one Party from the other Party under this subsection 11.8 may be used in combination with the facilities of the requesting Party only to provide a Telecommunications Service, including obtaining billing and collection, transmission, and routing of the Telecommunications Service.

11.8.3 Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this subsection 11.8, a Party shall not be required to provide a proprietary Network Element to the other Party under this subsection 11.6 except as required by the Commission or FCC.

11.8.4 BA will, on a semi-annual basis, notify TCG of the availability of new unbundled Network Elements.

11.9 Provisioning of Unbundled Local Loops

The following coordination procedures shall apply for conversions of “live” Telephone Exchange Services to ULLs. These and other mutually agreed-upon procedures shall apply reciprocally for the “live” cutover of Customers from BA to TCG and from TCG to BA.

11.9.1 Upon request by TCG, BA will apply the following coordination procedures to conversions of live Telephone Exchange Services to ULLs. Coordinated cutover charges will apply to any such arrangement. If TCG elects not to request coordinated cutover, BA will process TCG’s request in the normal course and subject to the normal installation intervals.

11.9.2 TCG shall request ULLs from BA by delivering to BA a valid electronic transmittal service order (when available) or another mutually agreed-upon type of service order such as a Loop/NID Time and Material form. Such service order shall be provided in accordance with industry format and specifications or such format and specifications as may be agreed to by the Parties. Within forty-eight (48) hours of BA’s receipt of such valid service order, BA shall provide TCG the firm order commitment date according to the Performance Interval Dates set forth in Schedule 27 by which the ULLs covered by such service order will be installed. In addition, BA shall provide TCG with the related ULL design information, if available, at least forty eight (48) hours prior to the scheduled cutover time.

11.9.3 On each ULL order in a Wire Center, TCG and BA will agree on a cutover time at least forty eight (48) hours before that cutover time. The cutover time will be defined as a 15-30 minute window within which both the TCG and BA personnel will make telephone contact to complete the cutover.

11.9.4 Within the appointed 15-30 minute cutover time, the TCG person will call the BA organization designated to coordinate cross-connection work and when the BA organization is reached in that interval such work will be promptly performed.

11.9.5 If TCG requires a change in scheduling, it must contact BA to issue a supplement to the original order. The negotiations process to determine the date and time of cutover will then be reinitiated as usual.

11.9.6 If the TCG person is not ready within the appointed interval and if TCG had not called to reschedule the work at least two (2) hours prior to the start of the interval, TCG shall be liable for the non-recurring charge for the unbundled elements scheduled for the missed appointment. In addition, non-recurring charges for the rescheduled appointment will apply.

11.9.7 If BA is not available or not ready at any time during the appointed 15-30 minute interval, TCG and BA will reschedule and BA will waive the non-recurring charge for the unbundled elements originally scheduled for that interval, whenever those unbundled elements are actually cut over pursuant to an agreed-upon rescheduling.

11.9.8 The standard time expected from disconnection of a live Telephone Exchange Service to the connection of the unbundled element to the TCG Collocation Arrangement is fifteen (15) minutes per voice grade circuit for all orders consisting of twenty (20) ULLs or less. Orders involving more than twenty (20) ULLs will require a negotiated interval.

11.9.9 If unusual or unexpected circumstances prolong or extend the time required to accomplish the coordinated cutover, the Party responsible for such circumstances is responsible for the reasonable labor charges of the other Party. Delays caused by the Customer are the responsibility of TCG.

11.9.10 If TCG has ordered INP as part of an ULL installation, BA will coordinate implementation of INP with the ULL installation. BA's provision of unbundled elements shall in all cases be subject to the availability of suitable facilities, to the extent permitted by Section 251 of the Act.

11.9.11 If TCG requests or approves a BA technician to perform services on the network side of the Rate Demarcation Point beyond normal installation of the ULLs covered by the service order, BA may charge TCG for any additional and reasonable labor charges to perform such services. BA may also charge TCG its normal overtime rates for services TCG requests to be performed outside of BA's normal business hours (M-F, 9 am to 5 pm, E.S.T.).

11.10 Maintenance of Unbundled Local Loops

If (i) TCG reports to BA a Customer trouble, (ii) TCG requests a dispatch, (iii) BA dispatches a technician, and (iv) such trouble was not caused by BA's facilities or equipment, then TCG shall pay BA the applicable tariff rate for said dispatch. In addition, this charge also applies in situations when the Customer contact as designated by TCG is not available at the appointed time. TCG accepts responsibility for initial trouble isolation and providing BA with appropriate dispatch information based on their test results. If, as the result of TCG instructions, BA is erroneously requested to dispatch within the Central Office, BA may levy on TCG an appropriate charge. However, if BA imposes any charge on TCG under this subsection 11.8 and the same trouble recurs and the cause in both instances is determined to be in BA's facilities, then BA shall refund to TCG all charges applicable to that trouble that were erroneously levied on and paid by TCG to BA plus interest at the rate applicable to refunds of overpayments pursuant to BA's Tariffs.

11.11 Rates and Charges

BA shall charge the non-recurring and monthly recurring rates for ULLs and other Network Elements set forth in Exhibit A as interim rates until such time as the Commission adopts permanent rates consistent with the requirements of the FCC Regulations. Such permanent rates shall be applied in the manner described in Exhibit A and subsection 20.1.2 below.

12.0 RESALE -- SECTIONS 251(c)(4) and 251(b)(1).

12.1 Availability of Retail Rates for Resale

Each Party shall make available its Telecommunications Services for resale at retail rates to the other Party in accordance with Section 251(b)(1) of the Act.

12.2 Availability of Wholesale Rates for Resale

BA shall make available to TCG for resale at the wholesale rates set forth in Exhibit A all Telecommunications Services that BA provides at retail to Customers that are not Telecommunications Carriers. Such services shall be provided in accordance with the terms of the applicable retail services Tariff(s), including, without limitation, user or user group restrictions, as the case may be, subject to the requirement that such restrictions shall in all cases comply with the requirements of Section 251 of the Act and the FCC Regulations regarding restrictions on resale. In addition, BA and TCG shall each allow the resale by the other of all Telecommunications Services that are offered primarily or entirely to other Telecommunications Carriers (e.g., Switched and special Exchange Access Services) at the rates already applicable to such services. BA shall also allow the resale by TCG of such other non-Telecommunications Services as BA, in its sole discretion, determines to provide for resale under terms and conditions to be agreed to by the Parties. If TCG requests resale at wholesale rates of Telecommunications Services that BA provides at retail to Customers that are not Telecommunications Carriers before April 1, 1997, the Parties understand and agree that the ordering, provisioning, billing, and maintenance of such resold Services are unlikely to rely on automated interfaces. After April 1, 1997, such resale arrangements shall, to the extent feasible and economically reasonable, employ automated interfaces for ordering, provisioning, billing, and maintaining resold accounts. The Parties may also agree to negotiate term and/or volume discounts for resold services

13.0 COLLOCATION -- SECTION 251(c)(6).

13.1 BA shall offer to TCG Physical Collocation of equipment necessary for Interconnection (pursuant to Section 4) or for access to unbundled Network Elements (pursuant to Section 11.0), except that BA may offer only Virtual Collocation if BA demonstrates to the Commission that Physical Collocation is not practical for technical reasons or because of space limitations, as provided in Section 251(c)(6) of the Act. BA shall provide such Collocation solely for the purpose of Interconnection with facilities or services of BA or access to unbundled Network Elements of BA, except as otherwise mutually agreed to in writing by the Parties or as required by the FCC or the Commission, subject to applicable federal and state Tariffs.

13.2 Although not required to do so by Section 251(c)(6) of the Act, by this Agreement, TCG agrees, for so long as BA elects to offer both Physical and Virtual Collocation to TCG, to offer to BA Collocation (at TCG's option either Physical or Virtual) of equipment for purposes of

Interconnection (pursuant to Section 4) on a non-discriminatory basis and at comparable rates, terms and conditions as TCG may provide to other third parties. TCG shall provide such Collocation subject to applicable Tariffs. In the event BA ceases to offer a choice between Physical and Virtual Collocation to TCG for reasons other than space limitations and BA has already established Collocation on TCG premises pursuant to this subsection 13.2, TCG may, in its discretion, elect to cease offering Collocation to BA, which cessation shall be no more onerous than that imposed by BA on TCG. In addition, in the event BA desires to terminate any Virtual Collocation established by TCG at a BA premise, BA shall allow TCG a reasonable period of time to migrate to a Physical Collocation arrangement (or another Virtual Collocation arrangement at a different BA premise) before terminating the existing Virtual Collocation arrangement. For purposes of the preceding sentence, a “reasonable period of time” shall mean up to sixty (60) days following the date of Collocation termination notice to TCG for TCG to submit a new Collocation application to BA plus the amount of time needed for BA to prepare the BA premise(s) specified by TCG in its application or as may be agreed to by the Parties for Collocation by TCG.

13.3 Prior to the initiation of a Collocation project, BA shall:

- (a) identify the Collocation project manager assigned to the project;
- (b) develop a written comprehensive “critical tasks” timeline detailing the work (and relative sequence thereof) that is to be performed by each Party or jointly by both Parties; and
- (c) provide TCG with the following engineering requirements, if applicable:
 - Fiber Optic Terminal/Integrated Digital Loop Carrier bay locations;
 - Digital Cross-Connect panel location and jack assignments (in the case of Physical Collocation only);
 - fiber panel location and fiber port assignments;
 - single point of contact for each BA office where Collocation activities will be performed; and
 - MDF assignments for the installation of ULLs.

13.5 For both Physical Collocation and Virtual Collocation, the Collocating Party shall provide its own or third-party leased transport facilities and terminate those transport facilities in equipment located in its Physical Collocation space, or in its virtually collocated equipment, at the Housing Party’s premises as described in applicable Tariffs, and purchase Cross Connection to services or facilities as described in applicable Tariffs.

13.6 Upon written request to BA, TCG shall be permitted to interconnect its network with that of another collocating Telecommunications Carrier at BA’s premises by connecting its collocated equipment to the collocated equipment of the other Telecommunications Carrier via a Cross-Connection or other connection transmission facility so long as TCG’s and the other collocating Telecommunications Carrier’s collocated equipment are both used for interconnecting with BA or for

access to BA's Network Elements. Such Interconnection between collocated Carriers will be pursuant to BA's tariffs.

13.7 Collocation shall occur under the terms of each Party's applicable and available Tariffs.

SECTION 251(b) PROVISIONS

14.0 NUMBER PORTABILITY -- SECTION 251(b)(2).

14.1 Scope

14.1.1 The Parties shall provide Local Telephone Number Portability ("LTNP") on a reciprocal basis to each other to the extent technically feasible, and in accordance with rules and regulations as from time to time prescribed by the FCC and/or the Commission.

14.1.2 Until Permanent Number Portability is implemented by the industry pursuant to regulations issued by the FCC and/or the Commission, the Parties agree to reciprocally provide Interim Number Portability to each other at the prices listed in Exhibit A. Such agreed-upon prices for INP are not intended to reflect either Party's views on the cost recovery mechanisms being considered by the FCC in its current proceeding on number portability issues.

14.1.3 Upon the agreement of the Parties or issuance of applicable FCC and/or Commission order(s) or regulations mandating the adoption of a Permanent Number Portability ("PNP") arrangement, BA and TCG will commence migration from INP to the agreed-upon or mandated PNP arrangement as quickly as practically possible while minimizing interruption or degradation of service to their respective Customers. Once PNP is implemented, either Party may withdraw, at any time and at its sole discretion, its INP offerings, subject to advance notice to the other Party and coordination to allow the seamless and transparent conversion of INP Customer numbers to PNP. Upon implementation of PNP pursuant to FCC or Commission regulation, both Parties agree to conform and provide such PNP. To the extent PNP rates or cost recovery mechanisms are not established by the applicable FCC or Commission order or regulation mandating the adoption of PNP, the Parties will negotiate in good faith the charges or cost recovery mechanism for PNP service at such time as a PNP arrangement is adopted by the Parties.

14.1.4 Under either an INP or PNP arrangement, TCG and BA will implement a process to coordinate LTNP cutovers with ULL conversions (as described in Section 11 of this Agreement).

14.2 Procedures for Providing INP Through Remote Call Forwarding

TCG and BA will provide INP through Remote Call Forwarding as follows:

14.2.1 A Customer of one Party (“Party A”) elects to become a Customer of the other Party (“Party B”). The Customer elects to utilize the original telephone number(s) corresponding to the Telephone Exchange Service(s) it previously received from Party A, in conjunction with the Telephone Exchange Service(s) it will now receive from Party B. Upon receipt of a service order from Party B requesting assignment of the number(s) to Party B, Party A will implement an arrangement whereby all calls to the original telephone number(s) will be forwarded to a new telephone number(s) designated by Party B, only within the same Exchange Area as the original telephone number(s). Party A will route the forwarded traffic to Party B over the appropriate traffic exchange trunk groups.

14.2.2 Party B will become the customer of record for the original Party A telephone number(s) subject to the INP arrangements. Upon the execution of an appropriate billing services agreement or such other mutually agreed-upon arrangement between the Parties, Party A shall use its reasonable efforts to consolidate into as few billing statements as possible collect, calling card, and third-number billed calls associated with the number(s), with sub-account detail by retained number.

14.2.3 Party A will update its Line Information Database (“LIDB”) listings for retained numbers, and restrict or cancel calling cards associated with those forwarded numbers as directed by Party B. In addition, Party A will update the retained numbers in the LIDB with the screening options provided by Party B on a per order basis. Party B shall determine which of the screening options offered by Party A should apply to the Party B Customer account.

14.2.4 Party B will outpulse the telephone number to which the call has been forwarded to the 911 Tandem Office. Party B will also provide the 911 database with both the forwarded number and the directory number, as well as the appropriate address information of the Customer.

14.2.5 Party A shall be permitted to cancel INP arrangements and reassign the telephone number(s) upon receipt of notification from Party B or a third party that is authorized to act on behalf of the Customer. The Parties agree to work cooperatively to develop procedures or adopt industry standards or practices concerning the initiation and termination of INP service in a multi-carrier environment.

14.2.6 The INP service offered herein shall not initially apply to NXX Codes 555, 915, 950 (as applicable), or 976, or for Feature Group A or coin telephone service. Upon request of either Party, provision of INP to these services will be mutually negotiated between the parties and provided to the extent feasible under negotiated rates, terms and conditions. INP shall not apply for any arrangement that would render the forwarded call Toll Traffic.

14.2.7 The ordering of INP arrangements and the exchange of screening information shall be made in accordance with industry-accepted (e.g. OBF developed) format and specifications to the extent they have been implemented by the Parties.

14.3 Procedures for Providing INP Through Direct Inward Dial Trunks (Flex-DID)

Either Party may also request INP through Direct Inward Dial Trunks pursuant to any applicable Tariffs.

14.4 Procedures for Providing LTNP Through Full NXX Code Migration

Where either Party has activated an entire NXX for a single Customer, or activated a substantial portion of an NXX for a single Customer, with the remaining numbers in that NXX either reserved for future use by that Customer or otherwise unused, if such Customer chooses to receive Telephone Exchange Service from the other Party, the first Party shall cooperate with the second Party to have the entire NXX reassigned in the LERG (and associated industry databases, routing tables, etc.) to an End Office operated by the second Party. Such transfer will be accomplished with appropriate coordination between the Parties and subject to appropriate industry lead-times for movements of NXXs from one switch to another. Neither Party shall charge the other in connection with this coordinated transfer.

14.5 Receipt of Terminating Compensation on Traffic to INP'ed Numbers

The Parties agree in principle that, under the INP arrangements described in subsections 14.2 and 14.3 above, terminating compensation on calls to INP'ed numbers should be received by each Customer's chosen LEC as if each call to the Customer had been originally addressed by the caller to a telephone number bearing an NPA-NXX directly assigned to the Customer's chosen LEC. In order to accomplish this objective where INP is employed, the Parties shall utilize the process set forth in this subsection 14.5 whereby terminating compensation on calls subject to INP will be passed from the Party (the "Performing Party") which performs the INP to the other Party (the "Receiving Party") for whose Customer the INP is provided.

14.5.1 The Parties shall individually and collectively make best efforts to track and quantify INP traffic between their networks based on the CPN of each call by identifying CPNs which are INP'ed numbers. The Receiving Party shall charge the Performing Party for each minute of INP traffic at the INP Traffic Rate specified in subsection 14.5.3 in lieu of any other compensation charges for terminating such traffic, except as provided in subsection 14.5.2.

14.5.2 By the Interconnection Activation Date in each LATA, the Parties shall jointly estimate for the prospective six months, based on historic data of all traffic in the LATA, the percentages of such traffic that, if dialed to telephone numbers bearing NPA-NXXs directly assigned to a Receiving Party (as opposed to the INP'ed number), would have been subject to (i) Reciprocal Compensation ("Recip Traffic"), (ii) appropriate intrastate FGD charges ("Intra Traffic"), (iii) interstate FGD charges ("Inter Traffic"), or (iv) handling as Transit Traffic. On the date which is six (6) months after the Interconnection Activation Date, and thereafter on each succeeding six month anniversary of such Interconnection Activation Date, the Parties shall establish new INP traffic percentages to be applied in the prospective six (6) month period, based on the Performing Party's choice of actual INP traffic percentages from the preceding six (6) month period or historic data of all traffic in the LATA.

14.5.3 The INP Traffic Rate shall be equal to the sum of:

(Recip Traffic percentage times the Reciprocal Compensation Rate set forth in Exhibit A)
plus
(Intra Traffic percentage times Receiving Party's effective intrastate FGD rates)
plus
(Inter Traffic percentage times Receiving Party's effective interstate FGD rates).

The Receiving Party shall compensate the Performing Party for its billing and collection of charges for the intrastate and interstate FGD access services provided by the Receiving Party to a third party through the greater of (i) the difference between the intrastate and interstate FGD rates of the Receiving Party and the Performing Party, or (ii) three percent (3%) of the Performing Party's intrastate and interstate FGD revenues for INP'ed numbers. Under no circumstances shall the Performing Party, in performing the billing and collections service on behalf of the Receiving Party, be obligated to pass through more than ninety seven percent (97%) of its FGD access charge to the Receiving Party in connection with any given INP'ed call.

14.6 Recovery of INP Costs Pursuant to FCC Order and Rulemaking

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in this Section 14, in light of the FCC's First Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, adopted June 27, 1996, in CC Docket 95-116 (the "Order"), the Parties stipulate and agree as follows:

14.6.1 The rates listed in Exhibit A for the provision of INP are appropriate amounts that each Party providing INP service should recover for the provision of those INP functionalities in BA's operating territory on an interim basis until the Commission mandates an alternative cost recovery mechanism for the provision of INP. For the INP functions it provides, each Party should be allowed to recover these amounts in a manner consistent with any final FCC and/or Commission order on INP cost recovery (such as a state-wide fund contributed to by all telecommunications carriers).

14.6.2 The Parties agree that neither Party waives its rights to advocate its views that are consistent with this subsection 14.6 on the appropriate INP cost recovery mechanism, or to present such views before any relevant regulatory body or other agency as they relate to FCC or Commission actions on INP cost recovery.

15.0 DIALING PARITY -- SECTION 251(b)(3).

BA and TCG shall each provide the other with nondiscriminatory access to such services and information as are necessary to allow the other Party to implement dialing parity for Telephone Exchange Service, operator services, directory assistance, and directory listing information with no unreasonable dialing delays, as required under Section 251(b)(3) of the Act.

16.0 ACCESS TO RIGHTS-OF-WAY -- SECTION 251(b)(4).

16.1 Each Party (“Licensor”) shall provide the other Party (“Licensee”) access for purposes of making attachments to the poles, ducts, rights-of-way and conduits it owns or controls pursuant to any existing or future license agreement between the Parties, and in conformance with 47 U.S.C. § 224, where facilities are available, on terms, conditions and prices comparable to those offered to any other entity pursuant to each Party’s applicable Tariffs (including generally-available license agreements). Where no such Tariffs exist, such access shall be provided in accordance with the requirements of 47 U.S.C. § 224, including any applicable FCC regulations that may be issued.

