

AGREEMENT

Effective as of March 2, 2001

by and between

ALYCIA MASSEY D/B/A BEST COMMUNICATIONS

and

VERIZON SOUTH INC., F/K/A GTE SOUTH INCORPORATED

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF

KENTUCKY

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AGREEMENT

PREFACE

This Agreement ("Agreement") is effective as of March 2, 2001 (the "Effective Date"), between Alycia Massey d/b/a Best Communications ("Best"), a Proprietorship organized under the laws of the State of Oklahoma, with offices at 44 North Louisville Avenue, Tulsa, Oklahoma 74115 and Verizon South Inc., f/k/a GTE South Incorporated ("Verizon"), a corporation organized under the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia with offices at 4100 Roxboro Road, Durham, North Carolina 27704-2166.

In consideration of the mutual promises contained in this Agreement, and intending to be legally bound, Verizon and Best hereby agree as follows:

1. The Agreement

- 1.1 This Agreement includes: (a) the Principal Document; (b) the Tariffs of each Party applicable to the Services that are offered for sale by it in the Principal Document (which Tariffs are incorporated and made a part hereof this Agreement by reference); and, (c) an Order by a Party that has been accepted by the other Party.
- 1.2 Conflicts among provisions in the Principal Document, Tariffs, and an Order by a Party which has been accepted by the other Party, shall be resolved in accordance with the following order of precedence, where the document identified in subsection "(a)" shall have the highest precedence: (a) the Principal Document; (b) the Tariffs; and, (c) an Order by a Party that has been accepted by the other Party. The fact that a provision appears in the Principal Document but not in a Tariff, or in a Tariff but not in the Principal Document, shall not be interpreted as, or deemed grounds for finding, a conflict for the purposes of this Section 1.2.
- 1.3 This Agreement constitutes the entire agreement between the Parties on the subject matter hereof, and supersedes any prior or contemporaneous agreement, understanding, or representation, on the subject matter hereof. Except as otherwise provisioned in the Principal Document, the Principal Document may not be waived or modified except by a written document that is signed by the Parties. Subject to the requirements of Applicable Law, a Party shall have the right to add, modify, or withdraw, its Tariff(s) at any time, without the consent of, or notice to, the other Party.

2. Term and Termination

- 2.1 This Agreement shall be effective as of the Effective Date and, unless cancelled or terminated earlier in accordance with the terms hereof, shall continue in effect until March 1, 2003 (the "Initial Term"). Thereafter, this Agreement shall continue in force and effect unless and until cancelled or terminated as provided in this Agreement.
- 2.2 Either Best or Verizon may terminate this Agreement effective upon the expiration of the Initial Term or effective upon any date after expiration of the Initial Term by providing written notice of termination at least ninety (90) days in advance of the date of termination.
- 2.3 If either Best or Verizon provides notice of termination pursuant to Section 2.2 and on or before the proposed date of termination either Best or Verizon has

requested negotiation of a new interconnection agreement, unless this Agreement is cancelled or terminated earlier in accordance with the terms hereof (including, but not limited to, pursuant to Section 12), this Agreement shall remain in effect until the earlier of: (a) the effective date of a new interconnection agreement between Best and Verizon; or, (b) the date one (1) year after the proposed date of termination.

- 2.4 If either Best or Verizon provides notice of termination pursuant to Section 2.2 and by 11:59 PM Eastern Time on the proposed date of termination neither Best nor Verizon has requested negotiation of a new interconnection agreement, (a) this Agreement will terminate at 11:59 PM Eastern Time on the proposed date of termination, and (b) the Services being provided under this Agreement at the time of termination will be terminated, except to the extent that the Purchasing Party has requested that such Services continue to be provided pursuant to an applicable Tariff or SGAT.