16.2 Licensor shall process all completed license applications for new or additional attachments, including the performance of a pre-license survey, on a first-come, first-serve basis as set forth in its applicable Tariff. Licensor shall make all access determinations in accordance with the requirements of Applicable Law (including any applicable FCC regulations), considering such factors as capacity, safety, reliability and general engineering considerations. Licensor shall inform Licensee in writing as to whether an application has been granted (subject to Licensee’s payment for any “make-ready” work that may be required) or denied within forty-five (45) days of receipt of such application. Where an application involves an increase in capacity by Licensor, Licensor shall take reasonable steps to accommodate requests for access in accordance with Applicable Law. Before denying Licensee access based on lack of capacity, Licensor shall explore potential accommodations in good faith with Licensee. In order to facilitate Licensee’s completion of an application, Licensor shall make commercially reasonable efforts to, within fifteen (15) business days of a legitimate request identifying the specific geographic area and types and quantities of required structures, provide Licensee such maps, plats or other relevant data reasonably necessary to complete the applications described above, subject to a non-disclosure agreement in form reasonably agreeable to Licensor. Such requests shall be processed by Licensor on a first-come, first-serve basis. This exchange of information and records does not preclude the need for a field survey to verify the location and availability of structures and rights of way to be used. Licensor shall make commercially reasonable efforts to meet with or respond to Licensee’s inquiries regarding the information supplied to it as soon as practicable following receipt of such request for meeting or inquiry from Licensee. Completion of make-ready work and attachments shall be in accordance with any existing or future license agreement between the Parties.

17.0 DATABASES AND SIGNALING.

17.1 Each Party shall provide the other Party with access to databases and associated signaling necessary for call routing and completion by providing SS7 Common Channel Signaling (CCS) Interconnection in accordance with existing Tariffs, and Interconnection and access to 800/888 databases, LIDB, and any other necessary databases in accordance with existing Tariffs and/or agreements with other unaffiliated carriers, at the rates set forth in Exhibit A. Alternatively, either Party may secure CCS Interconnection from a commercial SS7 hub provider, and in that case the other Party will permit the purchasing Party to access the same databases as would have been accessible if the purchasing party had connected directly to the other Party’s CCS network.

17.2 The Parties will provide CCS Signaling to one another, where and as available, in conjunction with all Local Traffic, Toll Traffic, Meet Point Billing Traffic, and Transit Traffic. The Parties will cooperate on the exchange of TCAP messages to facilitate interoperability of CCS-based features between their respective networks, including all CLASS features and functions, to the extent each Party offers such features and functions to its Customers. All CCS Signaling parameters will be provided upon request (where available), including called party number, calling party number, originating line information, calling party category, and charge number. All privacy indicators will be honored. The Parties will follow all Ordering and Billing Forum-adopted standards pertaining to CIC/OZZ codes. Where CCS Signaling is not available, in-band multi-frequency (MF) wink start signaling will be provided. Any such MF arrangement will require a separate local trunk circuit between the Parties' respective switches in those instances where the Parties have established End Office to End Office high usage trunk groups. In such an arrangement, each Party will outpulse the full ten-digit telephone number of the called party to the other Party.

17.3 Each Party shall provide trunk groups, where available and upon reasonable request, that are configured utilizing the B8ZS ESF protocol for 64 kbps clear channel transmission to allow for ISDN interoperability between the Parties' respective networks.

17.4 The following publications describe the practices, procedures and specifications generally utilized by BA for signaling purposes and is listed herein to assist the Parties in meeting their respective Interconnection responsibilities related to Signaling:

(a) Bellcore Special Report SR-TSV-002275, BOC Notes on the LEC Networks - Signaling; and

(b) Bell Atlantic Supplement Common Channel Signaling Network Interface Specification (BA-905).

17.5 Each Party shall charge the other Party mutual and reciprocal rates for any usage-based charges for CCS Signaling, 800/888 database access, LIDB access, and access to other necessary databases, as follows: BA shall charge TCG in accordance with Exhibit A hereto and applicable Tariffs; TCG shall charge BA rates equal to the rates BA charges TCG, unless TCG's Tariffs for CCS signaling provide for lower generally available rates, in which case TCG shall charge BA such lower rates; except to the extent a Party uses a third party vendor for the provision of CCS Signaling, in which case such charges shall apply only to the third party vendor.

18.0 COORDINATED SERVICE ARRANGEMENTS.

18.1 Intercept and Referral Announcements. When a Customer changes its service provider from BA to TCG, or from TCG to BA, and does not retain its original telephone number, the Party formerly providing service to such Customer shall provide a referral announcement ("Referral Announcement") on the abandoned telephone number which provides details on the Customer's new

number or provide other appropriate information to the extent known. Referral Announcements shall be provided reciprocally, free of charge to either the other Party or the Customer to the extent the providing Party does not charge its own customers for such service, for a period of not less than four (4) months after the date the Customer changes its telephone number in the case of business Customers and not less than sixty (60) days after the date the Customer changes its telephone number in the case of residential Customers. However, if either Party provides Referral Announcements for different periods than the above respective periods when its Customers change their telephone numbers, such Party shall provide the same level of service to Customers of the other Party.

18.2 Coordinated Repair Calls TCG and BA will employ the following procedures for handling misdirected repair calls:

18.2.1 TCG and BA will educate their respective Customers as to the correct telephone numbers to call in order to access their respective repair bureaus. In addition, neither Party shall direct or encourage its Customers to contact or take action against the other Party in connection with matters involving the first Party's provision of service to such Customer, regardless of whether such matter stems, directly or indirectly, from the other Party's act or omission.

18.2.2 To the extent Party A is identifiable as the correct provider of service to Customers that make misdirected repair calls to Party B, Party B will immediately refer the Customers to the telephone number provided by Party A, or to an information source that can provide the telephone number of Party A, in a courteous manner and at no charge. In responding to misdirected repair calls, neither Party shall make disparaging remarks about the other Party, its services, rates, or service quality.

18.2.3 TCG and BA will provide their respective repair contact numbers to one another on a reciprocal basis.

18.3 Customer Authorization

18.3.1 Without in any way limiting either Party's obligations under subsection 28.1, each Party shall comply with Applicable Laws with regard to Customer selection of a primary Telephone Exchange Service provider. Until the Commission and/or FCC adopts regulations and/or orders applicable to Customer selection of a primary Telephone Exchange Service provider, each Party shall adhere to the rules and procedures set forth in Section 64.1100 of the FCC Rules, 47 CFR § 64.1100, in effect on the Effective Date hereof when ordering, terminating, or otherwise changing Telephone Exchange Service on behalf of the other Party's or another carrier's Customers.

18.3.2 In the event either Party requests that the other Party install, provide, change, or terminate a Customer's Telecommunications Service (including, but not limited to, a Customer's selection of a primary Telephone Exchange Service Provider) and (a) fails to provide documentary evidence of the Customer's primary Telephone Exchange Service Provider selection upon request, or (b) without having obtained authorization from the Customer for such installation, provision, selection,

change or termination in accordance with Applicable Laws (or as provided in subsection 18.3.1 above), the requesting Party shall be liable to the other Party for all charges that would be applicable to the Customer for the initial change in the Customer's Telecommunications Service and any charges for restoring the Customer's Telecommunications Service to its Customer-authorized condition, including to the appropriate primary Telephone Exchange Service provider.

18.3.3 Without in any way limiting TCG's obligations under subsection 28.1, TCG shall comply with Applicable Laws with regard to Customer Proprietary Network Information, including, but not limited to, 47 U.S.C. § 222. TCG shall not access (including, but not limited to, through Bell Atlantic OSS Services (as defined in Schedule 12.3) and Bell Atlantic Pre-OSS Services), use, or disclose Customer Proprietary Network Information made available to TCG by BA pursuant to this Agreement unless TCG has obtained any Customer authorization for such access, use and/or disclosure required by Applicable Laws. By accessing, using or disclosing Customer Proprietary Network Information, TCG represents and warrants that it has obtained authorization for such action from the applicable Customer in the manner required by Applicable Laws and this Agreement. TCG shall, upon request by BA, provide proof of such authorization (including a copy of any written authorization).

18.3.4 BA shall have the right to monitor and/or audit TCG's access to and use and/or disclosure of Customer Proprietary Network Information that is made available by BA to TCG pursuant to this Agreement to ascertain whether TCG is complying with the requirements of Applicable Laws and this Agreement with regard to such access, use, and/or disclosure. To the extent permitted by Applicable Laws, the foregoing right shall include, but not be limited to, the right to electronically monitor TCG's access to and use of Customer Proprietary Network Information that is made available by BA to TCG pursuant to this Agreement.

19.0 DIRECTORY SERVICES ARRANGEMENTS

In this Section 19, references to a TCG Customer's "primary listing" shall mean such Customer's name, address, and main telephone number, which number falls within the NXX codes directly assigned to TCG or is retained by TCG on the Customer's behalf pursuant to LTNP arrangements with BA or any other carrier within the geographic area covered in the relevant BA directory.

19.1 Directory Listings and Directory Distributions

BA will, upon request, provide the following directory services to TCG in accordance with the terms set forth herein.

19.1.1 BA will include the TCG Customer's primary listing in its "White Pages" directory (residence and business listings) and "Yellow Pages" directory (business listings) that cover the address of the Customer. Listings of TCG's Customers will be interfiled with listings of BA's

Customers and the Customers of other LECs included in the BA directories. TCG will pay BA a non-recurring charge as set forth in Exhibit A for providing such service for each TCG Customer's primary listing. TCG will also pay BA's Tariffed charges, as the case may be, for additional and foreign white page listings and other white pages services for TCG's Customers. BA will not require a minimum number of listings per order.

19.1.2 BA will also include the TCG Customer's primary listing in BA's directory assistance database on the same basis that BA's own Customers are included, as well as in any electronic directories in which BA's Customers are ordinarily included, for no charge other than the charges identified in subsection 19.1.1.

19.1.3 BA will distribute to TCG Customers copies of their primary white pages and yellow pages directories at the same time and on the same basis that BA distributes primary directories to its own Customers. BA will also deliver a reasonable number of such directories to TCG. These distributions will be made for no additional charge. TCG and its Customers may request additional directories from BA's Directory Fulfillment Centers, which Centers will provide such additional directories for the same charges applicable to comparable requests by BA Customers.

19.1.4 Upon request by TCG, BA will provide TCG with a directory list of relevant NXX codes, the close dates, publishing data, and call guide close dates on the same basis as such information is provided to BA's own business offices.

19.1.5 TCG shall provide BA with daily listing information on all new TCG Customers in the format required by BA or a mutually-agreed upon industry standard format. The information shall include the Customer's name, address, telephone number, the delivery address and number of directories to be delivered, and, in the case of a business listing, the primary business heading under which the business Customer desires to be placed, and any other information necessary for the publication and delivery of directories. TCG will also provide BA with daily listing information showing Customers that have disconnected or terminated their service with TCG. BA will provide TCG with confirmation of listing order activity within forty eight (48) hours.

19.1.6 BA will accord TCG's directory listing information the same level of confidentiality which BA accords its own directory listing information, and BA shall ensure that access to TCG's directory listing information will be used solely for the purpose of providing directory services; provided, however, that BA may use or license information contained in its directory listings for direct marketing purposes so long as the TCG Customers are not separately identified as such; and provided further that TCG may identify those of its Customers that request that their names not be sold for direct marketing purposes, and BA will honor such requests to the same extent as it does for its own Customers.

19.1.7 Both Parties shall use their best efforts to ensure the accurate listing of TCG Customer listings. BA will also provide TCG, upon request, a copy of the BA listings standards and

specifications manual. In addition, BA will provide TCG with a listing of Yellow Pages headings and directory close schedules on an ongoing basis.

19.1.8 TCG will adhere to all practices, standards, and ethical requirements of BA with regard to listings, and, by providing BA with listing information, warrants to BA that TCG has the right to place such listings on behalf of its Customers. TCG agrees that it will undertake commercially practicable and reasonable steps to attempt to ensure that any business or person to be listed is authorized and has the right (i) to provide the product or service offered, and (ii) to use any personal or corporate name, trade name or language used in the listing. In addition, TCG agrees to release, defend, hold harmless and indemnify BA from and against any and all claims, losses, damages, suits, or other actions, or any liability whatsoever, suffered, made, instituted, or asserted by any person arising out of BA's listing of the listing information provided by TCG hereunder.

19.1.9 BA's liability to TCG in the event of a BA error in or omission of a listing shall not exceed the amount of charges actually paid by TCG for such listing. In addition, TCG agrees to take, with respect to its own Customers, all reasonable steps to ensure that its and BA's liability to TCG's Customers in the event of a BA error in or omission of a listing shall be subject to the same limitations that BA's liability to its own Customers are subject to.

19.1.10 Within thirty (30) business days of the Effective Date, BA agrees to meet with TCG and, if appropriate, arrange a meeting with a BA authorized Yellow Pages agent, to address issues regarding TCG customer referrals or questions pertaining to Yellow Pages listings.

19.2 Yellow Pages Maintenance

The Parties agree to work cooperatively to ensure that Yellow Page advertisements purchased by Customers that switch their service to TCG (including Customers utilizing TCG-assigned telephone numbers and TCG Customers utilizing LTNP) are maintained without interruption. BA will offer Yellow Pages services to TCG Customers on the same basis as they are offered to BA Customers.

19.3 Service Information Pages

BA will include all TCG NXX codes associated with the areas to which each directory pertains, along with BA's own NXX codes, in any maps or lists of such codes which are contained in the general reference portions of the directories. TCG's NXX codes shall appear in such maps or lists in the same manner as BA's NXX information. In addition, BA will include in the "Customer Guide" or comparable section of the applicable white pages directories listings provided by TCG for TCG's installation, repair and customer service and other essential service oriented information, as agreed by the Parties, including appropriate identifying logo. Such listings shall appear in the manner agreed to by the Parties. BA shall not charge TCG for inclusion of this essential service-oriented information, but reserves the right to impose charges on other information TCG may elect to submit and BA may elect to accept for inclusion in BA's white pages directories. BA will provide TCG with the annual directory close dates and reasonable notice of any changes in said dates.

19.4 Directory Assistance (DA); Call Completion

19.4.1 Upon request, BA will provide TCG with directory assistance, connect request, and/or IntraLATA call completion services in accordance with the terms set forth in the Directory Assistance and Call Completion Services Agreement appended hereto as Exhibit C.

19.4.2 Also upon request, BA will provide to TCG operator services trunk groups, utilizing Feature Group D type signaling, with ANI, minus OZZ, when interconnecting to the BA operator services network.

19.4.3 BA agrees to utilize existing trunking arrangements, at no facility charge to TCG, to transfer TCG's operator calls handled by a BA operator to the appropriate 911/E911 PSAP. The ALI information passed to the PSAP shall be consistent with the information that BA passes on its own operator-handled calls.

20.0 COORDINATION WITH TARIFF TERMS

20.1 The Parties acknowledge that some of the services, facilities, and arrangements described herein are or will be available under and subject to the terms of the federal or state tariffs of the other Party applicable to such services, facilities, and arrangements. To the extent a Tariff of the providing Party applies to any service, facility, and arrangement described herein, the Parties agree as follows:

20.1.1 Those rates and charges set forth in Exhibit A for the services, facilities, and arrangements described herein that are designated with an asterisk shall remain fixed for the initial term of the Agreement, notwithstanding that such rates may be different from those contained in an effective, pending, or future Tariff of the providing Party (including any changes to such Tariff subsequent to the Effective Date). Those rates and charges for services, facilities, and arrangements that are not designated with an asterisk, and reference or are identical to a rate contained in an existing Tariff of the providing Party, shall conform with those contained in the then-prevailing Tariff and vary in accordance with any changes that may be made to the Tariff rates and charges subsequent to the Effective Date. Even the asterisked fixed rates and charges shall be changed to reflect any changes in the Tariff rates and charges they reference, however, if the Parties agree to adopt the changed Tariff rates and charges.

20.1.2 As applied to wholesale discount rates, unbundled Network Elements or call transport and/or termination of Local Traffic purchased for the provision of Telephone Exchange Service or Exchange Access, the rates and charges set forth in Exhibit A shall serve as interim rates until such time as they are replaced by such permanent rates as may be approved by the Commission pursuant to the FCC Regulations. At such time as such permanent rates have been approved by the Commission, the Parties shall develop and append to Exhibit A an Exhibit AA setting forth such permanent rates, which Exhibit AA the Parties shall update periodically as necessary.

In addition, each Party shall require its agents, representatives, or contractors, if any, that may enter upon the premises of the other Party or the other Party's affiliated companies to maintain similar and appropriate insurance and, if requested, to furnish the other Party certificates or other adequate proof of such insurance. Certificates furnished by such Party or such Party's agents, representatives, or contractors shall contain a clause stating that the other Party shall be notified in writing at least thirty (30) days prior to cancellation of, or any material change in, the insurance.

22.0 TERM AND TERMINATION.

22.1 This Agreement shall be effective as of the date first above written and continue in effect until July 1, 1999, and thereafter the Agreement shall continue in force and effect unless and until terminated as provided herein. Upon the expiration of the initial term, either Party may terminate this Agreement by providing written notice of termination to the other Party, such written notice to be provided at least ninety (90) days in advance of the date of termination. In the event of such termination, those service arrangements made available under this Agreement and existing at the time of termination shall continue without interruption under (a) a new agreement executed by the Parties, (b) standard Interconnection terms and conditions approved and made generally effective by the Commission, (c) Tariff terms and conditions generally available to CLECs, or (d) if none of the above is available, under the terms of this Agreement on a month-to-month basis until such time as (a), (b), or (c) becomes available.

22.2 For service arrangements made available under this Agreement and existing at the time of termination, if the standard Interconnection terms and conditions or Tariff terms and conditions result in the non-terminating Party physically rearranging facilities or incurring programming expense, the non-terminating Party shall be entitled to recover such rearrangement or programming costs from the terminating Party. By mutual agreement, the Parties may jointly petition the appropriate regulatory bodies for permission to have this Agreement supersede any future standardized agreements or rules as such regulators might adopt or approve.

22.3 If either Party defaults in the payment of any amount due hereunder, or if either Party violates any other provision of this Agreement, and such default or violation shall continue for sixty (60) days after written notice thereof, the other Party may terminate this Agreement and services hereunder by written notice; provided the other Party has provided the defaulting Party and the appropriate federal and/or state regulatory bodies with written notice at least twenty five (25) days' prior to terminating service. Notice shall be posted by overnight mail, return receipt requested. If the defaulting Party cures the default or violation within the twenty five (25) day period, the other Party will not terminate service or this Agreement but shall be entitled to recover all costs, if any, incurred by it in connection with the default or violation, including, without limitation, costs incurred to prepare for the termination of service.

23.0 DISCLAIMER OF REPRESENTATIONS AND WARRANTIES.

EXCEPT AS EXPRESSLY PROVIDED UNDER THIS AGREEMENT, NEITHER PARTY MAKES ANY WARRANTY, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, WITH RESPECT TO THE SERVICES, FUNCTIONS AND PRODUCTS IT PROVIDES UNDER OR CONTEMPLATED BY THIS AGREEMENT AND THE PARTIES DISCLAIM THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY OR OF FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE.

24.0 CANCELLATION CHARGES.

Except as provided in this Agreement or as otherwise provided in any applicable Tariff, no cancellation charges shall apply.

25.0 INDEMNIFICATION.

25.1 Each Party agrees to release, indemnify, defend and hold harmless the other Party from and against all losses, claims, demands, damages, expenses, suits or other actions, or any liability whatsoever, including, but not limited to, costs and attorneys' fees (collectively, a "Loss"), whether suffered, made, instituted, or asserted by any other party or person, relating to personal injury to or death of any person, or for loss, damage to, or destruction of real and/or personal property, whether or not owned by others, incurred during the term of this Agreement and to the extent proximately caused by the acts or omissions of the indemnifying Party, regardless of the form of action. Notwithstanding the foregoing indemnification, nothing in this Section 25 shall affect or limit any claims, remedies, or other actions the indemnifying Party may have against the indemnified Party under this Agreement, any other contract, or any applicable Tariff(s), regulations or laws for the indemnified Party's provision of said services.

25.2 The indemnification provided herein shall be conditioned upon:

(a) The indemnified Party shall promptly notify the indemnifying Party of any action taken against the indemnified Party relating to the indemnification.

(b) The indemnifying Party shall have sole authority to defend any such action, including the selection of legal counsel, and the indemnified Party may engage separate legal counsel only at its sole cost and expense.

(c) In no event shall the indemnifying Party settle or consent to any judgment pertaining to any such action without the prior written consent of the indemnified Party, which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld.

(d) The indemnified Party shall, in all cases, assert any and all provisions in its Tariffs that limit liability to third parties as a bar to any recovery by the third party claimant in excess of such limitation of liability.

(e) The indemnified Party shall offer the indemnifying Party all reasonable cooperation and assistance in the defense of any such action.

26.0 LIMITATION OF LIABILITY.

26.1 Except as may be provided pursuant to Section 27 below, the liability of either Party to the other Party for damages arising out of failure to comply with a direction to install, restore or terminate facilities; or out of failures, mistakes, omissions, interruptions, delays, errors, or defects occurring in the course of furnishing any services, arrangements, or facilities hereunder shall be determined in accordance with the terms of the applicable tariff(s) of the providing Party. In the event no tariff(s) apply, the providing Party's liability shall not exceed an amount equal to the pro rata monthly charge for the period in which such failures, mistakes, omissions, interruptions, delays, errors or defects occur. Recovery of said amount shall be the injured Party's sole and exclusive remedy against the providing Party for such failures, mistakes, omissions, interruptions, delays, errors or defects.

26.2 Neither Party shall be liable to the other in connection with the provision or use of services offered under this Agreement for indirect, incidental, consequential, reliance or special damages, including (without limitation) damages for lost profits (collectively, "Consequential Damages"), regardless of the form of action, whether in contract, warranty, strict liability, or tort, including, without limitation, negligence of any kind, even if the other Party has been advised of the possibility of such damages; provided, that the foregoing shall not limit a Party's obligation under Section 25.

26.3 The Parties agree that neither Party shall be liable to the customers of the other Party in connection with its provision of services to the other Party under this Agreement. Nothing in this Agreement shall be deemed to create a third party beneficiary relationship between the Party providing the service and the customers of the Party purchasing the service. In the event of a dispute involving both Parties with a customer of one Party, both Parties shall assert the applicability of any limitations on liability to customers that may be contained in either Party's applicable Tariff(s).

27.0 PERFORMANCE STANDARDS FOR SPECIFIED ACTIVITIES.

27.1 Performance Standards. BA shall provide the Interconnection and unbundled Network Elements contemplated hereunder in accordance with the performance standards set forth in Section 251(c) of the Act and the FCC Regulations, in particular the rules set forth in 47 Code of Federal Regulations §§ 51.305(a)(3) to (a)(5), 51.311(a) to (c), and 51.313(b). For purposes of this Agreement, the Parties agree that BA shall be deemed to meet such performance standards if it meets

the time intervals set forth in Schedule 27.1 for (i) ULL Installation and INP Installation in at least eighty percent (80%) of the covered instances, and (ii) Out-of-Service Repairs in at least seventy percent (70%) of the covered instances. At such time as BA develops performance standards for unbundled Switching Elements, BA will provide TCG with reports thereof in accordance with subsection 27.2 below.

27.2 Performance Reporting.

27.2.1 BA shall supply to TCG quarterly performance reports on BA's performance in the Commonwealth of Virginia. The reports shall contain the information described in, and be substantially in the format of, the documents attached hereto as Schedules 27.2A through 27.2D. The content of the reports, and the definitions of the rows and columns in the reports are set forth in Schedule 27.2E. The coverage of each report is set forth in its title, with the additional explanations set forth in Schedule 27.2.

27.2.2 TCG agrees that the performance information included in these reports is confidential and proprietary to BA, and shall be used by TCG solely for internal performance assessment purposes, for purposes of joint TCG and BA assessments of service performance, and for reporting to the Commission, the FCC, or courts of competent jurisdiction, under cover of an agreed-upon protective order. TCG shall not otherwise disclose this information to third parties.

27.3 Performance Remedies

The question of what penalties or other action might be appropriate in any situation where TCG believes, based on a statistically significant number of reports described above, that Bell Atlantic is not complying with the performance standards referenced in subsection 27.1 above shall be resolved, in the first instance, through negotiations between the Parties and, failing successful negotiations, through the complaint processes of the Commission, the FCC, or a court of competent jurisdiction. BA agrees to join TCG in encouraging the Commission to develop expedited procedures for the resolution of any performance-related complaints.

28.0 COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS; REGULATORY APPROVAL.

28.1 Each Party represents and warrants that it is now and will remain in compliance with all Applicable Laws. Each Party shall promptly notify the other Party in writing of any governmental action that suspends, cancels, withdraws, limits, or otherwise materially affects its ability to perform its obligations hereunder.

28.2 The Parties understand and agree that this Agreement will be filed with the Commission and may thereafter be filed with the FCC as an integral part of BA's application pursuant to Section 271(d) of the Act. The Parties covenant and agree that this Agreement is satisfactory to them as an

agreement under Section 251 of the Act. Each Party covenants and agrees to fully support approval of this Agreement by the Commission or the FCC under Section 252 of the Act without modification. The Parties, however, reserve the right to seek regulatory relief and otherwise seek redress from each other regarding performance and implementation of this Agreement, including, without limitation, the conformance of this Agreement to the FCC Regulations as provided in subsection 28.3 below.

28.3 The Parties recognize that the FCC has issued and may continue to issue the FCC Regulations implementing Sections 251, 252, and 271 of the Act that affect certain terms contained in this Agreement. In the event that any one or more of the provisions contained herein is inconsistent with any applicable rule contained in such FCC Regulations or, in BA's reasonable determination, affects BA's application pursuant to Section 271(d) of the Act, the Parties agree to make only the minimum revisions necessary to eliminate the inconsistency or amend the application-affecting provision(s). Such minimum revisions shall not be considered material, and shall not require further Commission approval (beyond any Commission approval required under Section 252(e) of the Act).

28.4 In the event any Applicable Law other than the FCC Regulations requires modification of any material term(s) contained in this Agreement, either Party may require a renegotiation of the term(s) that require direct modification as well as of any term(s) that are reasonably affected thereby. If neither Party requests a renegotiation or if an Applicable Law requires modification of any non-material term(s), then the Parties agree to make only the minimum modifications necessary, and the remaining provisions of this Agreement shall remain in full force and effect. For purposes of this subsection 28.4 and without limitation of any other modifications required by Applicable Laws, the Parties agree that any modification required by Applicable Laws (i) to the two-tier Reciprocal Call Termination compensation structure for the transport and termination of Local Traffic described in Exhibit A, or (ii) that affects either Party's receipt of reciprocal compensation for the transport and termination of Local Traffic, shall be deemed to be a modification of a material term that requires immediate good faith renegotiation between the Parties. Until such renegotiation results in a new agreement or an amendment to this Agreement between the Parties, the Parties agree that (y) in the case of (i) above, they will pay each other appropriate transport charges in addition to the usual call termination charge for Local Traffic that it delivers to the other Party's Local Serving Wire Center, provided each Party continues to offer the option of delivering Local Traffic to another IP in the LATA at the usual call termination charge only, and (z) in the case of (ii) above, the Party whose receipt of reciprocal compensation is affected shall not be obligated to pay the other Party reciprocal compensation for the other Party's transport and termination of the same kind of Local Traffic delivered by the affected Party in excess of what the affected Party is permitted to receive and retain.

29.0 MISCELLANEOUS.

29.1 Authorization

29.1.1 BA is a corporation duly organized, validly existing and in good standing under the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia and has full power and authority to execute and deliver this Agreement and to perform the obligations hereunder.

29.1.2 TCG is a corporation duly organized, validly existing and in good standing under the laws of the State of Delaware and has full power and authority to execute and deliver this Agreement and to perform its obligations hereunder.

29.2 Independent Contractor

Each Party shall perform services hereunder as an independent contractor and nothing herein shall be construed as creating any other relationship between the Parties. Each Party and each Party's contractor shall be solely responsible for the withholding or payment of all applicable federal, state and local income taxes, social security taxes and other payroll taxes with respect to their employees, as well as any taxes, contributions or other obligations imposed by applicable state unemployment or workers' compensation acts. Each Party has sole authority and responsibility to hire, fire and otherwise control its employees.

29.3 Force Majeure

Neither Party shall be responsible for delays or failures in performance resulting from acts or occurrences beyond the reasonable control of such Party, regardless of whether such delays or failures in performance were foreseen or foreseeable as of the date of this Agreement, including, without limitation: adverse weather conditions, fire, explosion, power failure, acts of God, war, revolution, civil commotion, or acts of public enemies; any law, order, regulation, ordinance or requirement of any government or legal body; or labor unrest, including, without limitation, strikes, slowdowns, picketing or boycotts; or delays caused by the other Party or by other service or equipment vendors; or any other circumstances beyond the Party's reasonable control. In such event, the affected Party shall, upon giving prompt notice to the other Party, be excused from such performance on a day-to-day basis to the extent of such interferences (and the other Party shall likewise be excused from performance of its obligations on a day-to-day basis to the extent such Party's obligations relate to the performance so interfered with). The affected Party shall use its best efforts to avoid or remove the cause(s) of non-performance and both Parties shall proceed to perform with dispatch once the cause(s) are removed or cease.

29.4 Confidentiality

29.4.1 All information, including but not limited to specification, microfilm, photocopies, magnetic disks, magnetic tapes, drawings, sketches, models, samples, tools, technical information, data, employee records, maps, financial reports, and market data, (i) furnished by one Party to the other Party dealing with customer specific, facility specific, or usage specific information, other than customer information communicated for the purpose of publication or directory database inclusion, or (ii) in written, graphic, electromagnetic, or other tangible form and marked at the time of delivery as

“Confidential” or “Proprietary,” or (iii) communicated orally and declared to the receiving Party at the time of delivery, or by written notice given to the receiving Party within ten (10) days after delivery, to be “Confidential” or “Proprietary” (collectively referred to as “Proprietary Information”), shall remain the property of the disclosing Party.

29.4.2 Each Party shall keep all of the other Party’s Proprietary Information confidential in the same manner it holds its own Proprietary Information confidential (which in all cases shall be no less than reasonable) and shall use the other Party’s Proprietary Information only for performing the covenants contained in this Agreement. Neither Party shall use the other Party’s Proprietary Information for any other purpose except upon such terms and conditions as may be agreed upon between the Parties in writing.

29.4.3 Unless otherwise agreed, the obligations of confidentiality and non-use set forth in this Agreement do not apply to such Proprietary Information that:

- (a) was, at the time of receipt, already known to the receiving Party free of any obligation to keep it confidential as evidenced by written records prepared prior to delivery by the disclosing Party; or
- (b) is or becomes publicly known through no wrongful act of the receiving Party; or
- (c) is rightfully received from a third person having no direct or indirect secrecy or confidentiality obligation to the disclosing Party with respect to such information; or
- (d) is independently developed by an employee, agent, or contractor of the receiving Party that is not involved in any manner with the provision of services pursuant to this Agreement and does not have any direct or indirect access to the Proprietary Information; or
- (e) is approved for release by written authorization of the disclosing Party; or
- (f) is required to be made public by the receiving Party pursuant to applicable law or regulation, provided that the receiving Party shall give sufficient notice of the requirement to the disclosing Party to enable the disclosing Party to seek protective orders.

29.4.4 Upon request by the disclosing Party, the receiving Party shall return all tangible copies of Proprietary Information, whether written, graphic or otherwise, except that the receiving Party may retain one copy for archival purposes only.

29.4.5 Notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement, the provisions of this subsection 29.4 shall apply to all Proprietary Information furnished by either Party to the other in furtherance of the purpose of this Agreement, even if furnished before the Effective Date.

29.5 Choice of Law

The construction, interpretation and performance of this Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the state in which this Agreement is to be performed, except for its conflicts of laws provisions. In addition, insofar as and to the extent federal law may apply, federal law will control.

29.6 Taxes

29.6.1 In General. With respect to any purchase hereunder of services, facilities or arrangements, if any federal, state or local tax, fee, surcharge or other tax-like charge (a "Tax") is required or permitted by Applicable Law to be collected from the purchasing Party by the providing Party, then (i) the providing Party shall properly bill the purchasing Party for such Tax, (ii) the purchasing Party shall timely remit such Tax to the providing Party and (iii) the providing Party shall timely remit such collected Tax to the applicable taxing authority.

29.6.2 Taxes Imposed on the Providing Party. With respect to any purchase hereunder of services, facilities or arrangements, if any federal, state or local Tax is imposed by Applicable Law on the receipts of the providing Party, which Law permits the providing Party to exclude certain receipts received from sales for resale to a public utility, distributor, telephone company, local exchange carrier, telecommunications company or other communications company ("Telecommunications Company"), such exclusion being based solely on the fact that the purchasing Party is also subject to a tax based upon receipts ("Receipts Tax"), then the purchasing Party (i) shall provide the providing Party with notice in writing in accordance with subsection 29.6.6 of this Agreement of its intent to pay the Receipts Tax and (ii) shall timely pay the Receipts Tax to the applicable tax authority.

29.6.3 Taxes Imposed on Customers. With respect to any purchase hereunder of services, facilities or arrangements that are resold to a third party, if any federal, state or local Tax is imposed by Applicable Law on the subscriber, end-user, Customer or ultimate consumer ("Subscriber") in connection with any such purchase, which a Telecommunications Company is required to impose and/or collect from a Subscriber, then the purchasing Party (i) shall be required to impose and/or collect such Tax from the Subscriber and (ii) shall timely remit such Tax to the applicable taxing authority.

29.6.4 Liability for Uncollected Tax, Interest and Penalty. If the providing Party has not received an exemption certificate and fails to collect any Tax as required by subsection 29.6.1, then, as between the providing Party and the purchasing Party, (i) the purchasing Party shall remain liable for such uncollected Tax and (ii) the providing Party shall be liable for any interest assessed thereon and any penalty assessed with respect to such uncollected Tax by such authority. If the providing Party properly bills the purchasing Party for any Tax but the purchasing Party fails to remit such Tax to the providing Party as required by subsection 29.6.1, then, as between the providing Party and the purchasing Party, the purchasing Party shall be liable for such uncollected Tax and any interest assessed thereon, as well as any penalty assessed with respect to such uncollected Tax by the applicable taxing authority. If the

providing Party does not collect any Tax as required by subsection 29.6.1 because the purchasing Party has provided such providing Party with an exemption certificate that is later found to be inadequate by a taxing authority, then, as between the providing Party and the purchasing Party, the purchasing Party shall be liable for such uncollected Tax and any interest assessed thereon, as well as any penalty assessed with respect to such uncollected Tax by the applicable taxing authority. If the purchasing Party fails to pay the Receipts Tax as required by subsection 29.6.2, then, as between the providing Party and the purchasing Party, (x) the providing Party shall be liable for any Tax imposed on its receipts and (y) the purchasing Party shall be liable for any interest assessed thereon and any penalty assessed upon the providing Party with respect to such Tax by such authority. If the purchasing Party fails to impose and/or collect any Tax from Subscribers as required by subsection 29.6.3, then, as between the providing Party and the purchasing Party, the purchasing Party shall remain liable for such uncollected Tax and any interest assessed thereon, as well as any penalty assessed with respect to such uncollected Tax by the applicable taxing authority. With respect to any Tax that the purchasing Party has agreed to pay, or is required to impose on and/or collect from Subscribers, the purchasing Party agrees to indemnify and hold the providing Party harmless on an after-tax basis for any costs incurred by the providing Party as a result of actions taken by the applicable taxing authority to recover the Tax from the providing Party due to the failure of the purchasing Party to timely pay, or collect and timely remit, such Tax to such authority. In the event either Party is audited by a taxing authority, the other Party agrees to cooperate fully with the Party being audited in order to respond to any audit inquiries in a proper and timely manner so that the audit and/or any resulting controversy may be resolved expeditiously.

29.6.5 Tax Exemptions and Exemption Certificates. If Applicable Law clearly exempts a purchase hereunder from a Tax, and if such Law also provides an exemption procedure, such as an exemption-certificate requirement, then, if the purchasing Party complies with such procedure, the providing Party shall not collect such Tax during the effective period of such exemption. Such exemption shall be effective upon receipt of the exemption certificate or affidavit in accordance with the terms set forth in subsection 29.6.6. If Applicable Law clearly exempts a purchase hereunder from a Tax, but does not also provide an exemption procedure, then the providing Party shall not collect such Tax if the purchasing Party (i) furnishes the providing Party with a letter signed by an officer requesting such an exemption and citing the provision in the Law which clearly allows such exemption and (ii) supplies the providing Party with an indemnification agreement, reasonably acceptable to the providing Party (e.g., an agreement commonly used in the industry), which holds the providing Party harmless on an after-tax basis with respect to its forbearing to collect such Tax.

29.6.6 Notices for Purposes of this Subsection 29.6. All notices, affidavits, exemption-certificates or other communications required or permitted to be given by either Party to the other, for purposes of this subsection 29.6, shall be made in writing and shall be delivered in person or sent by certified mail, return receipt requested, or registered mail, or a courier service providing proof of service, and sent to the addressees set forth in subsection 29.10 as well as to the following:

To Bell Atlantic:	Tax Administration
	Bell Atlantic Network Services, Inc.

specific details and reasons for disputing each item. The Non-Paying Party shall pay when due (i) all undisputed amounts to the Billing Party and (ii) the Disputed Amount up to the higher of \$10,000 or 50% of the Disputed Amount into an interest bearing escrow account with a third party escrow agent mutually agreed upon by the Parties. The remaining balance of the Disputed Amount not placed into escrow shall thereafter be paid, if appropriate, upon final determination of such dispute.

29.8.4 If the Parties are unable to resolve the issues related to the Disputed Amounts in the normal course of business within ninety (90) days after delivery to the Billing Party of notice of the Disputed Amounts, each of the Parties shall appoint a designated representative that has authority to settle the dispute and that is at a higher level of management than the persons with direct responsibility for administration of this Agreement. The designated representatives shall meet as often as they reasonably deem necessary in order to discuss the dispute and negotiate in good faith in an effort to resolve such dispute. The specific format for such discussions will be left to the discretion of the designated representatives, however all reasonable requests for relevant information made by one Party to the other Party shall be honored.

29.8.5 If the Parties are unable to resolve issues related to the Disputed Amounts within forty-five (45) days after the Parties' appointment of designated representatives pursuant to subsection 29.8.4, or if either Party fails to appoint a designated representative within forty five (45) days, then either Party may file a complaint with the Commission to resolve such issues or proceed with any other remedy pursuant to law or equity. The Commission may direct release of any or all funds (including any accrued interest) in the escrow account, plus applicable late fees, to be paid to either Party.

29.8.6 The Parties agree that all negotiations pursuant to this subsection 29.8 shall remain confidential and shall be treated as compromise and settlement negotiations for purposes of the Federal Rules of Evidence and state rules of evidence.

29.8.7 Any undisputed amounts not paid when due shall accrue interest from the date such amounts were due at the lesser of (i) one and one-half percent (1-1/2%) per month or (ii) the highest rate of interest that may be charged under applicable law.

29.9 Dispute Resolution

Any dispute between the Parties regarding the interpretation or enforcement of this Agreement or any of its terms shall be addressed by good faith negotiation between the Parties, in the first instance. Should such negotiations fail to resolve the dispute in a reasonable time, either Party may initiate an appropriate action in any regulatory or judicial forum of competent jurisdiction.

29.10 Notices

Except as otherwise provided in this Agreement, notices given by one Party to the other Party under this Agreement shall be in writing and shall be (a) delivered personally, (b) delivered by express

delivery service, (c) mailed, certified mail or first class U.S. mail postage prepaid, return receipt requested, or (d) delivered by telecopy to the following addresses of the Parties:

To TCG:

Teleport Communications Group
Two Teleport Drive
Staten Island, NY 10311
Attn: Vice President - Carrier Relations
Facsimile: 718/355-5574

with a copy to:

Teleport Communications Group
Two Teleport Drive
Staten Island, NY 10311
Attn: Vice President and General Counsel
Facsimile: 718/355-4595

To BA:

Director - Interconnection Services
Bell Atlantic Network Services, Inc.
1320 N. Courthouse Road
9th Floor
Arlington, VA 22201
Facsimile: 703/974-2183

with a copy to:

Vice President and General Counsel
Bell Atlantic - Virginia, Inc.
600 East Main Street
24th Floor
Richmond, VA 23261
Facsimile: 804/772-2143

or to such other address as either Party shall designate by proper notice. Notices will be deemed given as of the earlier of (i) the date of actual receipt, (ii) the next business day when notice is sent via express mail or personal delivery, (iii) three (3) days after mailing in the case of first class or certified U.S. mail, or (iv) on the date set forth on the confirmation in the case of telecopy.