3. Glossary and Attachments

The Glossary and the following Attachments are a part of this Agreement:

Additional Services Attachment
Interconnection Attachment
Resale Attachment
UNE Attachment
Collocation Attachment
911 Attachment
Pricing Attachment

4. Applicable Law

- 4.1 The construction, interpretation and performance of this Agreement shall be governed by (a) the laws of the United States of America and (b) the laws of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, without regard to its conflicts of laws rules. All disputes relating to this Agreement shall be resolved through the application of such laws.
- 4.2 Each Party shall remain in compliance with Applicable Law in the course of performing this Agreement.
- 4.3 Neither Party shall be liable for any delay or failure in performance by it that results from requirements of Applicable Law, or acts or failures to act of any governmental entity or official.
- 4.4 Each Party shall promptly notify the other Party in writing of any governmental action that limits, suspends, cancels, withdraws, or otherwise materially affects, the notifying Party's ability to perform its obligations under this Agreement.
- 4.5 If any provision of this Agreement shall be invalid or unenforceable under Applicable Law, such invalidity or unenforceability shall not invalidate or render unenforceable any other provision of this Agreement, and this Agreement shall be construed as if it did not contain such invalid or unenforceable provision; provided, that if the invalid or unenforceable provision is a material provision of this Agreement, or the invalidity or unenforceability materially affects the rights or

obligations of a Party hereunder or the ability of a Party to perform any material provision of this Agreement, the Parties shall promptly renegotiate in good faith and amend in writing this Agreement in order to make such mutually acceptable revisions to this Agreement as may be required in order to conform the Agreement to Applicable Law.

- 4.6 If any legislative, regulatory, judicial or other governmental decision, order, determination or action, or any change in Applicable Law, materially affects any material provision of this Agreement, the rights or obligations of a Party hereunder, or the ability of a Party to perform any material provision of this Agreement, the Parties shall promptly renegotiate in good faith and amend in writing this Agreement in order to make such mutually acceptable revisions to this Agreement as may be required in order to conform the Agreement to Applicable Law.
- 4.7 Notwithstanding anything in this Agreement to the contrary, if, as a result of any legislative, judicial, regulatory or other governmental decision, order, determination or action, or any change in Applicable Law, Verizon is not required by Applicable Law to provide any Service, payment or benefit, otherwise required to be provided to Best hereunder, then Verizon may discontinue the provision of any such Service, payment or benefit, and Best shall reimburse Verizon for any payment previously made by Verizon to Best that was not required by Applicable Law. Verizon will provide thirty (30) days prior written notice to Best of any such discontinuance of a Service, unless a different notice period or different conditions are specified in this Agreement (including, but not limited to, in an applicable Tariff) or Applicable Law for termination of such Service in which event such specified period and/or conditions shall apply.

5. Assignment

Neither Party may assign this Agreement or any right or interest under this Agreement, nor delegate any obligation under this Agreement, without the prior written consent of the other Party, which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld, conditioned or delayed. Any attempted assignment or delegation in violation of this Section 5 shall be void and ineffective and constitute default of this Agreement.

6. Assurance of Payment

- 6.1 Upon request by Verizon, Best shall provide to Verizon adequate assurance of payment of amounts due (or to become due) to Verizon hereunder.
- 6.2 Assurance of payment of charges may be requested by Verizon if Best (a) in Verizon's reasonable judgment, at the Effective Date or at any time thereafter, does not have established credit with Verizon, (b) in Verizon's reasonable judgment, at the Effective Date or at any time thereafter, is unable to demonstrate that it is creditworthy, (c) fails to timely pay a bill rendered to Best by Verizon, or (d) admits its inability to pay its debts as such debts become due, has commenced a voluntary case (or has had a case commenced against it) under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code or any other law relating to bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization, winding-up, composition or adjustment of debts or the like, has made an assignment for the benefit of creditors or is subject to a receivership or similar proceeding.
- 6.3 Unless otherwise agreed by the Parties, the assurance of payment shall, at Verizon's option, consist of (a) a cash security deposit in U.S. dollars held by Verizon or (b) an unconditional, irrevocable standby letter of credit naming

Verizon as the beneficiary thereof and otherwise in form and substance satisfactory to Verizon from a financial institution acceptable to Verizon. The cash security deposit or letter of credit shall be in an amount equal to two (2) months anticipated charges (including, but not limited to, both recurring and non-recurring charges), as reasonably determined by Verizon, for the Services to be provided by Verizon to Best in connection with this Agreement.

- 6.4 To the extent that Verizon elects to require a cash deposit, the Parties intend that the provision of such deposit shall constitute the grant of a security interest in the deposit pursuant to Article 9 of the Uniform Commercial Code as in effect in any relevant jurisdiction.
- 6.5 If payment of interest on a cash deposit is required by an applicable Verizon Tariff or by Applicable Law, interest will be paid on any such cash deposit held by Verizon at the higher of the interest rate stated in such Tariff or the interest rate required by Applicable Law.
- 6.6 Verizon may (but is not obligated to) draw on the letter of credit or cash deposit, as applicable, upon notice to Best in respect of any amounts to be paid by Best hereunder that are not paid within thirty (30) days of the date that payment of such amounts is required by this Agreement.
- 6.7 If Verizon draws on the letter of credit or cash deposit, upon request by Verizon, Best shall provide a replacement or supplemental letter of credit or cash deposit conforming to the requirements of Section 6.2.
- 6.8 Notwithstanding anything else set forth in this Agreement, if Verizon makes a request for assurance of payment in accordance with the terms of this Section, then Verizon shall have no obligation thereafter to perform under this Agreement until such time as Best has provided Verizon with such assurance of payment.
- 6.9 The fact that a deposit or a letter of credit is requested by Verizon hereunder shall in no way relieve Best from compliance with the requirements of this Agreement (including, but not limited to, any applicable Tariffs) as to advance payments and payment for Services, nor constitute a waiver or modification of the terms herein pertaining to the discontinuance of Services for nonpayment of any amounts payment of which is required by this Agreement.

7. Audits

- 7.1 Except as may be otherwise specifically provided in this Agreement, either Party ("Auditing Party") may audit the other Party's ("Audited Party") books, records, documents, facilities and systems for the purpose of evaluating the accuracy of the Audited Party's bills. Such audits may be performed once in each Calendar Year; provided, however, that audits may be conducted more frequently (but no more frequently than once in each Calendar Quarter) if the immediately preceding audit found previously uncorrected net inaccuracies in billing in favor of the Audited Party having an aggregate value of at least \$1,000,000.
- 7.2 The audit shall be performed by independent certified public accountants selected and paid by the Auditing Party. The accountants shall be reasonably acceptable to the Audited Party. Prior to commencing the audit, the accountants shall execute an agreement with the Audited Party in a form reasonably acceptable to the Audited Party that protects the confidentiality of the information disclosed by the Audited Party to the accountants. The audit shall take place at

a time and place agreed upon by the Parties; provided, that the Auditing Party may require that the audit commence no later than sixty (60) days after the Auditing Party has given notice of the audit to the Audited Party.

- 7.3 Each Party shall cooperate fully in any such audit, providing reasonable access to any and all employees, books, records, documents, facilities and systems, reasonably necessary to assess the accuracy of the Audited Party's bills.
- 7.4 Audits shall be performed at the Auditing Party's expense, provided that there shall be no charge for reasonable access to the Audited Party's employees, books, records, documents, facilities and systems necessary to assess the accuracy of the Audited Party's bills.

8. Authorization

- 8.1 Verizon represents and warrants that it 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 its obligations under this Agreement.
- 8.2 Best represents and warrants that it is a Proprietorship duly organized, validly existing and in good standing under the laws of the State of Oklahoma, and has full power and authority to execute and deliver this Agreement and to perform its obligations under this Agreement.
- 8.3 Best Certification

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement, Verizon shall have no obligation to perform under this Agreement until such time as Best has obtained such FCC and Commission authorization as may be required by Applicable Law for conducting business in Kentucky. Best shall not place any orders under this Agreement until it has obtained such authorization. Best shall provide proof of such authorization to Verizon upon request.