29.11 Section 252(i) Obligations .

29.11.1 To the extent required under Applicable Law, BA shall make available without unreasonable delay to TCG any individual interconnection, service or network element contained in any agreement to which it is a party that is approved by the Commission pursuant to Section 252 of the Act upon the same rates, terms, and conditions as those provided in the agreement. BA agrees to notify TCG on a quarterly basis via an “all users of access” letter or similar notice of any such agreement once BA has filed it with the Commission for approval.

29.11.2 To the extent the exercise of the foregoing options requires a rearrangement of facilities by the providing Party, the opting Party shall be liable for the non-recurring charges associated therewith.

29.11.3 The Party electing to exercise such option shall do so by delivering written notice to the first Party. Upon receipt of said notice by the first Party, the Parties shall amend this Agreement to provide the same rates, terms and conditions to the notifying Party for the remaining term of this Agreement; provided, however, that the Party exercising its option under this subsection 29.11 must continue to provide the same services or arrangements to the first Party as required by this Agreement, subject either to the rates, terms, and conditions applicable to the first Party in its agreement with the third party or to the rates, terms, and conditions of this Agreement, whichever is more favorable to the first Party in its sole determination.

29.11.4 BA represents and warrants that, as of the date of this Agreement, it has not entered into any comparable Interconnection agreement with any other CLEC in BA’s service territory that is significantly more favorable than the terms contained herein. BA makes no warranty or representation with respect to its Interconnection arrangements with its affiliates or ITCs.

29.12 Joint Work Product

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.

29.13 No Third Party Beneficiaries; Disclaimer of Agency

This Agreement is for the sole benefit of the Parties and their permitted assigns, and nothing herein express or implied shall create or be construed to create any third-party beneficiary rights hereunder. Except for provisions herein expressly authorizing a Party to act for another, nothing in this Agreement shall constitute a Party as a legal representative or agent of the other Party, nor shall a Party have the right or authority to assume, create or incur any liability or any obligation of any kind, express or implied, against or in the name or on behalf of the other Party unless otherwise expressly permitted by such other Party. Except as otherwise expressly provided in this Agreement, no Party undertakes to perform any obligation of the other Party, whether regulatory or contractual, or to assume any responsibility for the management of the other Party's business.

29.14 No License

29.14.1 Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed as the grant of a license, either express or implied, with respect to any patent, copyright, trademark, trade name, trade secret or any other proprietary or intellectual property now or hereafter owned, controlled or licensable by either Party. Neither Party may use any patent, copyrightable materials, trademark, trade name, trade secret or other intellectual property right of the other Party except in accordance with the terms of a separate license agreement between the Parties granting such rights.

29.14.2 Neither Party shall have any obligation to defend, indemnify or hold harmless, or acquire any license or right for the benefit of, or owe any other obligation or have any liability to, the other Party or its customers based on or arising from any claim, demand, or proceeding by any third party alleging or asserting that the use of any circuit, apparatus, or system, or the use of any software, or the performance of any service or method, or the provision of any facilities by either Party under this Agreement, alone or in combination with that of the other Party, constitutes direct, vicarious or contributory infringement or inducement to infringe, misuse or misappropriation of any patent, copyright, trademark, trade secret, or any other proprietary or intellectual property right of any Party or third party. Each Party, however, shall offer to the other reasonable cooperation and assistance in the defense of any such claim.

29.14.3 NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF THIS AGREEMENT, THE PARTIES AGREE THAT NEITHER PARTY HAS MADE, AND THAT THERE DOES NOT EXIST, ANY WARRANTY, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, THAT THE USE BY THE PARTIES OF THE OTHER'S FACILITIES, ARRANGEMENTS, OR SERVICES PROVIDED UNDER THIS AGREEMENT SHALL NOT GIVE RISE TO A CLAIM BY ANY THIRD PARTY OF INFRINGEMENT, MISUSE, OR MISAPPROPRIATION OF ANY INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHT OF SUCH THIRD PARTY.

29.15 Technology Upgrades

Nothing in this Agreement shall limit BA's ability to upgrade its network through the incorporation of new equipment, new software or otherwise. BA shall provide TCG written notice at least ninety (90) days prior to the incorporation of any such upgrades in BA's network that will materially affect TCG's service, and shall exercise reasonable efforts to provide at least one hundred eighty (180) days notice where practicable. In addition, BA shall comply with the FCC Network Disclosure rules set forth in the FCC Regulations to the extent applicable. TCG shall be solely responsible for the cost and effort of accommodating such changes in its own network.

29.16 Survival

The Parties' obligations under this Agreement which by their nature are intended to continue beyond the termination or expiration of this Agreement shall survive the termination or expiration of this Agreement.

29.17 Entire Agreement

The terms contained in this Agreement and any Schedules, Exhibits, tariffs and other documents or instruments referred to herein, which are incorporated into this Agreement by this reference, constitute the entire agreement between the Parties with respect to the subject matter hereof, superseding all prior understandings, proposals and other communications, oral or written. Neither Party shall be bound by any preprinted terms additional to or different from those in this Agreement that may appear subsequently in the other Party's form documents, purchase orders, quotations, acknowledgments, invoices or other communications.

29.18 Counterparts

This Agreement may be executed in two or more counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original and all of which together shall constitute one and the same instrument.

29.19 Modification, Amendment, Supplement, or Waiver

No modification, amendment, supplement to, or waiver of the Agreement or any of its provisions shall be effective and binding upon the Parties unless it is made in writing and duly signed by the Parties. A failure or delay of either Party to enforce any of the provisions hereof, to exercise any option which is herein provided, or to require performance of any of the provisions hereof shall in no way be construed to be a waiver of such provisions or options.

29.20 Successors and Assigns

This Agreement shall be binding on and inure to the benefit of the Parties and their respective legal successors and permitted assigns.

29.21 Publicity

Neither Party shall use the name of the other Party in connection with this Agreement in a press release or statement without the prior consent of the other Party, which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld.

29.22 Lease of BA Facilities

BA shall provide TCG with access to BA's roofs and riser conduits to the same extent and substantially on the same terms as BA makes such roofs and riser conduits available to third parties. Any such access shall be in accordance with the terms of BA's then prevailing lease or license

agreement. It is BA's current policy to lease such facilities to third parties to the extent they are available and space permits.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties hereto have caused this Agreement to be executed as of this 3rd day of February, 1997.

TCG VIRGINIA, INC.

BELL ATLANTIC-
VIRGINIA, INC.

By: _____

By: _____

Printed: _____

Printed: _____

Title: _____

Title: _____

SCHEDULE 1.0

CERTAIN TERMS AS DEFINED IN THE ACT AS OF FEBRUARY 3, 1997

“Dialing Parity” means that a person that is not an affiliate of a local exchange carrier is able to provide Telecommunications Services in such a manner that Customers have the ability to route automatically, without the use of any access code, their Telecommunications to the Telecommunications Services provider of the customer’s designation from among two (2) or more Telecommunications Services providers (including such LEC).

“Exchange Access” means the offering of access to Telephone Exchange Services or facilities for the purpose of the origination or termination of Telephone Toll Services.

“Incumbent Local Exchange Carrier” means, with respect to an area, the Local Exchange Carrier, that (A) on the date of enactment of the Telecommunications Act, provided Telephone Exchange Service in such area, and (B)(i) on such date of enactment, was deemed to be a member of the exchange carrier association pursuant to Section 69.601(b) of the FCC’s regulations (47 C.F.R. 69.601(b)), or (ii) is a person or entity that, on or after such date of enactment, became a successor or assign of a member described in clause (i).

“InterLATA” means Telecommunications between a point located in a local access and transport area and a point located outside such area.

“Local Access and Transport Area” or “LATA” means a contiguous geographic area: (a) established before the date of enactment of the Act by a Bell operating company such that no Exchange Area includes points within more than one (1) metropolitan statistical area, consolidated metropolitan statistical area, or State, except as expressly permitted under the AT&T Consent Decree; or (b) established or modified by a Bell operating company after such date of enactment and approved by the FCC.

“Local Exchange Carrier” means any person that is engaged in the provision of Telephone Exchange Service or Exchange Access. Such term does not include a person insofar as such person is engaged in the provision of a commercial mobile service under Section 332(c) of the Act, except to the extent that the FCC finds that such service should be included in the definition of such term.

“Network Element” means a facility or equipment used in the provision of a Telecommunications Service. Such term also includes features, functions, and capabilities that are provided by means of such facility or equipment, including subscriber numbers, databases, signaling systems, and information sufficient for billing and collection or used in the transmission, routing, or other provision of a Telecommunications Service.

“Number Portability” means the ability of end users of telecommunications services to retain, at the same location, existing telecommunications numbers without impairment of quality, reliability, or convenience when switching from one telecommunications carrier to another.

“Telecommunications” means the transmission, between or among points specified by the user, of information of the user’s choosing, without change in the form or content of the information as sent and received.

“Telecommunications Carrier” means any provider of Telecommunications Services, except that such term does not include aggregators of Telecommunications Services (as defined in Section 226 of the Communications Act).

“Telecommunications Service” means the offering of Telecommunications for a fee directly to the public, or to such classes of users as to be effectively available directly to the public, regardless of the facilities used.

“Telephone Exchange Service” means (a) service within a telephone exchange or within a connected system of telephone exchanges within the same exchange area operated to furnish subscribers intercommunicating service of the character ordinarily furnished by a single exchange, and which is covered by the exchange service charge, or (b) comparable service provided through a system of switches, transmission equipment, or other facilities (or combination thereof) by which a subscriber can originate and terminate a telecommunications service.

“Telephone Toll Service” means telephone service between stations in different exchange areas for which there is made a separate charge not included in contracts with subscribers for exchange service.

SCHEDULE 3.0

INITIAL NETWORK IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE FOR VIRGINIA

In accordance with the provisions of Section 3 of the Agreement, the Parties shall make their best efforts to meet the following initial Milestones no later than the listed Dates.

LATA in Virginia	Milestone	Date
LATA TBD	LATA Start Date	TBD
	SS7 Certification, Collocation, Operator Services/DA Facilities, and NXX(s) Applied For	TBD
	Parties Agree on Trunking Arrangements for Traffic Exchange	TBD
	Valid Access Service Request(s) (“ASRs”) for Traffic Exchange Trunk Groups and Routing Information Received by BA	TBD
	Valid Orders for 911 Facilities Received by BA	TBD
	All Trunks (Traffic Exchange, Operator Services/DA, 911) Tested and Turned Up	TBD
	SS7 Certification Achieved; ¹ Collocation Arrangements Complete for Trunk Interconnection and Access to Network Elements ²	TBD
	Arrangements for Alternate-Billed Calls Agreed Upon	TBD
	Call-through Testing Completed; “Interconnection Activation Date”	TBD

Failure of a Party or the Parties to meet an earlier Milestone Date shall not relieve either Party of the responsibility to make its best efforts to meet subsequent Milestone Date(s) in the LATA, unless, and only to the extent that, the subsequent Milestone Date(s) depend on the timely completion of such earlier Milestone Date.

For purposes of Section 3, (i) business Telephone Exchange Service shall be considered “fully operational” in a LATA in Virginia when TCG has an effective Tariff for business Telephone Exchange Service in Virginia and a significant number of Telephone Exchange Service Customer lines in service for business Telephone Exchange Service Customers in that LATA in Virginia that are not affiliates or employees of either BA or TCG, and (ii) residential Telephone Exchange Service shall be considered “fully operational” in a LATA in Virginia when TCG has an effective Tariff for residential Telephone Exchange Service in Virginia and has a significant number of Telephone Exchange Service Customer lines in service for residential Telephone Exchange Service Customers in that LATA in Virginia that are not affiliates or employees of either BA or TCG.

¹ SS7 certification scheduling depends on actual schedule availability at time of request. Initial implementation will be multi-frequency until SS7 certification is achieved.

² Intervals for IDLC collocation arrangements for VG ULL capability are 60 days for Virtual Collocation and 120 days for Physical Collocation from the date the arrangement is applied for.

SCHEDULE 4.0

VIRGINIA

TCG IPs

BA IPs

TBD

TBD

SCHEDULE 4.5

INTERCONNECTION POINTS FOR DIFFERENT TYPES OF TRAFFIC

Each Party shall provide the other Party with Interconnection to its network at the following points for transmission, routing and termination. Each Party shall make available at its Interconnection Points facilities to route the traffic it receives to the appropriate final destination. Interconnection at a BA-IP that is a Local Serving Wire Center provides access to all of the Interconnection Points identified below (except for paragraphs 8 through 11), via facilities appropriate for the traffic types and destinations identified below. Compensation for such facilities will be as set forth in Exhibit A or as provided elsewhere herein.

1. For the termination of Local Traffic or Toll Traffic originated by one Party's Customer and terminated to the other Party's Customer, at the points set forth in subsections 4.2 and/or 4.3 of the main body of the Agreement.

2. For the termination of Meet Point Billing Traffic from an IXC to:

(a) TCG, at the TCG-IP in LATA in which the Traffic is to terminate.

(b) BA, at the BA-IP in LATA in which the Traffic is to terminate.

3. For the termination of Transit Traffic from an ITC, wireless carrier, or other CLEC to:

(a) TCG, at the TCG-IP in which the Traffic is to terminate.

(b) BA, at the BA-IP in LATA in which the Traffic is to terminate.

4. For 911/E911 traffic originated on TCG's network, at the PSAP in areas where only Basic 911 service is available, or at the BA 911 Tandem Office serving the area in which the TCG Customer is located, in accordance with applicable state laws and regulations and PSAP requirements.

5. For Directory Assistance (411 or NPA-555-1212) traffic, at the applicable BA Local Serving Wire Center or the BA operator services Tandem Office subtended by such Local Serving Wire Center.

6. For Operator Services (call completion) traffic, at the applicable BA Local Serving Wire Center or the BA operator services Tandem Office subtended by such Local Serving Wire Center.

7. For LSV/VCI traffic, at the terminating Party's Local Serving Wire Center or operator services Tandem Office subtended by such Local Serving Wire Center.

8. For SS7 signaling originated by:

(a) TCG, at mutually agreed-upon Signaling Point of Interconnection(s) (“SPOI”) in the LATA in which the Local or Toll Traffic originates, over CCSAC links provisioned in accordance with Bellcore GR-905 and Bell Atlantic Supplement Common Channel Signaling Network Interface Specification (BA_905).

(b) BA, at mutually agreed-upon SPOIs in the LATA in which the Local or Toll Traffic originates, over a CCSAC links provisioned in accordance with Bellcore GR-905 and BA-905.

Alternatively, either Party may elect to interconnect for SS7 signaling through a commercial SS7 hub provider.

9. For 800/888 database inquiry traffic, at any BA Signaling Transfer Point in the LATA in which the originating TCG Wire Center is located, over a CCSAC link. Alternatively, TCG may elect to interconnect through a commercial SS7 hub provider.

10. For Line Information Database (“LIDB”) inquiry traffic, at any BA Signaling Transfer Point in the LATA in which the LIDB is located, over a CCSAC link. Alternatively, TCG may elect to interconnect through a commercial SS7 hub provider.

11. For any other type of traffic, at reasonable points to be agreed upon by the Parties, based on the network architecture of the terminating Party’s network.

SCHEDULE 6.3

RATE ELEMENTS UNDER MEET POINT BILLING

Interstate Access - Terminating to or originating from TCG Customers

<u>Rate Element</u>	<u>Billing Company</u>
Carrier Common Line	TCG
Local Switching	TCG
Interconnection Charge	75% EO provider; 25% AT provider
Local Transport Facility/ Tandem Switched Transport Per Mile Based on negotiated billing percentage (BIP)	
Tandem Switching	BA
Local Transport Termination/ Tandem Switched Transport Fixed	BA
Entrance Facility	BA
800 Database Query	Party that performs query

Intrastate Access - Terminating to or originating from TCG Customers (Pre-LTR tariff)

<u>Rate Element</u>	<u>Billing Company</u>
Carrier Common Line	TCG
Local Switching	TCG
Transport	Based on negotiated billing percentage (BIP)

Intrastate Access - Terminating to or originating from TCG Customers (Post-LTR tariff)

<u>Rate Element</u>	<u>Billing Company</u>
Carrier Common Line	TCG
Local Switching	TCG
Interconnection Charge	75%-End Office provider; 25%-Access Tandem provider
Local Transport Facility/ Tandem Switched Transport Per Mile Based on negotiated billing percentage (BIP)	
Tandem Switching	BA
Local Transport Termination/ Tandem Switched Transport Fixed	BA
Entrance Facility	BA
800 Database Query	Party that performs query

SCHEDULE 11.3

ACCESS TO NETWORK INTERFACE DEVICE

1. Due to the wide variety of NIDs utilized by BA (based on Customer size and environmental considerations), TCG may access the Customer's Inside Wire by any of the following means:

(a) Where an adequate length of Inside Wire is present and environmental conditions permit, Requesting Carrier may remove the Inside Wire from BA's NID and connect that wire to TCG's NID;

(b) Enter the Customer access chamber or "side" of "dual chamber" NID enclosures for the purpose of extending a connecterized or spliced jumper wire from the Inside Wire through a suitable "punch-out" hole of such NID enclosures;

(c) Request BA to make other rearrangements to the Inside Wire terminations or terminal enclosure on a time and materials cost basis to be charged to the requesting party (i.e., TCG, its agent, the building owner or the Customer).

2. If TCG accesses the Customer's Inside Wire as described in Paragraph 1(c) above, the time and materials charges will be billed to the requesting party (i.e., TCG, the building owner or the Customer).

3. In no case shall TCG remove or disconnect BA's loop facilities from BA's NIDs, enclosures, or protectors.

4. In no case shall TCG remove or disconnect ground wires from BA's NIDs, enclosures, or protectors.

5. In no case shall TCG remove or disconnect NID modules, protectors, or terminals from BA's NID enclosures.

6. Maintenance and control of premises wiring (Inside Wire) is the responsibility of the Customer. Any conflicts between service providers for access to the Customer's Inside Wire must be resolved by the Customer.

7. Due to the wide variety of NID enclosures and outside plant environments, BA will work with TCG to develop specific procedures to establish the most effective means of implementing this Schedule 11.3.

SCHEDULE 11.4

UNBUNDLED SWITCHING ELEMENTS

Local Switching

The unbundled local Switching Elements include line side and trunk side facilities (e.g. line and trunk side Ports such as analog and ISDN line side Ports and DS1 trunk side Ports) plus the features, functions, and capabilities of the switch. It consists of the line-side Port (including connection between a loop termination and a switch line card, telephone number assignment, basic intercept, one primary directory listing, presubscription, and access to 911, operator services, and directory assistance), line and line group features (including all vertical features and line blocking options that the switch and its associated deployed switch software is capable of providing and are currently offered to BA's local exchange customers), usage (including the connection of lines to lines, lines to trunks, trunks to lines, and trunks to trunks), and trunk features (including the connection between the trunk termination and a trunk card).

BA shall offer, as an optional chargeable feature, daily usage tapes. TCG may request activation or deactivation of features on a per-port basis at any time, and shall compensate BA for the non-recurring charges associated with processing the order. TCG may submit a Bona Fide Request for other switch features and functions that the switch is capable of providing, but which Bell Atlantic does not currently provide, or for customized routing of operator services and/or directory assistance traffic. BA shall develop and provide these requested services where technically feasible with the agreement of TCG to pay the recurring and non-recurring costs of developing, installing, updating, providing and maintaining these services.

Tandem Switching

The unbundled tandem Switching Element includes trunk-connect facilities, the basic switching function of connecting trunks to trunks, and the functions that are centralized in Tandem Switches. Unbundled tandem switching creates a temporary transmission path between interoffice trunks that are interconnected at a BA Access Tandem for the purpose of routing a call or calls.

SCHEDULE 27.1

PERFORMANCE INTERVAL DATES FOR SPECIFIED ACTIVITIES

SPECIFIED ACTIVITY	PERFORMANCE INTERVAL DATE²
(i) <u>Unbundled Local Loop Installation</u>¹	
1-10 Loops per service order	6 business days from BA's receipt of valid service order
11-20 Loops per service order	10 business days from BA's receipt of valid service order
21 + Loops per service order	To be negotiated on order-by-order basis
(ii) <u>Interim Number Portability Installation</u>	
1-10 Numbers per service order	6 business days from BA's receipt of valid service order
11-20 Numbers per service order	10 days from BA's receipt of valid service order
21 + Numbers per service order	To be negotiated on order-by-order basis
(iii) <u>Out-of-Service Repairs</u>	Less than 24 hours from BA's receipt of notification of out-of-service condition

¹ The Unbundled Loop Installation intervals set forth in this Schedule 27.0 apply only to ULLs offered by BA as of the date of this Agreement. Installation intervals for new ULLs will be developed by the Parties as such ULLs become available.