9. Billing and Payment; Disputed Amounts

- 9.1 Except as otherwise provided in this Agreement, each Party shall submit to the other Party on a monthly basis in an itemized form, statement(s) of charges incurred by the other Party under this Agreement.
- 9.2 Except as otherwise provided in this Agreement, payment of amounts billed for Services provided under this Agreement, whether billed on a monthly basis or as otherwise provided in this Agreement, shall be due, in immediately available U.S. funds, on the later of the following dates (the "Due Date"): (a) the due date specified on the billing Party's statement; or, (b) twenty (20) days after the date the statement is received by the billed Party. Payments shall be transmitted by electronic funds transfer.
- 9.3 If any portion of an amount billed by a Party under this Agreement is subject to a good faith dispute between the Parties, the billed Party shall give notice to the billing Party of the amounts it disputes ("Disputed Amounts") and include in such notice the specific details and reasons for disputing each item. A Party may also dispute prospectively with a single notice a class of charges that it disputes. Notice of a dispute may be given by a Party at any time, either before or after an amount is paid, and a Party's payment of an amount shall not constitute a waiver

of such Party's right to subsequently dispute its obligation to pay such amount or to seek a refund of any amount paid. The billed Party shall pay by the Due Date all undisputed amounts. Billing disputes shall be subject to the terms of Section 14, Dispute Resolution.

- 9.4 Charges due to the billing Party that are not paid by the Due Date, shall be subject to a late payment charge. The late payment charge shall be in an amount specified by the billing Party which shall not exceed a rate of one-and-one-half percent (1.5%) of the overdue amount (including any unpaid previously billed late payment charges) per month.
- 9.5 Although it is the intent of both Parties to submit timely statements of charges, failure by either Party to present statements to the other Party in a timely manner shall not constitute a breach or default, or a waiver of the right to payment of the incurred charges, by the billing Party under this Agreement, and, except for assertion of a provision of Applicable Law that limits the period in which a suit or other proceeding can be brought before a court or other governmental entity of appropriate jurisdiction to collect amounts due, the billed Party shall not be entitled to dispute the billing Party's statement(s) based on the billing Party's failure to submit them in a timely fashion.

10. Confidentiality

- 10.1 As used in this Section 10, "Confidential Information" means the following information that is disclosed by one Party ("Disclosing Party") to the other Party ("Receiving Party") in connection with, or anticipation of, this Agreement:
- 10.1.1 Books, records, documents and other information disclosed in an audit pursuant to Section 7;
- 10.1.2 Any forecasting information provided pursuant to this Agreement.
- 10.1.3 Customer Information (except to the extent that (a) the Customer information is published in a directory, (b) the Customer information is disclosed through or in the course of furnishing a Telecommunications Service, such as a Directory Assistance Service, Operator Service, Caller ID or similar service, or LIDB service, or, (c) the Customer to whom the Customer Information is related has authorized the Receiving Party to use and/or disclose the Customer Information);
- 10.1.3.1 information related to specific facilities or equipment (including, but not limited to, cable and pair information);
- 10.1.3.2 any information that is in written, graphic, electromagnetic, or other tangible form, and marked at the time of disclosure as "Confidential" or "Proprietary;" and
- 10.1.3.3 any information that is communicated orally or visually and declared to the Receiving Party at the time of disclosure, and by written notice with a statement of the information given to the Receiving Party within ten (10) days after disclosure, to be "Confidential or "Proprietary".

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement, a Party shall have the right to refuse to accept receipt of information which the other Party has identified

as Confidential Information pursuant to Sections 10.1.3.1 or 10.1.3.2.