² Unless otherwise agreed to by the Parties, in which case the Performance Interval Date shall be extended until the agreed-upon date. Notwithstanding the Performance Interval Dates contained in this Schedule 27.1, under no circumstances will BA be obligated to extend installation, provision, or repair intervals to Hyperion that are more favorable than BA extends to its own customers for comparable services.

SCHEDULE 27.2

PERFORMANCE REPORTING

The following additional descriptions shall apply to the Schedules 27.2A to 27.2D that are appended hereto:

Schedule 27.2A (TCG-Specific) will report the statewide performance of BA for the services provided to TCG for the preceding calendar quarter for the measures set forth in the report and defined in Schedule 27.2E. The dates in the cells in Schedule 27.2A are the dates of the beginning of the first calendar quarter for which BA will be able to provide the information in that cell. Where the date is accompanied by the letters "TBD" ("to be determined"), the date in that cell is BA's then-current best estimate and target, but not yet a commitment. BA will make its best efforts to meet the "TBD" dates and will inform TCG of any potential change in those dates if and when that potential appears.

Schedule 27.2B (BA, including BA affiliates) will report statewide, system-wide performance of BA, including for the services provided to affiliate companies of BA, for the preceding calendar quarter for the measures set forth in the report and defined in Schedule 27.2E. The dates in the cells in 27.2B have the same meanings as those described above for Schedule 27.2A.

Schedule 27.2C (Top 3 Carriers) will report the statewide performance of BA for the services provided to the largest three telecommunications carriers interconnecting with or purchasing services from BA pursuant to Sections 251 and 252 of the Act, combined, for the preceding calendar quarter for the measures set forth in the report and defined in Schedule 27.2E. The dates in the cells in Schedule 27.2C have the same meanings as those described above for Schedule 27.2A. In order to preserve the confidentiality of other carriers' information, results for a service (report column) will only be produced on this report if all three carriers purchased the reported service in that calendar quarter.

Schedule 27.2D (10 Largest Retail Customers) will, at such time as BA is able to collect and report such information, and upon agreement regarding compensation for the collection and reporting of such information, if any, report statewide performance of BA for the services provided to its ten largest retail customers for the preceding calendar quarter for the measures set forth in the report and defined in Schedule 27.2E. The cells in Schedule 27.2D are all marked "TBD" ("to be determined") without an accompanying estimated date because BA has not yet determined that the collection and reporting of this information is feasible, and if it is, when such reporting might be available. BA agrees, however, that it will continue its best efforts assessment of the feasibility of collecting and reporting this information and will promptly report to TCG the results of that assessment and the availability of such information at such time as BA develops the capability to collect and report it for BA's own internal use.

TCG MEASUREMENT REPORTS

TCG SPECIFIC

Performance Measurement (a)	Actual BA Service Performance (by Quarter)				
	DSO (b)	DS1 (c)	DS3 (d)	CLEC TRUNKING (e)	POTS (f)
INSTALLATION					
g) Number of Installations	¹ See note below ¹	² See note below	³ See note below	⁴ 4-1-97	⁵ TBD 7-1-97
h) Average Interval in days	⁶ See note below	⁷ See note below	⁸ See note below	⁹ 4-1-97	¹⁰ TBD 7-1-97
i) Percent Install on time	¹¹ See note below	¹² See note below	¹³ See note below	¹⁴ 4-1-97	¹⁵ TBD 7-1-97
SERVICE QUALITY					
j) Number of Reports	¹⁶ See note below	¹⁷ See note below	¹⁸ See note below	¹⁹ 4-1-97	²⁰ See note below
k) Mean Time to Clear Reports	²¹ See note below	²² See note below	²³ See note below	²⁴ 4-1-97	²⁵ See note below
l) Number of Failures	²⁶ See note below	²⁷ See note below	²⁸ See note below	²⁹ 4-1-97	³⁰ See note below
m) Failure Frequency Percent	³¹ See note below	³² See note below	³³ See note below	³⁴ 4-1-97	³⁵ TBD 7-1-97
n) Percent Without Report Outstanding	³⁶ See note below	³⁷ See note below	³⁸ See note below	³⁹ 4-1-97	⁴⁰ TBD 7-1-97

¹ Note: End of first full calendar quarter following initial exchange of traffic between the Parties under this Agreement.

TCG MEASUREMENT REPORTS STATEWIDE, INCLUDING BA AFFILIATES

Performance Measurement (a)	Actual BA Service Performance (by Quarter)				
	DSO (b)	DS1 (c)	DS3 (d)	CLEC TRUNKING (e)	POTS (f)
INSTALLATION					
g) Number of Installations	¹ 1-1-97	² 1-1-97	³ 1-1-97	⁴ 4-1-97	⁵ 1-1-97
h) Average Interval in days	⁶ 1-1-97	⁷ 1-1-97	⁸ 1-1-97	⁹ 4-1-97	¹⁰ 1-1-97
i) Percent Install on time	¹¹ 1-1-97	¹² 1-1-97	¹³ 1-1-97	¹⁴ 4-1-97	¹⁵ 1-1-97
SERVICE QUALITY					
j) Number of Reports	¹⁶ 1-1-97	¹⁷ 1-1-97	¹⁸ 1-1-97	¹⁹ 4-1-97	²⁰ 1-1-97
k) Mean Time to Clear Reports	²¹ 1-1-97	²² 1-1-97	²³ 1-1-97	²⁴ 4-1-97	²⁵ 1-1-97
l) Number of Failures	²⁶ 1-1-97	²⁷ 1-1-97	²⁸ 1-1-97	²⁹ 4-1-97	³⁰ 1-1-97
m) Failure Frequency Percent	³¹ 1-1-97	³² 1-1-97	³³ 1-1-97	³⁴ 4-1-97	³⁵ 1-1-97
n) Percent Without Report Outstanding	³⁶ 1-1-97	³⁷ 1-1-97	³⁸ 1-1-97	³⁹ 4-1-97	⁴⁰ 1-1-97

TCG MEASUREMENT REPORTS TOP 3 CARRIERS

Performance Measurement (a)	Actual BA Service Performance (by Quarter)				
	DSO (b)	DS1 (c)	DS3 (d)	CLEC TRUNKING (e)	POTS (f)
INSTALLATION					
g) Number of Installations	¹ 1-1-97	² 1-1-97	³ 1-1-97	⁴ 4-1-97	⁵ TBD 7-1-97
h) Average Interval in days	⁶ 1-1-97	⁷ 1-1-97	⁸ 1-1-97	⁹ 4-1-97	¹⁰ TBD 7-1-97
i) Percent Install on time	¹¹ 1-1-97	¹² 1-1-97	¹³ 1-1-97	¹⁴ 4-1-97	¹⁵ TBD 7-1-97
SERVICE QUALITY					
j) Number of Reports	¹⁶ 1-1-97	¹⁷ 1-1-97	¹⁸ 1-1-97	¹⁹ 4-1-97	²⁰ 1-1-97
k) Mean Time to Clear Reports	²¹ 1-1-97	²² 1-1-97	²³ 1-1-97	²⁴ 4-1-97	²⁵ 1-1-97
l) Number of Failures	²⁶ 1-1-97	²⁷ 1-1-97	²⁸ 1-1-97	²⁹ 4-1-97	³⁰ 1-1-97
m) Failure Frequency Percent	³¹ 1-1-97	³² 1-1-97	³³ 1-1-97	³⁴ 4-1-97	³⁵ TBD 7-1-97
n) Percent Without Report Outstanding	³⁶ 1-1-97	³⁷ 1-1-97	³⁸ 1-1-97	³⁹ 4-1-97	⁴⁰ TBD 7-1-97

Note: Results produced when a minimum of 3 carriers purchase measured service

TCG MEASUREMENT REPORTS 10 LARGEST RETAIL CUSTOMERS

Performance Measurement (a)	Actual BA Service Performance (by Quarter)				
	DSO (b)	DS1 (c)	DS3 (d)	CLEC TRUNKING (e)	POTS (f)
INSTALLATION					
g) Number of Installations	¹ TBD	² TBD	³ TBD	⁴ TBD	⁵ TBD
h) Average Interval in days	⁶ TBD	⁷ TBD	⁸ TBD	⁹ TBD	¹⁰ TBD
i) Percent Install on time	¹¹ TBD	¹² TBD	¹³ TBD	¹⁴ TBD	¹⁵ TBD
SERVICE QUALITY					
j) Number of Reports	¹⁶ TBD	¹⁷ TBD	¹⁸ TBD	¹⁹ TBD	²⁰ TBD
k) Mean Time to Clear Reports	²¹ TBD	²² TBD	²³ TBD	²⁴ TBD	²⁵ TBD
l) Number of Failures	²⁶ TBD	²⁷ TBD	²⁸ TBD	²⁹ TBD	³⁰ TBD
m) Failure Frequency Percent	³¹ TBD	³² TBD	³³ TBD	³⁴ TBD	³⁵ TBD
n) Percent Without Report Outstanding	³⁶ TBD	³⁷ TBD	³⁸ TBD	³⁹ TBD	⁴⁰ TBD

TCG MEASUREMENT REPORTS

COLUMN & ROW DEFINITIONS

COLUMN HEADINGS

a): Performance Measurements column defines the general description of each measurement.

b, c, & d): DSO, DS1 and DS3 Columns respectively are Private Line Special Access results.

** DS1 and DS3 are discrete measurements, DSO is all other services.

e): CLEC Trunks: This column represents service for CLEC trunks that carry traffic office to office.

f): POTS: This represents all services considered POTS which includes both unbundled elements and resale.

INSTALLATION CATEGORIES

g): Number of Installations: This is the total number of service orders issued/ requested by TCG and completed by BA. Regardless of the number of elements or circuits ordered, each service order counts as 1.

h): Average Interval in days: This is the sum of the receipt date to the service order due date as established on the firm order confirmation (FOC) for each service order where BA established the interval using the normal interval with this sum being divided by the total number of service orders used in the calculation.

TCG will send BA a service order request (PON) and BA will return the final order confirmation (FOC) which stipulates the scheduled completion date. The time from the PON date to the date due established on the FOC represents the average interval per order.

BA flags each order with an appointment flag of either "x" or "w". If the scheduled interval reflected on the order is established by Bell Atlantic using the normal interval process, the order will be flagged with the "x". However, if TCG should request a date that is further out than the normal interval, the order will be flagged with the "w" to indicate that the long interval was offered at the customers request.

For this category measurement, only those orders with the "x" indicator will be counted.

If for some reason the order needs to be redated (longer or shorter), the final FOC date is the date that will be used for measurement purposes.

i): Percent Install on time: This measurement is the total number of installations (both "x" and "w" service orders) that were completed on time (based on the service order established due date) divided by the total number of service orders. This is the percentage of orders completed on time.

SERVICE QUALITY CATEGORIES

j): Number of reports: This is the total number of troubles received from TCG by service category. Each trouble counts as one and in cases where the trouble is redated or subsequent reports are received for escalations or to question status, BA will not count the subsequent reports. From receipt to close, each trouble counts as 1, regardless of the trouble resolution (CPE, NTF or BA Network).

k): Mean Time to Clear Reports: This is the total measurable hours and minutes from all troubles (from the time BA receives a trouble from TCG until the service is restored and closed with TCG) divided by the total number of troubles for the report period.

For DSO, DS1, DS3 and CLEC Trunking, the measurements will be "Stop Clock" measurements where "no access" (customer access delayed) time is removed from the measurement.

For POTS, this will be a running 24 hour clock from trouble receipt to trouble clearance time. The BA clear time is the time service is restored. The BA work process is for the customer (TCG) to be notified as soon as the service is cleared. BA does not use the "close time" because after clearing the trouble, the technician may stay and complete another hour or so of clean up before actually closing the trouble.

l): Number of Failures: The number of failures is the total number of trouble reports (by category) where the trouble was closed out to a code indicating that the fault was a BA service problem.

Removed from the total trouble reports will be all troubles that reflect the cause of the trouble to be other than a Bell Atlantic Network fault. Examples would be troubles caused by Customer Provided Equipment (CPE), errors by the customers/end user in the use of the service or where no trouble was detected (F/OK and T/OK).

m): Failure Frequency Percent: This measurement is the total number of Network Troubles "I", divided by the total number of circuits that TCG has purchased from BA. The result expressed as a percentage.

n): Percent Without Report Outstanding: For this measurement Bell Atlantic is to do the following:

1. Multiply the total number of circuits by the total hours in the report period to establish the total hours of service availability possible for the report period.

2. Add all of the measurable time (hours and minutes) for only the Network Reports to establish the total non service availability hours for the report period.

3. Subtract the "non service availability" hours from the "total service availability" hours and divide the result by the "total service availability" hours and display this as a percentage.

BELL ATLANTIC-VIRGINIA, INC. AND TELEPORT COMMUNICATIONS GROUP

DETAILED SCHEDULE OF ITEMIZED CHARGES¹

A. BA Services, Facilities, and Arrangements:

	<u>BA Service</u>	<u>Non-recurring</u>	<u>Recurring</u>
1.a.	Entrance facilities, and transport, as appropriate, for Interconnection at BA End Office, Tandem Office, Serving Wire Center, or other Point of Interconnection	Per interstate [BA FCC #1 sec. 6.9.1.] and intrastate [BA-VA SCC 217 sec. 6.8.2] access tariffs for Feature Group D service Illustrative: Interstate non-recurring: \$1, plus \$1 switched access connection charge per trunk; DS-1 entrance facility \$210-\$212/mo. Intrastate nonrecurring: \$895 for first DS-1, \$280 for additional, plus \$25 switched access connection charge per trunk; DS-1 entrance facility \$270/mo.	
1.b.	Collocation and related services for Interconnection at BA End Office, Tandem Office, or Serving Wire Center	Per interstate [BA FCC 1 sec. 19], intrastate access tariff, and pending intrastate access tariffs. ²	

¹ Rates listed herein for services, facilities, or arrangements that are marked with an asterisk (*) are fixed pursuant to Section 20 of the Agreement for the initial term of the Agreement, as set forth in Section 22 of the Agreement. Rates for services, facilities, or arrangements that are not marked with an asterisk shall change in accordance with the provisions of Section 20 of the Agreement.

All rates set forth herein, as applied to wholesale discount of retail Telecommunications Services, unbundled Network Elements or call transport and/or termination of Local Traffic purchased for the provision of Telephone Exchange Service or Exchange Access, shall be interim rates. These interim rates shall be replaced on a prospective basis by such permanent rates (applicable to wholesale discount of retail Telecommunications Services, unbundled Network Elements or call transport and/or termination of Local Traffic purchased for the provision of Telephone Exchange Service or Exchange Access) as may be approved by the Commission and, if appealed, as may be ordered at the conclusion of such appeal. At such time as such permanent rates have been approved by the Commission, the Parties shall append to this Exhibit an Exhibit AA, setting forth such rates, which Exhibit AA the Parties shall update periodically as necessary.

² Pending approval of the BA intrastate collocation tariff, all collocation services shall be charged at rates found in BA FCC 1 sec. 19.

	<u>BA Service</u>	<u>Non-recurring</u>	<u>Recurring</u>
1.c.	Tandem transit arrangements (for Interconnection between TCG and carriers other than BA)	Per tariffs cited in sections 1.a. and 1.b. above, as applicable; separate trunks required for IXC subtending trunks	Per interstate [BA FCC 1 sec. 6.9.1.B] and intrastate [BA-VA SCC 217 sec. 6.8.2.B] for tandem switching and tandem switched transport, as applicable Illustrative: Interstate& intrastate tandem switching \$.000999/mou, tandem switched transport \$.000195/mou plus \$.000045/mou/mile
1.d.	911 Interconnection	Per tariffs cited in 1.a., 1.b., and 1.c. above, as applicable, for entrance facility plus applicable transport, or Collocation Arrangement at 911 tandem	

	<u>BA Service</u>	<u>Non-recurring</u>	<u>Recurring</u>
1.e.	Directory assistance transport	<p>Intrastate per BA-VA SCC 217 sec. 9.6.B (transport)</p> <p>Interstate per BA FCC 1 sec. 9.6.B</p>	<p>Intrastate per BA-VA SCC 217 sec. 9.6.B;</p> <p>Illustrative:</p> <p>Per call rate \$.000092 fixed, \$.000021 per mile, \$.000462 tandem switching, \$.003705 interconnection</p> <p>Interstate per BA FCC 1 sec. 9.6.B</p> <p>Illustrative:</p> <p>Per call rate \$.000082 fixed, \$.000019 per mile, \$.000353 tandem switching, \$.002311 interconnection</p>
1.f.	Operator services (call completion) Transport	Per contract attached hereto.	
2.	Unbundled elements	Available as listed herein and in interstate and intrastate tariffs, and pursuant to Section 11. of the Agreement	
3.	Poles, ducts, conduits, ROW	<p>Per contract rates pursuant to 47 U.S.C. sec. 224</p> <p>Illustrative:</p> <p>Duct (Northern Virginia) \$4.50/ft/yr.</p> <p>Pole \$4.46/attachment/yr.</p>	

	<u>BA Service</u>	<u>Non-recurring</u>	<u>Recurring</u>
4.a.	Local loop transmission* Unbundled Local Loop Element Cross Connection to POTS loop Unbundled LocalLoop Element and cross-connect for loops other than POTS	Pre-interim rates ³ will apply until either Commission-approved interim proxy rates or permanent rates are determined. To be determined in accordance with Section 11.1 of the Agreement.	Pre-interim rates ⁴ will apply until either Commission-approved interim proxy rates or permanent rates are determined. To be determined in accordance with Section 11.1 of the Agreement.
4.b.	Special construction charges	As applicable per BA-VA SCC 203 sec. 2	
4.c.1	Service Technician Charges (Maintenance Service Charges) (service technician work on unbundled loops outside of the central office)	As per BA Companies Administrative Guidelines (Detariffed Services) Section 6.D.2 Illustrative: Initial visit charge \$42.00 Work charge (per quarter hour) \$16.00	

³ Pre-interim rates will be based on the following order of precedence: (I) Commission-approved interim proxy rates, (ii) mutual agreement of the Parties, (iii) other BA ILEC-CLEC Interconnection Agreement(s) in the state, (iv) effective or filed tariff(s), or (v) any Commission recommendation.

⁴ Pre-interim rates will be based on the following order of precedence: (I) Commission-approved interim proxy rates, (ii) mutual agreement of the Parties, (iii) other BA ILEC-CLEC Interconnection Agreement(s) in the state, (iv) effective or filed tariff(s), or (v) any Commission recommendation.