- 10.2 Except as otherwise provided in this Agreement, the Receiving Party shall:
- 10.2.1 use the Confidential Information received from the Disclosing Party only in performance of this Agreement; and,
 - 10.2.2 using the same degree of care that it uses with similar confidential information of its own (but in no case a degree of care that is less than commercially reasonable), hold Confidential Information received from the Disclosing Party in confidence and restrict disclosure of the Confidential Information solely to those of the Receiving Party's Affiliates and the directors, officers, employees, Agents and contractors of the Receiving Party and the Receiving Party's Affiliates, that have a need to receive such Confidential Information in order to perform the Receiving Party's obligations under this Agreement. The Receiving Party's Affiliates and the directors, officers, employees, Agents and contractors of the Receiving Party and the Receiving Party's Affiliates, shall be required by the Receiving Party to comply with the provisions of this Section 10 in the same manner as the Receiving Party. The Receiving Party shall be liable for any failure of the Receiving Party's Affiliates or the directors, officers, employees, Agents or contractors of the Receiving Party or the Receiving Party's Affiliates, to comply with the provisions of this Section 10.
- 10.3 The Receiving Party shall return or destroy all Confidential Information received from the Disclosing Party, including any copies made by the Receiving Party, within thirty (30) days after a written request by the Disclosing Party is delivered to the Receiving Party, except for (a) Confidential Information that the Receiving Party reasonably requires to perform its obligations under this Agreement, and (b) one copy for archival purposes only.
- 10.4 Unless otherwise agreed, the obligations of Sections 10.2 and 10.3 do not apply to information that:
- 10.4.1 was, at the time of receipt, already in the possession of or known to the Receiving Party free of any obligation of confidentiality and restriction on use;
 - 10.4.2 is or becomes publicly available or known through no wrongful act of the Receiving Party, the Receiving Party's Affiliates, or the directors, officers, employees, Agents or contractors of the Receiving Party or the Receiving Party's Affiliates;
 - 10.4.3 is rightfully received from a third person having no direct or indirect obligation of confidentiality or restriction on use to the Disclosing Party with respect to such information;
 - 10.4.4 is independently developed by the Receiving Party;
 - 10.4.5 is approved for disclosure or use by written authorization of the Disclosing Party (including, but not limited to, in this Agreement); or
 - 10.4.6 is required to be disclosed by the Receiving Party pursuant to Applicable Law, provided that the Receiving Party shall have made commercially

reasonable efforts to give adequate notice of the requirement to the Disclosing Party in order to enable the Disclosing Party to seek protective arrangements.

- 10.5 Notwithstanding the provisions of Sections 10.1 through 10.4, the Receiving Party may use and disclose Confidential Information received from the Disclosing Party to the extent necessary to enforce the Receiving Party's rights under this Agreement or Applicable Law. In making any such disclosure, the Receiving Party shall make reasonable efforts to preserve the confidentiality and restrict the use of the Confidential Information while it is in the possession of any person to whom it is disclosed, including, but not limited to, by requesting any governmental entity to whom the Confidential Information is disclosed to treat it as confidential and restrict its use to purposes related to the proceeding pending before it.
- 10.6 The Disclosing Party shall retain all of the Disclosing Party's right, title and interest in any Confidential Information disclosed by the Disclosing Party to the Receiving Party. Except as otherwise expressly provided in this Agreement, no license is granted by this Agreement with respect to any Confidential Information (including, but not limited to, under any patent, trademark or copyright), nor is any such license to be implied solely by virtue of the disclosure of Confidential Information.
- 10.7 The provisions of this Section 10 shall be in addition to and not in derogation of any provisions of Applicable Law, including, but not limited to, 47 U.S.C. § 222, and are not intended to constitute a waiver by a Party of any right with regard to the use, or protection of the confidentiality of, CPNI provided by Applicable Law.
- 10.8 Each Party's obligations under this Section 10 shall survive expiration, cancellation or termination of this Agreement.

11. 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.

12. Default

If either Party ("Defaulting Party") fails to make a payment required by this Agreement (including, but not limited to, any payment required by Section 9.3 of undisputed amounts to the billing Party) or materially breaches any other material provision of this Agreement, and such failure or breach continues for thirty (30) days after written notice thereof from the other Party, the other Party may, by written notice to the Defaulting Party, (a) suspend the provision of any or all Services hereunder, or (b) cancel this Agreement and terminate the provision of all Services hereunder.