	<u>BA Service</u>	<u>Non-recurring</u>	<u>Recurring</u>
4.c.2	Central office technician charges	<p>Per interstate BA FCC 1 sec. 19.7.7 tariff.</p> <p><u>Normal Working Hours:</u></p> <p>First 1/2 hour or fraction thereof \$90.00/technician</p> <p>Each Additional 1/2 hour or fraction thereof \$30.00/technician</p> <p><u>Overtime:</u></p> <p>First 1/2 hour or fraction thereof \$100.00/technician</p> <p>Each Additional 1/2 hour or fraction thereof \$40.00/technician</p> <p><u>Premium Time:</u></p> <p>First 1/2 hour or fraction thereof \$120.00/technician</p> <p>Each Additional 1/2 hour or fraction thereof \$50.00/technician</p>	
5.a.	Trunk Side local transport DS-1 transport	<p>Per interstate [BA FCC 1 sec. 6.9.1.C] and intrastate [BA-VA SCC 217 sec. 6.8.2.C] tariffs</p> <p>Illustrative recurring:</p> <p>Interstate \$60/mo. fixed, \$17.70/mile/mo. Intrastate \$75/mo. fixed, \$30/mile/mo.</p>	
5.b	DS-3 transport	<p>Tariff reference see 5.a. above.</p> <p>Illustrative recurring:</p> <p>Interstate, intrastate \$900/mo. fixed, \$180/mile/mo.</p>	
5.c	Mid-span meet arrangements	<p>To be charged in accordance with the requirements of Section 4.3 of the Agreement</p>	

	<u>BA Service</u>	<u>Non-recurring</u>	<u>Recurring</u>
6.	Local switching* Unbundled Switching Element POTS switch Port	\$6/service order per line to establish or modify service \$6/service order plus \$6/Port	\$0.004/mou of local switch usage \$1.50/mo
7.a.	Operator services 911 service (data entry; database maintenance)*	No charge	
7.b.	Directory assistance	Per separate contract; branding available Directory transport per section 1.e. above	
7.c.	Operator call completion	Per separate contract; branding available	
8.a.	White pages and Yellow Pages (business only) directory listings*	\$5.00 per primary listing per number	No charge
8.b.	Books & delivery (annual home area directories only)*	No charge for normal numbers of books delivered to end users; bulk deliveries to CLEC per separate arrangement	
8.c.	Additional listings, changes to listing, non-listed, non-published, and other extra services	Per tariff [BA-VA SCC 203 sec. 4] Illustrative: Additional listing: \$9 residence; \$17 business Change to listing: \$9 residence; \$17 business Non-list: \$9 residence; \$17 business Non-published: \$9 residence; \$17 business	Per tariff [BA-VA SCC 203 sec. 4] Illustrative: Additional listing: \$1.12/mo. residence, \$1.42/mo. business Non-list: \$1.06/mo. residence or business Non-published: \$1.71/mo. residence or business

	<u>BA Service</u>	<u>Non-recurring</u>	<u>Recurring</u>
9.	Access to telephone numbers (NXX codes issued per ICCF Code Administration Guidelines)*	No charge	
10.a	SS7 Interconnection	Per interstate [BA FCC 1 sec. 6.9.1.G] and intrastate [BA-VA SCC 217 sec. 6.8.2.C] tariff	Per interstate [BA FCC 1 sec. 6.9.1.L] and intrastate [BA-VA SCC 217 sec. 6.8.2.G] tariff Illustrative: STP ports, \$900/mo.; STP access, \$3.50/mile/mo. to \$5.72/mile/mo.
10.b	LIDB Interconnection	Per tariff [BA FCC 1 sec. 6.9.1M] Illustrative: Originating point code, \$125	Per tariff [BA FCC 1 sec. 6.9.1M] Illustrative: Query validation \$.04/query Query transport \$.0002/query

	<u>BA Service</u>	<u>Non-recurring</u>	<u>Recurring</u>
10.c	800/888 data base Interconnection	No separate charge (included in FGD trunk and STP links)	Per interstate [BA FCC 1 sec. 6.9.1.N], and intrastate [BA-VA SCC 217 sec. 6.8.2.K] tariffs Illustrative: Interstate basic query, \$.003105/query; vertical feature package, \$.000337/query Intrastate basic query, \$.003089/query; vertical feature package, \$.000327/query
11.a	Interim number portability through co-carrier call forwarding*	Pre-interim rates ⁵ will apply until either Commission-approved interim proxy rates or TELRIC-based permanent rates are determined. To be determined in accordance with Section 11.1 of the Agreement.	Pre-interim rates ⁶ will apply until either Commission-approved interim proxy rates or TELRIC-based permanent rates are determined. To be determined in accordance with Section 11.1 of the Agreement.
11.b	Access pass-through to number portability purchaser*		In accordance with Section 14.5 of Agreement
12.	Local dialing parity*	No charge	
13.a	Reciprocal call termination		

5 Pre-interim rates will be based on the following order of precedence: (i) Commission-approved interim proxy rates, (ii) mutual agreement of the Parties, (iii) other BA ILEC-CLEC Interconnection Agreement(s) in the state, (iv) effective or filed tariff(s), or (v) any Commission recommendation.

6 Pre-interim rates will be based on the following order of precedence: (i) Commission-approved interim proxy rates, (ii) mutual agreement of the Parties, (iii) other BA ILEC-CLEC Interconnection Agreement(s) in the state, (iv) effective or filed tariff(s), or (v) any Commission recommendation.

	<u>BA Service</u>	<u>Non-recurring</u>	<u>Recurring</u>
	Local Traffic delivered to Bell Atlantic Interconnection Point*		\$.003/mou End Office Termination \$.005/mou Tandem Termination or LSWC Termination ⁷
13.b	Access charges for termination of intrastate and interstate Toll Traffic		Per interstate and intrastate access tariffs (charged in conjunction with Local Traffic, using PLU and PIU, as appropriate)
14.a	Wholesale rates for resale of telecommunications services provided to end users* ⁸	<u>Percentage discount from retail tariff</u> ⁹	
14.b	Resale of retail telecommunications services if TCG provides its own operator services. *	21.3% discount or discount rate as established by further Commission Order.	

⁷ If either Party does not offer the option to terminate traffic at LSWCs, the other Party is not required to offer that option.

In the event a Party desires to deliver Local Traffic to a LSWC (i) that is not located within 25 miles of the Tandem Office to which it is subtended, or (ii) where the Tandem Office that it subtends is not located within 25 miles of the Tandem Office that is subtended by the terminating End Office, or (iii) that is not located within 25 miles of the Tandem Office that is subtended by the terminating End Office, then such Party shall (x) in addition to paying the LSWC/Access Tandem termination rate described above, purchase the necessary facilities from the terminating Party to transport such Traffic to an Access Tandem that is not subject to any of conditions (i), (ii), or (iii) above, (y) purchase such other service(s) as the terminating Party may offer under applicable tariff to remedy such condition(s), or (z) enter into a new compensation arrangement as the Parties may agree. Notwithstanding the foregoing, nothing in this Agreement shall obligate BA to provide switching services at a LSWC when it functions as such.

In the event the two-tiered rate structure described above is modified pursuant to Applicable Law to a single rate structure, BA and TCG (to the extent TCG is offering a multiple-tiered interconnection structure) shall each have the right to apply applicable access transport charges for transporting Local Traffic it receives at its LSWC to the first point of switching in its network in the LATA.

⁸ Excludes telecommunications services designed primarily for wholesale, such as switched and special access, and, subject to Section 12 of the Agreement, the following additional arrangements that are not subject to resale: limited duration (90 days or less) promotional offerings, public coin telephone service, and technical and market trials. Taxes shall be collected and remitted by the reseller and BA in accordance with legal requirements and as agreed between the Parties. Surcharges (e.g., 911, telecommunications relay service, universal service fund) shall be collected by the reseller and either remitted to the recipient agency or NECA, or passed through to BA for remittance to the recipient agency or NECA, as appropriate and agreed between the Parties. End user common line charges shall be collected by the reseller and remitted to BA.

⁹ Pending establishment of mechanized billing procedures adapted to resale, the Parties will agree upon a composite “bottom-of-the-bill” discount that reflects the discounts and exclusions identified herein, and such other adjustments as the Parties agree.

	<u>BA Service</u>	<u>Non-recurring</u>	<u>Recurring</u>
14.c	Resale of retail telecommunications services if TCG uses BA operator services.*	18.5% discount or discount rate as established by further Commission Order.	

B. TCG Services, Facilities, and Arrangements:

	<u>TCG Service</u>	<u>Non-recurring</u>	<u>Recurring</u>
1.a.	Interim Number Portability through co-carrier call forwarding* Number portability*	Pre-interim rates ¹⁰ will apply until either Commission-approved interim proxy rates or TELRIC-based permanent rates are determined. To be determined in accordance with Section 11.1 of the Agreement.	Pre-interim rates ¹¹ will apply until either Commission-approved interim proxy rates or TELRIC-based permanent rates are determined. To be determined in accordance with Section 11.1 of the Agreement.
1.b	Access pass-through to number portability purchaser*		In accordance with sec. 14.5 of Agreement
2.	Local dialing parity*	No charge	
3.a	Reciprocal call termination Local Traffic delivered to TCG Interconnection Point *		\$.003/mou End Office Termination (or functional equivalent) \$.005/mou Tandem Termination (or functional equivalent) or LSWC Termination (or functional equivalent) ¹²
3.b	Access charges for termination of intrastate and interstate Toll Traffic		Per TCG interstate and intrastate access rates (charged in conjunction with Local Traffic, using PLU and PIU, as appropriate)

¹⁰ Pre-interim rates will be based on the following order of precedence: (i) Commission-approved interim proxy rates, (ii) mutual agreement of the Parties, (iii) other BA ILEC-CLEC Interconnection Agreement(s) in the state, (iv) effective or filed tariff(s), or (v) any Commission recommendation.

¹¹ Pre-interim rates will be based on the following order of precedence: (i) Commission-approved interim proxy rates, (ii) mutual agreement of the Parties, (iii) other BA ILEC-CLEC Interconnection Agreement(s) in the state, (iv) effective or filed tariff(s), or (v) any Commission recommendation.

¹² See note 7 above.

	<u>TCG Service</u>	<u>Non-recurring</u>	<u>Recurring</u>
4.	All other TCG services available to BA for purposes of effectuating local exchange competition	Available at TCG tariffed or otherwise generally available rates, not to exceed BA rates for equivalent services available to TCG	
5.	Other Services Information Service billing fee	No Charge	\$.03 per call

EXHIBIT B**NETWORK ELEMENT BONA FIDE REQUEST**

1. Each Party shall promptly consider and analyze access to a new unbundled Network Element with the submission of a Network Element Bona Fide Request hereunder. The Network Element Bona Fide Request process set forth herein does not apply to those services requested pursuant to Report & Order and Notice of Proposed Rulemaking 91-141 (rel. October 19, 1992), Paragraph 259 and Footnote 603 or subsequent orders.

2. A Network Element Bona Fide Request shall be submitted in writing and shall include a technical description of each requested Network Element, the telecommunications service(s) to be provided by the requesting Party using the requested Network Element(s), the means of Interconnection, the number or volume requested, the locations, and the date(s) such Network Elements are desired. The requesting Party shall either make a binding commitment to order the Network Elements requested in the quantity and within the time frame requested or to pay the requested Party the costs of processing the Requests.

3. The requesting Party may cancel a Network Element Bona Fide Request at any time, but shall pay the other Party's reasonable and demonstrable costs of processing and/or implementing the Network Element Bona Fide Request up to the date of cancellation.

4. Within ten (10) business days of its receipt, the receiving Party shall acknowledge receipt of the Network Element Bona Fide Request.

5. Except under extraordinary circumstances, within thirty (30) days of its receipt of a Network Element Bona Fide Request, the receiving Party shall provide to the requesting Party a preliminary analysis of such Network Element Bona Fide Request. The preliminary analysis shall confirm that the receiving Party will offer access to the Network Element or will provide a detailed explanation that access to the Network Element is not technically feasible and/or that the request does not qualify as a Network Element that is required to be provided under the Act.

6. If the receiving Party determines that the Network Element Bona Fide Request is technically feasible and otherwise qualifies under the Act, it shall promptly proceed with developing the requested Network Element upon receipt of written authorization from the requesting Party. When it receives such authorization, the receiving Party shall promptly develop the requested services, determine their availability, calculate the applicable prices and establish installation intervals.

7. Unless the Parties otherwise agree, the requested Network Element must be priced in accordance with Section 252(d)(1) of the Act.

8. As soon as feasible, but not more than ninety (90) days after its receipt of authorization to proceed with developing the requested Network Element, the receiving Party shall provide to the requesting Party a Network Element Bona Fide Request quote which will include, at a minimum, a description of each Network Element, the availability, the applicable rates and the installation intervals.

9. Within thirty (30) days of its receipt of the Network Element Bona Fide Request quote, the requesting Party must either confirm its order for the requested Network Element pursuant to the Network Element Bona Fide Request quote or seek arbitration by the Commission pursuant to Section 252 of the Act.

10. If a Party to a Network Element Bona Fide Request believes that the other Party is not requesting, negotiating or processing the Network Element Bona Fide Request in good faith, or disputes a determination, or price or cost quote, or is failing to act in accordance with section 251 of the Act, such Party may seek mediation or arbitration by the Commission pursuant to Section 252 of the Act.

EXHIBIT C

DIRECTORY ASSISTANCE AND CALL COMPLETION SERVICES AGREEMENT

THIS AGREEMENT is made, effective this _____ day of _____, 1996, by and between **Bell Atlantic Network Services, Inc.** (hereinafter referred to as "Bell Atlantic"), a Delaware corporation with offices at 13100 Columbia Pike, Silver Spring, MD 20904, and _____, (hereinafter referred to as "Carrier"), a _____ corporation with offices at _____.

1. SCOPE AND TERM OF AGREEMENT

1.1 Scope This Agreement sets forth the terms and conditions which shall govern the use of and payment for Directory Assistance (DA) Service and IntraLATA Call Completion Service (hereinafter collectively referred to as "Services") to be provided by Bell Atlantic, or its affiliated companies, to Carrier. Carrier shall subscribe to and pay for Services for Carrier's local exchange customers in the _____ LATAs.

1.2 Term The initial term of this Agreement shall commence as of 12:01 a.m. on the date first written above and shall expire upon the conclusion of the subscription period selected by Carrier in Appendix A. At the end of this initial term, this Agreement, including Carrier's subscription to Services, shall automatically renew for the same length of time as the initial subscription period unless either party provides written notice to the other of its intent to terminate at least three (3) months prior to the expiration of the current term.

2. DESCRIPTION OF SERVICES

2.1 **Directory Assistance (DA) Service**

a. Directory Assistance Service shall consist of 1) directory transport by Bell Atlantic from the point of Bell Atlantic's interconnection with Carrier's trunks to Bell Atlantic's designated DA locations, and 2) the provision of telephone number listings by Bell Atlantic Carrier Call Representatives (CCRs) in response to calls from Carrier's local exchange customers located in the LATAs designated in Section 1.1, at the rates specified in Appendix A.

b. A maximum of two requests for telephone numbers will be accepted per DA call. A "DA call" as used in this Agreement shall mean a call answered by or forwarded to Bell Atlantic, regardless of whether a telephone number is requested, provided or available. The listings that will be available to Carrier's customers are those telephone numbers that are listed in Bell Atlantic's DA records for the LATAs or NPAs designated in Section 1.1.

2.2 **Connect ReQuestsm Service**

a) Connect ReQuestsm Service is an optional DA call completion service. It provides Directory Assistance end users the option of placing a call to a requested DA listing without having to hang up and redial. If a caller requests two numbers on a DA call, only the second number will be completed using Connect ReQuestsm.

b) Connect ReQuestsm requires that the Carrier meet switching, facility, and other technical standards as required by Bell Atlantic to provide this Service. Bell Atlantic will deliver all Connect ReQuestsm calls back to the Carrier for completion.

2.3 IntraLATA Call Completion Service

a) IntraLATA Call Completion Service consists of the live and automated call completion services specified in Appendix B, including the completion of collect, card and bill-to-third party calls; busy line verification; customer requested interrupt; and other assistance to callers. IntraLATA Call Completion Service includes the support of the Bell Atlantic carrier call centers and call completion facilities used to provide such services to Carrier.

b) Bell Atlantic will provide Carrier with unrated records for the call completion services provided by Bell Atlantic on behalf of Carrier. The rating, billing, and settlement of end-user charges for the calls are the responsibility of Carrier.

2.4 Branding Branding is a service option that permits the Carrier to deliver a customized front end announcement to its callers, identifying the Carrier as the customer service provider. Branding is available for DA as well as Call Completion Services. Carrier shall provide the information required by Bell Atlantic to create this announcement. Branding also requires that the Carrier maintain dedicated trunking arrangements to the designated Bell Atlantic DA or operator switch location.

2.5 Carrier Subscription Selection Form The specific Services to which Carrier shall subscribe and the applicable service subscription periods are contained in Appendix A ("Carrier Subscription Selection Form").

3. COMMENCEMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF SERVICE

3.1 Technical Questionnaire Each party shall make good-faith efforts to carry out its respective responsibilities in meeting a jointly established schedule for implementation. All records and other required information specified in Appendix C will be furnished by Carrier at least sixty (60) days prior to the commencement of Services (i.e., the cutover date described in Section 3.2.) Notices of any changes, additions, or deletions to such records and information shall be provided promptly in writing by Carrier to Bell Atlantic.

3.2 Cutover The cutover date for a selected Services shall be the date on which such Service shall be available to all of Carrier's local exchange customers in the LATAs designated in Section 1.1. The subscription term set forth in Appendix A for such Services shall commence on the cutover date.

3.3 Service Review Meetings Bell Atlantic will meet and confer with Carrier during the term of this Agreement to review and discuss the Services provided under this Agreement. The times for meetings will be established by mutual agreement of the parties.

4. EQUIPMENT AND FACILITIES

4.1 Bell Atlantic will establish and maintain such access equipment and related facilities for its Carrier Call Centers as may be necessary to perform the Services specified in Appendix A, provided that Carrier furnishes Bell Atlantic the information specified in Appendix C and any changes in such information in a timely and accurate manner. Any additional Services that Carrier seeks during the term of this Agreement will be subject to mutual agreement and the availability of facilities and equipment.

4.2 Carrier will provide and maintain such equipment within its premises as is necessary to permit the Bell Atlantic to perform the agreed upon Services in accordance with Bell Atlantic standard equipment operation and traffic operation procedures.

4.3 Carrier Transport and Switched Access Connection

a) Carrier shall, at its expense, arrange for and establish the trunking and other transport, interface, and signaling arrangements required for Bell Atlantic to provide Services to Carrier. Separate dedicated trunks for each NPA or LATA may be required. Any trunks or other transport and access that Carrier obtains from Bell Atlantic to deliver Carrier's calls to Bell Atlantic shall be provided pursuant to the applicable tariffs, and not under this Agreement. Bell Atlantic agrees to coordinate the scheduling of Services to be provided under this Agreement with the scheduling of any trunking or related services provisioned by Bell Atlantic under the tariffs.

b) Carrier shall specify the number of trunks required for Services. For Directory Assistance Service, Carrier must provide Feature Group D (FGD) trunks directly to the location designated by Bell Atlantic. For IntraLATA Call Completion Service, Carrier must provide trunks with operator services signaling directly to the location designated by Bell Atlantic. Bell Atlantic shall provide Carrier at least three (3) months advance notice in the event of any change in designated locations.

5. PAYMENT FOR SERVICES

5.1 Rates Carrier agrees to pay for Services at the rates contained in Appendix A.

5.2 Settlements Carrier shall render payment to Bell Atlantic net thirty (30) calendar days from the date of delivery of the Service or from the date of billing for the Service, whichever occurs later. Carrier shall pay interest on any amount overdue at the rate of fifteen (15) percent per annum.

5.3 Taxes The rates specified in this Agreement and Appendices are exclusive of all taxes, duties or similar charges imposed by law. Carrier shall be liable for and shall reimburse Bell Atlantic for any sales, use, excise or other taxes applicable to the services performed under this Agreement.

5.4 Liquidated Damages In the event that Carrier discontinues using Bell Atlantic's Services in whole or in part, or terminates this agreement prior to the expiration of the subscription term, the parties agree that Bell Atlantic will incur expenses and damages that will be difficult to calculate. Therefore, the parties agree that in the event of such discontinuance or termination, Carrier shall pay an amount equal to the charges billed for the month in which the highest usage of Services occurred, multiplied by the number of months remaining in the then-current term, or b) the sum of \$100,000, whichever is greater. If Carrier causes this Agreement to terminate before the commencement of any Service selected in Appendix A, Carrier shall pay for all costs already incurred by Bell Atlantic in establishing and preparing for the commencement of such Service or the sum of \$100,000, whichever is greater.

5.5 Carrier's Customers Carrier shall be responsible for all contacts and arrangements with its customers concerning the provision and maintenance, and the billing and collection, of charges for Services furnished to Carrier's customers.

6. LIMITATION OF LIABILITY

6.1 Direct Damages In the event that Bell Atlantic, through negligence or willful misconduct, fails to provide the Services selected and contracted for under this Agreement, Bell Atlantic shall be liable to Carrier for Carrier's direct damages resulting from such failure, up to an amount not to exceed the payment of charges under this Agreement for the Services affected.

6.2 Other Remedies The extent of Bell Atlantic's liability arising under this Agreement shall be limited as described in paragraph 6.1 above. In no event shall Bell Atlantic be liable for any other loss, cost, claim, injury, liability, or expense related to or arising out of this Agreement or the Services provided hereunder including, but not limited to, any incidental, special, indirect, or consequential damages, including but not limited to loss of revenue or profit, whether recovery is sought in tort, contract, or otherwise, even if Bell Atlantic had notice of such damages.

7. DEFAULTS AND TERMINATION

7.1 Defaults or Violations If Carrier defaults in the payment of any amount due hereunder, or if Bell Atlantic fails to provide Services as agreed hereunder, and such default or failure shall continue for thirty (30) days after written notice thereof, the other company may terminate this agreement with seven (7) days written notice.

8. CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

8.1 Confidentiality The parties agree that all confidential and proprietary information that is marked as specified in Section 8.2 and that is disclosed by either party to the other party for the purposes of this Agreement, including rates and terms, shall be treated as confidential unless a) such information was previously or becomes known to the receiving party free of any obligation to keep it confidential, b) has been or is subsequently made public by the disclosing party, or c) is required to be disclosed by law. The receiving party shall not, except in the performance of the Services under this Agreement or with the express prior written consent of the other party, disclose or permit access to any confidential information to any other parties. The parties agree to advise their respective employees, agents and representatives to take such action as may be advisable to preserve and protect the confidentiality of such information.

8.2 Marking of Confidential Information All information the disclosing party considers proprietary or confidential, if in writing or other tangible form, shall be conspicuously labeled or marked as “Proprietary” or “Confidential” and, if oral, shall be identified as proprietary at the time of disclosure and promptly confirmed in writing. Either party shall have the right to correct any inadvertent failure to designate information as proprietary by written notification within ten (10) days following disclosure.

9. RELATIONSHIP OF THE PARTIES

9.1 Independent Contractors Bell Atlantic and Carrier shall be independent contractors under this Agreement and all services under this Agreement shall be performed by Bell Atlantic as an independent contractor and not as an agent of Carrier.

9.2 Responsibility for Employees and Agents All persons furnished by Bell Atlantic shall be considered solely Bell Atlantic’s employees or agents, and Bell Atlantic shall be responsible for compliance with all laws, rules, and regulations relating to such persons including, but not limited to, hours of labor, working conditions, workers’ compensation, payment of wages, benefits, unemployment, social security and other payroll taxes. Each party’s employees and agents, while on premises of the other, shall comply with all rules and regulations, including any applicable security procedures and safeguarding of confidential data.

10. GENERAL CONDITIONS

10.1 Assignment Neither party may assign or delegate its rights and obligations under this Agreement without the prior written consent of the other party except that Bell Atlantic may assign this Agreement to an affiliate or subsidiary without such consent.

10.2 Choice of Law The validity, construction and performance of this Agreement shall be governed by the laws of _____.

10.3 Compliance with Laws Each party shall comply with all applicable federal, state, county and local laws, ordinances, regulation, rules and codes in the performance of this Agreement. Neither party shall be liable to the other for termination of this Agreement or any services to be provided hereunder necessitated by compliance with any law, rule, regulation or court order of a duly authorized governmental body.

10.4 Contingency Neither party shall be held responsible or liable to the other for any delay or failure in performance caused by fires, strikes, embargoes, requirements imposed by Government regulation, civil or military authorities, act of God or by the public enemy, or other causes beyond the control of Carrier or Bell Atlantic. If such a contingency occurs, the party injured by the other's inability to perform may: a) terminate the affected services or part thereof not already rendered; or b) suspend the affected services or part thereof for the duration of the delaying cause and resume performance once the delaying causes cease.

10.5 Licenses No licenses, expressed or implied, under any patents, copyrights, trademarks or other intellectual property rights are granted by Bell Atlantic to Carrier under this Agreement.

10.6 Notices Except as otherwise specified in this Agreement, any notice required or permitted under this Agreement shall be in writing and shall be given to the other party at the address designated below by hand delivery, registered return-receipt requested mail, confirmed facsimile, or nationally recognized courier service:

For Bell Atlantic: Bell Atlantic Network Services, Inc.
13100 Columbia Pike, D39
Silver Spring, MD 20904
Attn: _____, Product Manager

For Carrier:

The above addresses may be changed by giving thirty (30) calendar days prior written notice as prescribed above. Notice shall be deemed to have been given or made on the date of delivery if received by hand, facsimile or express courier, and three days after delivery to the U.S. Postal Service, if mailed.

10.7 Publicity Bell Atlantic and Carrier agree to submit to each other prior to publication all advertising, sales promotions, press releases and other publicity matters containing or mentioning a) the services performed by Bell Atlantic under this Agreement, b) either party's name or marks, or c) language from which either party's names or marks may be inferred or implied. Bell Atlantic and Carrier further agree not to publish or use any such advertising, sales promotion, press releases, or publicity matters unless it obtains the other party's prior written consent.

10.8 Severability If any provision of this Agreement or the application of any provision shall be held by a tribunal of competent jurisdiction to be contrary to law or unenforceable, the remaining provisions of this Agreement shall continue in full force and effect.

10.9 Survival All obligations hereunder, incurred by either Bell Atlantic or Carrier prior to the cancellation, termination or expiration of this Agreement shall survive such cancellation, termination or expiration.

10.10 Captions and Section Headings The captions and section headings in this Agreement are for convenience only and do not affect the meaning or interpretation of this Agreement.

10.11 Duplicate originals This Agreement may be executed separately by the parties in one or more counterparts. Each duplicate executed shall be deemed an original, and all together shall constitute one and the same document.

10.12 Nondisclosure of Agreement Each party agrees not to disclose the terms and conditions of this Agreement to any third party, except that it shall not be deemed a breach of this provision for the parties to disclose the terms and conditions of this Agreement to their respective subsidiaries and affiliated companies or to any duly constituted governmental body which requires disclosure.

10.13 Entire Agreement The terms and conditions of this Agreement, including Appendices A, B, and C attached to this Agreement, constitute the entire Agreement between Bell Atlantic and Carrier relating to the subject matter of this Agreement, and supersede any and all prior or contemporaneous understandings, promises or representations, whether written or oral, between the parties relating to the subject matter of this Agreement. Any waiver, modification or amendment of any provision of this Agreement, or of any right or remedy hereunder, shall not be effective unless made in writing and signed by both parties.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties agree that the effective date of this Agreement is the date first written above, and each party warrants that it has caused this Agreement to be signed and delivered by its duly authorized representative.

**BELL ATLANTIC
NETWORK SERVICES, INC.**

Name: _____

Name: _____

Title: _____

Title: _____

Signature: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Date: _____

INTRALATA TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

This Agreement is entered into as of December __, 1996, by and between Bell Atlantic - _____, Inc., a _____ corporation, with principal offices located at _____ (“BA-__”), and _____, a _____ corporation, with principal offices located at _____ (“Carrier”).

SECTION I

SCOPE

This Agreement sets forth the terms and conditions for the following:

(a) administering and processing messages in the intraLATA Toll Originating Responsibility Plan (“ITORP”); and

(b) the settlement of compensation for the following telecommunications traffic within a BA-__ LATA:

(1) intrastate and interstate intraLATA traffic terminated to Carrier and originated by an Independent Telephone Company or wireless carriers that transits the facilities of BA-__ within a BA-__ LATA, including Message Telecommunications Service and Local Exchange Service (the “ITORP Transit Service Traffic”);

(2) intrastate and interstate intraLATA Message Telecommunications Service and Local Exchange Service traffic which originates from a Certified Local Exchange Carrier or Carrier, transits BA-PA’s network and terminates to Carrier, or a wireless carrier or an Exchange Carrier other than BA-__, which traffic is subject to a Meet-Point Billing arrangement (the “Meet-Point Transit Service Traffic”);

(3) intraLATA 800/888 Service Traffic; and

(4) intraLATA Alternately Billed Calls billed to a line-based telephone number within the state where the call is originated.

By way of clarification, this Agreement does not cover the following: (x) traffic that does not use BA-__ facilities; (y) interLATA traffic; and (z) any statewide services (whether interLATA or intraLATA) provided entirely by an Interexchange Carrier such as statewide WATS.

SECTION II

DEFINITIONS

For purposes of this Agreement, the terms set forth below shall have the following meaning:

A. 800/888 Number Database shall mean the call management service database that provides POTS telephone number translation or routing information or both for a given 800/888 telephone number.

EXHIBIT D

- B. 800/888 Service Traffic means a toll free call originating with the Originating Company and billed to the Terminating Company's end user. 800/888 service MOUs are recorded by the Originating Company and provided to the Terminating Company so that it can bill its end user(s).
- C. Access Tandem shall mean a switching entity that is used to connect and switch trunk circuits between and among End Offices and between and among End Office switches and carriers' aggregation points, points of termination, or points of presence, which entity has billing and recording capabilities that are used to provide switched Exchange Access services.
- D. Alternately Billed Calls shall mean all intraLATA land-line Collect Calls, Calling Card Calls and Third-Number Calls that originate and terminate in the _____ of _____ and are billed to a line-based number within the jurisdiction of the _____ of _____ serviced by the Billing Company. Alternately Billed Calls are identified in ITORP reports as "Received Collect/Sent Collect Calls".
- E. Basic 800/888 Number Query shall mean routing information obtained from an 800/888 Number Database for originating 800/888 calls.
- F. Billing Company shall mean the Local Exchange Carrier that provides the local telephone exchange service for the number to which an Alternately Billed Call is to be billed.
- G. Calling Card Call shall mean a call billed to a pre-assigned end user line-based billing number, including calls dialed or serviced by an operator system.
- H. Carrier Common Line Facilities means the facilities from the end user's premises to the End Office used to originate or terminate Transit Service Traffic and 800/888 Service Traffic. Such carrier common line facilities are as specified in each party's Exchange Access Tariff.
- I. Category 01 shall mean the EMR/billing record for usage charges applicable to the terminating 800/888 number service subscriber.
- J. Category 08 shall mean the EMR/copy record containing the information necessary for Carrier to bill/settle intraLATA terminating charges with other carriers.
- K. Category 11 shall mean the EMR/access record containing information necessary for Carrier to bill/settle interexchange access charges.
- L. CCS/SS7 shall mean the Common Channel Signaling/Signaling System 7, which refers to the packet-switched communication, out-of-band signaling architecture that allows signaling and voice to be carried on separate facilities, and thus is a signaling network that is common to many voice channels. There are two modes of operation defined for CCS/SS7: database query mode, and trunk signaling mode.
- M. Centralized Message Distribution System (CMDS) shall mean the message processing system which handles the distribution of Message Records from the Earning Company to the Billing Company.
- N. Certified Local Exchange Carrier (CLEC) means a carrier certified by the _____ to provide Local Exchange Access services within the BA-__ operating territory in that state.
- O. Collect Call shall mean a non-sent paid call that is billed to the number receiving the call, including calls dialed or serviced by an operator system.

EXHIBIT D

- P. Discounted Toll Services means services in which the originating end user is charged a rate less than would normally be assessed for calls placed to similar points outside the end user's local calling area.
- Q. Earning Company shall mean the Local Exchange Carrier that provides local telephone exchange service for the number from which an Alternately Billed Call originates.
- R. End Office means the end office switching and end user line termination facilities used to originate or terminate switched intraLATA telecommunications services traffic.
- S. Exchange means a geographic area established for the furnishing of local telephone service under a local tariff. It usually embraces a city, town or village and its environs. It consists of one or more wire centers together with the associated facilities used in furnishing communications service within the area.
- T. Exchange Access means the facilities and services used for the purpose of originating or terminating interexchange telecommunications in accordance with the schedule of charges, regulations and conditions specified in lawfully established Exchange Access Tariffs.
- U. Exchange Access Tariffs means the tariffs lawfully established with the Federal Communications Commission or the _____ by an Exchange Carrier for the provision of Exchange Access facilities and services.
- V. Exchange Carrier shall mean a carrier licensed to provide telecommunications services between points located in the same Exchange area.
- W. Exchange Message Record (EMR) shall mean the standard used for exchange of telecommunications message information among Local Exchange Carriers for billable, non-billable, sample, settlement and study data. EMR format is described in BR-010-200-010 CRIS Exchange Message Record, a Bell Communications Research, Inc. document that defines industry standards for Exchange Message Records, which is hereby incorporated by reference.
- X. ITORP Transit Service Traffic shall have the meaning set forth in Section I above titled "Scope".
- Y. Independent Telephone Company shall mean any entity other than BA-__ which, with respect to its operations within the _____ of _____, is an incumbent Local Exchange Carrier.
- Z. Inter-Company Net Billing Statement shall mean the separate monthly financial reports issued by BA-__ under ITORP to the Exchange Carriers for settlement of amounts owed.
- AA. IntraLATA Toll Originating Responsibility Plan (ITORP) shall mean the information system owned and administered by BA-__ for calculating charges between BA-__ and Local Exchange Carriers for termination of intraLATA calls.
- BB. Interexchange Carrier (IXC) means a carrier that provides, directly or indirectly, interLATA or intraLATA telephone toll services.
- CC. Local Access and Transport Area (LATA) means a contiguous geographic area: (1) established before the date of enactment of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 by BA-__ such that no Exchange area includes points within more than one metropolitan statistical area, consolidated

EXHIBIT D

metropolitan statistical area, or state, except as expressly permitted under the AT&T Consent Decree; or (2) established or modified by BA-__ after such date of enactment and approved by the Federal Communications Commission.

DD. Local Exchange Carrier (LEC) means any person that is engaged in the provision of Local Exchange Service or Exchange Access. Such term does not include a person insofar as such person is engaged in the provision of a commercial mobile service under Section 332 (c) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, except to the extent that the Federal Communications Commission finds that such service should be included in the definition of such term.

EE. Local Exchange Service means telecommunications services provided between points located in the same LATA.

FF. Meet -Point Billing (MPB) means an arrangement whereby two or more LECs jointly provide to a third party the transport element of a switched access Local Exchange Service to one of the LECs' End Office switches, with each LEC receiving an appropriate share of the transport element revenues as defined by their effective Exchange Access tariffs.

GG. Meet-Point Transit Service Traffic shall have the meaning set forth in Section 1, "Scope".

HH. Message Records shall mean the message billing record in Exchange Message Record format.

II. Message Telecommunications Service (MTS) means message toll telephone communications, including Discounted Toll Services, between end users in different Exchange areas, but within the same LATA, provided in accordance with the schedules of charges, regulations and conditions specified in lawfully applicable tariffs.

JJ. Minutes of Use (MOU) means the elapsed time in minutes used in the recording of Transit Service Traffic and 800/888 Service Traffic.

KK. Multiple Bill/Single Tariff means the MPB method whereby each LEC prepares and renders its own Meet Point Bill in accordance with its own tariff(s) for the portion of the jointly-provided Exchange Access service which the LEC provides.

LL. Multiple Exchange Carrier Access Billing (MECAB) means the document prepared by the Billing Committee of the Ordering and Billing Forum, which functions under the auspices of the Carrier Liaison Committee of the Alliance for Telecommunications Industry Solutions, and published by Bellcore as Special Report SR-BDS-000983, which document contains the recommended guidelines for the billing of an Exchange Access service provided by two or more LECs, or by one LEC in two or more states, within a single LATA, and is incorporated herein by reference.

MM. Originating Company means the company which originates intraLATA MTS or Local Exchange Service on its system. (For compensation purposes, the Originating Company shall be considered the Terminating Company for 800/888 Service Traffic.)

NN. Terminating Company means the company which terminates intraLATA MTS or Local Exchange Service on its system where the charges for such services are collected by the Originating (or Billing) Company. (For compensation purposes, the Terminating Company shall be considered the Originating Company for 800/888 Service Traffic.)

EXHIBIT D

OO. Third-Number Call shall mean a call billed to a subscriber's line-based billing number which is not the number to which the call either terminates or originates.

PP. Transit Traffic shall refer to both ITORP Transit Service Traffic and Meet-Point Transit Service Traffic.

QQ. Transiting Company shall mean a Local Exchange Carrier which transports intraLATA telecommunications traffic on its system between an Originating Company and a Terminating Company.

RR. Transport Facilities means the facilities from the End Office to a tandem switching facility used to originate or terminate switched intraLATA telecommunication services traffic.

SECTION III

SETTLEMENT OF TRANSIT SERVICES

(a) ITORP Transit Service Traffic.

(1) Call Routing and Recording; Billing Percentages. BA-__ will route ITORP Transit Service Traffic over the combined local and toll trunk groups between BA-__ and Carrier. BA-__ and Carrier agree to designate the points of interconnection for the purpose of terminating ITORP Transit Service Traffic which originates from an Independent Telephone Company or wireless carrier and terminates to Carrier. Both parties further agree to develop and file mutually agreed to billing percentages applicable to ITORP Transit Service Traffic in the National Exchange Carrier Association F.C.C. Tariff No. 4, which billing percentages shall be calculated in accordance with ITORP guidelines.

(2) Exchange of Billing Data. The Originating Company will provide to BA-__ all billing data relating to ITORP Transit Service Traffic for processing in ITORP within fourteen (14) days from the date the usage occurs (to the extent usage occurs on any given day) for traffic originating from an Independent Telephone Company or wireless carrier, which traffic transits BA-PA's facilities and terminates to Carrier.

(3) Billing. BA-__ will, on behalf of Carrier, bill Exchange Carriers for intraLATA ITORP Transit Service Traffic, and collect compensation due Carrier based on Carrier's established and legally-approved tariffed or negotiated rates utilizing ITORP. The charges set forth in Attachment A, attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference, shall apply to the billing and collection services provided by BA-__ to Carrier hereunder. Carrier will record the ITORP Transit Service Traffic usage at its switch, and shall bill BA-__ for this traffic in accordance with the rates set forth in the Interconnection Agreement under Section 251 and 252 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, dated as of September __, 1996, by and between BA-__ and Carrier.

(b) Meet-Point Transit Service Traffic.

(1) Call Routing and Recording; Billing Percentages. BA-__ and Carrier will route their respective Meet-Point Transit Service Traffic over the combined local and toll trunk groups between them. BA-__ and Carrier agree to designate the points of interconnection for the purpose of terminating Meet-Point Transit Service Traffic which originates from a CLEC and terminates to Carrier, or originates from Carrier and terminates to a CLEC, Independent Telephone Company, or a wireless carrier. Both parties further agree to develop and file mutually agreed to billing percentages applicable to Meet-Point Transit Service Traffic in the National Exchange Carrier Association F.C.C. Tariff No. 4, which billing percentages shall be calculated in accordance with MECAB guidelines.

EXHIBIT D

(i) End Offices Subtending BA-__ Access Tandem. Meet-Point Transit Service Traffic will be routed over the local and toll interconnection facilities used to terminate similar traffic directly between BA-__ and Carrier when the Originating and Terminating Company's End Office switches subtend BA-PA's Access Tandem. BA-__ will record this traffic at the BA-__ Access Tandem, and forward the terminating call records to the Terminating Company for purposes of Meet-Point Billing.

(ii) End Offices That Do Not Subtend a BA-__ Access Tandem. When the Originating and/or the Terminating Company's End Office switches do not subtend BA-PA's Access Tandem, the Meet-Point Transit Service Traffic must be routed over interconnection facilities other than those used to terminate intraLATA MTS or Local Exchange Service to BA-PA's end users. The Terminating Company will record this traffic at its Access Tandem and forward the terminating call records to BA-__ for Meet-Point Billing purposes.

(iii) Special Access. Upon request, any Meet-Point Service Transit Traffic may be routed over special access interconnection facilities between Carrier, on the one hand, and a CLEC, an Independent Telephone Company, or a wireless carrier, on the other.

(2) Exchange of Billing Data. All billing data exchanged hereunder will be exchanged on magnetic tape or via electronic data transfer, to be delivered at the addresses set forth below, using the Electronic Message Record format. BA-__ will provide to Carrier the switched-access detail usage data (category 1101XX records) on magnetic tape within fourteen (14) days from the date the usage occurs (to the extent usage occurs on any given day) for traffic originating from a CLEC, transiting BA-PA's facilities and terminating to Carrier, and Carrier will provide to BA-__ the switched access summary usage data (category 1150XX records) on a magnetic tape on a monthly basis within fourteen (14) days of receipt from BA-__ of the switched access detail usage data referenced above.

(3) Billing. BA-__ and Carrier will submit to CLECs separate bills under their respective tariffs for their portion of jointly-provided Meet-Point Transit Service Traffic. With respect to Meet-Point Transit Service Traffic, BA-__ and Carrier will exchange billing data and render bills under Multiple Bill/Single Tariff arrangements in accordance with the applicable terms and conditions set forth in MECAB.