13. Discontinuance of Service by Best

- 13.1 If Best proposes to discontinue, or actually discontinues, its provision of service to all or substantially all of its Customers, whether voluntarily, as a result of bankruptcy, or for any other reason, Best shall send written notice of such discontinuance to Verizon, the Commission, and each of Best's Customers. Best shall provide such notice such number of days in advance of discontinuance of its service as shall be required by Applicable Law. Unless the period for advance

notice of discontinuance of service required by Applicable Law is more than thirty (30) days, to the extent commercially feasible, Best shall send such notice at least thirty (30) days prior to its discontinuance of service.

- 13.2 Such notice must advise each Best Customer that unless action is taken by the Best Customer to switch to a different carrier prior to Best's proposed discontinuance of service, the Best Customer will be without the service provided by Best to the Best Customer.
- 13.3 Should a Best Customer subsequently become a Verizon Customer, Best shall provide Verizon with all information necessary for Verizon to establish service for the Best Customer, including, but not limited to, the CLEC Customer's billed name, listed name, service address, and billing address, and the services being provided to the Best Customer.
- 13.4 Nothing in this Section 13 shall limit Verizon's right to cancel or terminate this Agreement or suspend provision of Services under this Agreement.

14. Dispute Resolution

- 14.1 Except as otherwise provided in this Agreement, 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. To initiate such negotiation, a Party must provide to the other Party written notice of the dispute that includes both a detailed description of the dispute or alleged nonperformance and the name of an individual who will serve as the initiating Party's representative in the negotiation. The other Party shall have ten business days to designate its own representative in the negotiation. The Parties' representatives shall meet at least once within 45 days after the date of the initiating Party's written notice in an attempt to reach a good faith resolution of the dispute. Upon agreement, the Parties' representatives may utilize other alternative dispute resolution procedures such as private mediation to assist in the negotiations.
- 14.2 If the Parties have been unable to resolve the dispute within 45 days of the date of the initiating Party's written notice, either Party may pursue any remedies available to it under this Agreement, at law, in equity, or otherwise, including, but not limited to, instituting an appropriate proceeding before the Commission, the FCC, or a court of competent jurisdiction.

15. Force Majeure

- 15.1 Neither Party shall be responsible for any delay or failure in performance by it which results from causes beyond its reasonable control ("Force Majeure Events"), whether or not foreseeable by such Party. Such Force Majeure Events include, but are not limited to, adverse weather conditions, flood, fire, explosion, earthquake, volcanic action, power failure, embargo, boycott, war, revolution, civil commotion, act of public enemies, labor unrest (including, but not limited to, strikes, work stoppages, slowdowns, picketing or boycotts), inability to obtain equipment, parts, software or repairs thereof, acts or omissions of the other Party, and acts of God.
- 15.2 If a Force Majeure Event occurs, the non-performing Party shall give prompt notification of its inability to perform to the other Party. During the period that the non-performing Party is unable to perform, the other Party shall also be excused

from performance of its obligations to the extent such obligations are reciprocal to, or depend upon, the performance of the non-performing Party that has been prevented by the Force Majeure Event. The non-performing Party shall use commercially reasonable efforts to avoid or remove the cause(s) of its non-performance and both Parties shall proceed to perform once the cause(s) are removed or cease.

15.3 Notwithstanding the provisions of Sections 15.1 and 15.2, in no case shall a Force Majeure Event excuse either Party from an obligation to pay money as required by this Agreement.

15.4 Nothing in this Agreement shall require the non-performing Party to settle any labor dispute except as the non-performing Party, in its sole discretion, determines appropriate.

16. Forecasts

In addition to any other forecasts required by this Agreement, upon request by Verizon, Best shall provide to Verizon forecasts regarding the Services that Best expects to purchase from Verizon, including, but not limited to, forecasts regarding the types and volumes of Services that Best expects to purchase and the locations where such Services will be purchased.