(4) Addresses. Magnetic tapes to be sent hereunder to Carrier will be sent to the following address (which address Carrier may change upon prior written notice to BA-__):

Magnetic tapes to be sent hereunder to BA-__ will be sent to the following address(es), as appropriate (which address(es) BA-__ may change upon prior written notice to Carrier):

Bell Atlantic
Tape Library
1500 Tech Center Drive
Monroeville, PA 15146

SECTION V

800/888 SERVICE

EXHIBIT D

800/888 Service Traffic will be exchanged among BA-___, Carrier, Independent Telephone Companies, CLECs and wireless carriers via CCS/SS7 trunks, and all will deliver/route these calls as appropriate and provide EMRs to the Terminating Company to enable it to bill its 800/888 service subscriber. These EMRs will, per industry standards, include the following: Category 01 (800/888 number subscriber billing), Category 08 (copy record/local exchange charges), and Category 11 (interexchange carriers access records).

(a) Delivery of Translated 800/888 Number Queries and calls over CCS/SS7 links and trunks. BA-___ and Carrier will launch their own Basic 800/888 Number Query for 800/888 Service Traffic originated in their networks, and route this traffic to each other, as appropriate, utilizing existing local and toll interconnection facilities.

(b) Exchange of Records; Compensation. All 800/888 Service Traffic hereunder shall be subject to the appropriate access charges, as set forth in the applicable tariffs. In addition, for jointly provided intraLATA 800/888 Service Traffic between two Local Exchange Carriers, the Originating Company is responsible for billing its tariffed Basic 800/888 Number Query charge to the Terminating Company. Carrier, when acting as an Originating Company, must submit to BA-___, via magnetic tape(s) in EMR format, (i) the information necessary to bill/settle intraLATA charges (EMR Category 110125), and (ii) the usage charges applicable to the terminating 800/888-number service subscriber (EMR Category 010125). In the event any of these records are lost or destroyed, BA-___ and Carrier will jointly estimate the terminating access charges due to either party hereunder as follows:

- (1) Total the terminating traffic compensation paid with respect to 800/888 Service Traffic to each party hereunder for the most recent six (6) months period preceding the month covered by the lost or destroyed tapes.
- (2) Divide the total determined in (1) preceding, by 180 days.
- (3) Multiply the terminating traffic compensation per day determined in (2) preceding, by the number of days covered by the lost or destroyed tapes. The calculated amount will be included as an adjustment for lost or destroyed tapes in the next Inter-Company Net Billing Statement.

BA-___ shall have no liability whatsoever with respect to any lost, damaged or destroyed records submitted hereunder by Carrier.

(c) Settlement. EMR records submitted by Carrier hereunder acting as an Originating Company, as contemplated in Paragraph (b) above, will be processed in accordance with ITORP. For purposes of calculating the access charges due Local Exchange Carriers with respect to 800/888 Service Traffic, the Originating Company shall be deemed the Terminating Company. Access charges payable hereunder shall be calculated in accordance with Section VII of this Agreement, as applicable.

EXHIBIT D

SECTION VI

ALTERNATELY BILLED CALLS

(a) Responsibilities of the Billing Company. The Billing Company agrees to provide the Earning Company with billing services, as specified below, with respect to Alternately Billed Calls.

(1) Billing. Upon receipt of the appropriate Message Record from CMDS, the Billing Company shall include this record in the bill to be issued to the end user responsible for payment. The Billing Company shall also submit copies of these Message Records to BA-___, at least once a month, in order to determine monthly settlement amounts for both the Billing Company and the Earning Company which will be reflected in the Inter-Company Net Billing Statement. These amounts will reflect any and all applicable charges due the Billing Company for performing billing services hereunder. In addition, as applicable, the Inter-Company Net Billing Statement will reflect any amounts owed by Carrier to BA-___ for administering and processing ITORP.

(2) Payment of Amounts Outstanding. Upon receipt of the Inter-Company Net Billing Statement from BA-___, Carrier shall, within thirty (30) days of invoice, remit to BA-___ full payment of amounts owed under the Inter-Company Net Billing Statement.

(b) Responsibilities of the Earning Company. In connection with Alternately Billed Calls, the Earning Company shall provide Message Records to the Billing Company on a daily basis to the extent that any usage has been recorded. These Message Records will be delivered by the Earning Company to the Billing Company via the CMDS system, unless otherwise agreed to by the parties hereto.

(c) Fees for Settlement of Alternately Billed Calls. The billing services provided by the Billing Company to the Earning Company with respect to Alternately Billed Calls shall be subject to the applicable charges set forth in Attachment A, which charges will be reflected in the Inter-Company Net Billing Statement. These charges may be revised upon mutual written agreement of the parties hereto.

SECTION VII

CALCULATION OF COMPENSATION

BA-___ and Carrier agree to compensate each other with respect to Transit Services Traffic and 800/888 Service Traffic in accordance with the terms established below, and the rate elements set forth in Attachments A and B, attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference.

(a) Compensation due to the Terminating/Transiting Company. Compensation due to the Terminating Company/Transiting Company will be determined separately for each month as follows:

(1) For Carrier Common Line Facilities provided by the Terminating Company, an amount calculated as specified for Carrier Common Line Facilities in the Terminating Company's Exchange Access Tariff. Compensation will be determined by multiplying a) the Terminating Company's Carrier Common Line rate, times b) the MOU.

(2) For End Office facilities provided by the Terminating Company, an amount calculated as specified for End Office facilities in the Terminating Company's Exchange Access Tariff. Compensation will be determined by multiplying a) the Terminating Company's appropriate Exchange Access End Office rate elements, times b) the MOU.

EXHIBIT D

(3) For Transport Facilities, where these facilities are provided by the Terminating Company, or a Transiting and Terminating Company, an amount calculated in accordance with the following steps:

- (i) Determine the Terminating Company's airline miles from the End Office which serves the Terminating Company's end user to either the Terminating Company's Access Tandem switching facility or the interconnection point with the Transiting Company(ies).
- (ii) Determine the Transiting Company's airlines miles from the Transiting Company(ies) Access Tandem switching facility to the interconnection point with the Terminating Company.
- (iii) Determine the sum of the total airline miles by adding (i) and (ii) above.
- (iv) Divide the Terminating Company's airline miles determined in (i) preceding by the total airline miles determined in (iii) preceding, to determine the ratio of local transport miles provided by the Terminating Company.
- (v) Divide the Transiting Company's airline miles determined in (ii) preceding by the total airline miles determined in (iii) preceding, to determine the ratio of local transport miles provided by the Transiting Company.
- (vi) Identify the rates set forth in the Exchange Access Tariff for either the Terminating Company or Transiting Companies, or both, as appropriate, which rates are applicable to Transport Facilities.
- (vii) Multiply the ratio determined in (iv) preceding, times the rate calculated in (vi) preceding, times the MOU, and add the amount set forth in (ix) below to determine the amount due the Terminating Company.
- (viii) Multiply the ratio determined in (v) preceding, times the rate calculated in (vi) preceding, times the MOU, and add the amount set forth in (ix) below to determine the amount due the Transiting Company.
- (ix) To the extent the Exchange Access Tariffs of the Terminating or Transiting Company, or both, provide for the payment of a fixed transport charge to be assessed with respect to a terminating location (End Office or toll switch), multiply this charge times the chargeable MOU.

SECTION VIII

ITORP ADMINISTRATION AND RESPONSIBILITIES

(a) Responsibilities of BA-___, BA-___ shall:

1. Operate and maintain the ITORP system.
2. Provide the requirements and standards for ITORP records and tapes (ITORP User Guide).
3. Inform Carrier of any proposed change in tape creation or distribution process at least sixty (60) days prior to the actual implementation of the change.

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4. Develop and implement all system enhancements required to maintain the integrity of BA-PA's ITORP system.
5. Process ITORP tapes received from Carrier, or its agent, during the next available billing cycle.
6. Review and analyze daily pre-edit reports to determine if a tape is acceptable for ITORP processing; provided, however, that Carrier is not absolved, as the Originating Company, from its responsibility to conform to ITORP input requirements.
7. Communicate with Carrier, or its agent, to resolve the problems with tapes which are identified as being unacceptable for ITORP processing.
8. Create and/or maintain all ITORP tables.
9. Include the monthly compensation due to and from Carrier as identified by ITORP on the Inter-Company Net Billing Statement. The compensation includes 800/888 Service Traffic and Alternately Billed Services traffic.
10. Settle with all local Exchange Carriers, via the Inter-Company Net Billing Statement, for 800/888 Service Traffic and Alternately Billed Services traffic originating from and/or terminating to Carrier.
11. Distribute monthly ITORP reports.

(b) Responsibilities of Carrier. Carrier shall:

1. Compensate BA-__ for the administration and processing of ITORP as specified in Attachment A.
2. Notify BA-__ Exchange Carrier Services staff in writing of any changes in its rates affecting ITORP tables, as specified in Attachment A, thirty (30) days prior to the effective date of any such changes.
3. Notify BA-__ Exchange Carrier Services staff in writing of any network changes, such as changes in traffic routing, sixty (60) days prior to the implementation of the change in the network.
4. Conform to BA-__'s ITORP record requirements and standards.
5. Carrier or its designated agent will forward the Exchange Message Records to BA-__, in a timely manner for processing.
6. Inform the BA-__ Exchange Carrier Services staff in writing of any proposed changes in the Exchange Message Record creation or distribution process at least sixty (60) days prior to the actual implementation of the change.
7. Reimburse BA-__ for compensating other local Exchange Carriers on behalf of Carrier, as reflected in the Inter-Company Net Billing Statement.

(c) Fees. Compensation for the administration and processing of ITORP will be due BA-__ on a monthly basis, based on the number of messages processed in ITORP for Carrier at an average total cost per message. The

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processing and administrative fees applicable on a per message basis are set forth in Attachment A. These fees may be revised by BA-___, at its discretion and upon notice to Carrier, based on annual studies conducted by BA-___, and Carrier hereby agrees to be bound by such revised rates. A minimum monthly fee, as specified in Attachment A, will be assessed when Carrier's monthly ITORP processing charges are below the stated minimum monthly charge.

SECTION IX

LIABILITIES

In the event of an error on the part of BA-___ in calculating or settling any compensation amounts hereunder, Carrier's sole remedy and BA-PA's only obligation shall be to re-calculate the compensation amount, and to the extent any amounts are owed to or owed by Carrier, such amounts will be reflected as an adjustment in the next Inter-Company Net Billing Statement. In addition and to the extent applicable, BA-PA's liability under this Agreement and/or in connection with the settlement, payment and/or calculation of any amounts due hereunder shall be limited as set forth in the applicable tariffs. BA-___ shall have no obligation or liability with respect to any billing, settlement or calculation-of-compensation errors or omissions, including without limitation the duty to re-calculate any compensation amounts reflected in the Inter-Company Net Billing Statement, if such error or omission occurred more than two (2) years prior to the time in which it is brought to BA-PA's attention in writing. Without limiting the foregoing, in no event shall either party hereto be liable for consequential, incidental, special or indirect damages (including without limitation loss of profit or business) hereunder whether such damages are based in tort (including, without limitation, under any theory of negligence), contract breach or otherwise, and even if said party knew or should have known of the possibility thereof.

SECTION X

RELATIONSHIP OF THE PARTIES

Nothing herein contained will be deemed to constitute a partnership or agency relationship between the parties. Each party agrees that it will perform its obligations hereunder as an independent contractor and not as the agent, employee or servant of the other party. Neither party nor any personnel furnished by such party will be deemed employees or agents of the other party or entitled to any benefits available under any plans for such other party's employees. Each party has and hereby retains the right to exercise full control of and supervision over its own performance of the obligations under this Agreement, and retains full control over the employment, direction, compensation and discharge of all employees assisting in the performance of such obligations, including without limitation all matters relating to payment of such employees, including compliance with social security taxes, withholding taxes and all other regulations governing such matters. In addition, each party will be responsible for its own acts and those of its own subordinates, employees, agents and subcontractors during the performance of that party's obligations hereunder.

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SECTION XI

TERM AND TERMINATION

(a) Term - Upon execution by all parties hereto, this Agreement shall become effective as of the date first shown on Page 1 of this Agreement, and shall remain in effect until terminated by either party in accordance with paragraphs (b), (c), (d), or (e) below.

(b) Termination for Breach - Either party may, upon prior written notice to the other party, terminate this Agreement in the event the other party is in default or breach of this Agreement and such breach or default is not corrected within thirty (30) days after the breaching party has been notified of same.

(c) Termination for Convenience - Upon six (6) months written advance notice to the other party, either party may terminate this Agreement.

(d) Acts of Insolvency - Either party may terminate this Agreement or any portion thereof, effective immediately, by written notice to the other party, if said other party (1) applies for or consents to the appointment of or the taking of possession by receiver, custodian, trustee, or liquidator of itself or of all or a substantial part of its property; (2) becomes insolvent; (3) makes a general assignment for the benefit of creditors; (4) suffers or permits the appointment of a receiver for its business or assets; (5) becomes subject to any proceeding under any bankruptcy or insolvency law whether domestic or foreign, voluntarily or otherwise; or (6) fails to contest in a timely or appropriate manner, or acquiesces in writing to, any petition filed against it in an involuntary case under the Federal Bankruptcy Code or any application for the appointment of a receiver, custodian, trustee, or liquidation of itself or of all or a substantial part of its property, or its reorganization, or dissolution.

(e) Termination of Interconnection Agreement. Unless otherwise agreed to by the parties hereto in writing, in the event that the Interconnection Agreement under Sections 251 and 252 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, dated as of December __, 1996, by and between BA-__ and Carrier expires without being renewed, or expires or is terminated and no other interconnection agreement has been entered into by BA-__ and Carrier, then this Agreement shall be deemed terminated effective on the date the aforesaid Interconnection Agreement expires or is terminated.

SECTION XII

NETWORK CONFIGURATION

Each party shall provide six (6) months advance written notice to the other party of any network configuration that may affect any of the services or compensation contemplated under this Agreement, and the parties hereto agree to use reasonable efforts to avoid service interruptions during any such network change.

SECTION XIII

CONSTRUCTION AND EFFECT

All services contemplated under this Agreement are provided in accordance with any and all applicable regulatory requirements and effective tariffs filed with and approved by the appropriate federal and/or state regulatory bodies, as these tariffs and requirements may be modified from time to time. To the extent there is a conflict between the terms of any said tariff or regulatory requirement and this Agreement, the terms of the tariff or the regulatory requirement shall prevail. However, to the extent not in conflict with the provisions of the applicable tariffs or regulatory requirements, this Agreement shall supplement the tariffs or regulatory requirements, and it shall be construed to the fullest extent possible in harmony with such tariffs or regulatory requirements.

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SECTION XIII

MISCELLANEOUS

(a) Headings. Headings used in this Agreement are for reference only, do not constitute part of this Agreement, and shall not be deemed to limit or otherwise affect any of the provisions hereof.

(b) Notices. All notices, requests, demands, or other communications required or permitted hereunder shall be in writing, shall be deemed delivered (1) on the date of delivery when delivered by hand, (2) on the date of transmission when sent by electronic mail or facsimile transmission during normal business hours with telephone confirmation of receipt, (3) one (1) day after dispatch when sent by overnight courier maintaining records of receipt, or (4) three (3) days after dispatch when sent by registered mail, postage prepaid, return-receipt requested, all addressed as follows (or at such other addresses as shall be given in writing by either party to their other):

If to BA-__:	Address:	1320 N. Court House Road, 9 th Floor Arlington, VA 22201
	Attn.:	Manager-Local Interconnection
	Facsimile:	703 974 2188
	Telephone:	704 974 4614

If to Carrier:	Address:	
	Attn:	
	Facsimile:	
	Telephone:	

(c) Successors; Assignment. This Agreement and all of the provisions hereof shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the parties hereto and their respective successors and permitted assigns, and nothing herein shall be construed to create any rights enforceable by any other person or third party. This Agreement may not be assigned by either party (except by BA-__ to an affiliate or successor in interest) without the prior written consent of the other party, which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld.

(d) Waiver. No waiver of any right or term hereof shall be effective unless in a writing executed by the waiving party. No waiver of any right or privilege hereunder shall operate as a waiver of any subsequent or similar right or privilege.

(e) Modifications. This Agreement may be modified or amended only by a written agreement executed by the parties hereto.

(f) Counterparts. This Agreement may be executed in counterparts, all of which shall be considered one and the same agreement and each of which shall be deemed an original.

(g) Severability. If any term, provision, paragraph or clause of this Agreement or any application thereof shall be held invalid or unenforceable in any particular jurisdiction, the remainder of this Agreement and any other application of such term, provision, paragraph or clause shall not be affected thereby in such jurisdiction (where such remainder or application shall be construed as if such invalid or unenforceable term, provision, paragraph or clause has not been inserted), and this Agreement and such application of such term, provision, paragraph or clause shall not be affected in any other jurisdiction.

(h) Contingency. Neither party will be held liable for any delay or failure in performance of this Agreement from any cause beyond its control and without its fault or negligence including but not limited to acts of God, acts of civil or military authority, government regulations, embargoes, epidemics, wars, terrorist acts, riots, insurrections,

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fires, explosions, earthquakes, nuclear accidents, floods, strikes, power blackouts, other major environmental disturbances, unusually severe weather conditions, inability to secure products or services of other persons or transportation facilities, or acts or omissions of transportation common carriers.

(i) Governing Law. Except as otherwise expressly provided herein, this Agreement shall be interpreted, construed and governed by the laws of the State of _____, without regard to conflict of law provisions.

(j) Confidentiality. Unless by mutual agreement, or except to the extent directed by a court of competent jurisdiction, neither party shall disclose this Agreement or the terms hereof to any person other than such party's affiliates or such party's officers, employees and consultants, who are similarly bound hereby. This paragraph shall not prevent the filing of this Agreement with a state or federal commission having jurisdiction over the parties hereto if such filing is required by rule or order of that commission; provided, however, that the parties hereto shall jointly request that the Agreement be treated as confidential by that commission to the extent permitted under the commission's regulations and procedures. Each party hereto must maintain the confidentiality of all message, billing, traffic, and call records, traffic volumes and all other material information and data pertaining to the traffic covered by this Agreement and the carriers and end users associated with such traffic.

(k) Remedies under Law. All remedies available to the parties hereto under the terms of this Agreement shall be in addition to, and not by way of limitation of, any other rights that said parties may have at law or equity, none of which are hereby waived.

(l) Entire Agreement. This Agreement, including all Attachments and Schedules attached hereto, contains the entire agreement, and supersedes and voids any prior understanding, between BA-__ and Carrier regarding the subject matter hereof.

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In witness whereof, the undersigned parties have caused this Agreement to be executed on their behalf this day of _____, 19__.

Witness:

[Carrier]

By:

Witness:

Bell Atlantic - _____, Inc.

By:

EXHIBIT D

ATTACHMENT A

BASIS OF COMPENSATION

CHARGES FOR ADMINISTRATION OF ITORP AND ITORP PROCESSING

A. Bell Atlantic - _____, Inc. charges the following rates for providing ITORP services:

	Rate Per Message/ Month
1. Administrative Charge	\$
2. Processing Charge Elements:	
a. Terminating Traffic	\$
b. Minute/Message	\$
c. 800/888 Message	\$
d. Net Compensation	\$
e. Collected Revenue Processing Charge	\$
3. Minimum Monthly Fee	\$
4. Alternately Billed Calls	\$

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ATTACHMENT B

I.

Message Telecommunications Service - Terminating to Carrier

<u>Rate Element</u>	<u>Billing Company</u>
Carrier Common Line	Carrier
End Office	Carrier
Transport	based on negotiated billing percentages (BIPs)

II.

800/888 - Terminating to or originating from Carrier Customers

<u>Rate Element</u>	<u>Billing Company</u>
Carrier Common Line	Originating Company
End Office	Originating Company
Transport	based on negotiated billing percentages (BIPs)
Query	Originating Company

III.

Local Exchange - Terminating to Carrier

<u>Rate Element</u>	<u>Billing Company</u>
Local E.O. Termination Charge	Carrier
Transport	based on negotiated billing percentages (BIPs)

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ATTACHMENT A

BASIS OF COMPENSATION

CHARGES FOR ADMINISTRATION OF ITORP AND ITORP PROCESSING

A. Bell Atlantic - Virginia, Inc. charges the following rates for providing ITORP services:

	Rate per Chargeable Message
1. Administrative Charge (Inter/Intrastate)	\$0.00122
2. Processing Charge Elements:	
a. Terminating Traffic (per message)	\$0.00080
b. Minute/Message (per minute)	\$0.00001
c. 800/888 Message (per message)	\$0.00105
d. Net Compensation (per message)	\$0.00001
e. Collected Revenue (per message)	\$0.00026
3. Billing Charge for Alternately	
Billed Calls (per message)	\$0.05