17. Fraud

Best assumes responsibility for all fraud associated with its Customers and accounts. Verizon shall bear no responsibility for, nor is it required to investigate or make adjustments to Best's account in cases of, fraud by Best's Customers or other third parties.

18. Good Faith Performance

The Parties shall act in good faith in their performance of this Agreement. Except as otherwise expressly stated in this Agreement (including, but not limited to, where consent, approval, agreement or a similar action is stated to be within a Party's sole discretion), where consent, approval, mutual agreement or a similar action is required by any provision of this Agreement, such action shall not be unreasonably withheld, conditioned or delayed.

19. Headings

The headings used in the Principal Document are inserted for convenience of reference only and are not intended to be a part of or to affect the meaning of the Principal Document.

20. Indemnification

20.1 Each Party ("Indemnifying Party") shall indemnify, defend and hold harmless the other Party ("Indemnified Party"), the Indemnified Party's Affiliates, and the directors, officers and employees of the Indemnified Party and the Indemnified Party's Affiliates, from and against any and all Claims that arise out of bodily injury to or death of any person, or damage to, or destruction or loss of, tangible real and/or personal property of any person, to the extent such injury, death, damage, destruction or loss, was proximately caused by the grossly negligent or intentionally wrongful acts or omissions of the Indemnifying Party, the

Indemnifying Party's Affiliates, or the directors, officers, employees, agents or contractors of the Indemnifying Party or the Indemnifying Party's Affiliates, in connection with this Agreement.

20.2 Indemnification Process:

20.2.1 As used in this Section 20, "Indemnified Person" means a person whom an Indemnifying Party is obligated to indemnify, defend and/or hold harmless under Section 20.1.

20.2.2 An Indemnifying Party's obligations under Section 20.1 shall be conditioned upon the following:

20.2.3 The Indemnified Person: (a) shall give the Indemnifying Party notice of the Claim promptly after becoming aware thereof (including a statement of facts known to the Indemnified Person related to the Claim and an estimate of the amount thereof); (b) prior to taking any material action with respect to a Third Party Claim, shall consult with the Indemnifying Party as to the procedure to be followed in defending, settling, or compromising the Claim; (c) shall not consent to any settlement or compromise of a Third Party Claim without the written consent of the Indemnifying Party; (d) shall permit the Indemnifying Party to assume the defense of a Third Party Claim (including, except as provided below, the compromise or settlement thereof) at the Indemnifying Party's own cost and expense, provided, however, that the Indemnified Person shall have the right to approve the Indemnifying Party's choice of legal counsel.

20.2.4 If the Indemnified Person fails to comply with Section 20.2.1 with respect to a Claim, to the extent such failure shall have a material adverse effect upon the Indemnifying Party, the Indemnifying Party shall be relieved of its obligation to indemnify, defend and hold harmless the Indemnified Person with respect to such Claim under this Agreement.

20.2.5 Subject to 20.2.6 and 20.2.7, below, the Indemnifying Party shall have the authority to defend and settle any Third Party Claim.

20.2.6 With respect to any Third Party Claim, the Indemnified Person shall be entitled to participate with the Indemnifying Party in the defense of the Claim if the Claim requests equitable relief or other relief that could affect the rights of the Indemnified Person. In so participating, the Indemnified Person shall be entitled to employ separate counsel for the defense at the Indemnified Person's expense. The Indemnified Person shall also be entitled to participate, at its own expense, in the defense of any Claim, as to any portion of the Claim as to which it is not entitled to be indemnified, defended and held harmless by the Indemnifying Party.

20.2.7 In no event shall the Indemnifying Party settle a Third Party Claim or consent to any judgment with regard to a Third Party Claim without the prior written consent of the Indemnified Party, which shall not be unreasonably withheld, conditioned or delayed. In the event the settlement or judgment requires a contribution from or affects the rights of an Indemnified Person, the Indemnified Person shall have the right to refuse such settlement or judgment with respect to itself and, at its own cost and expense, take over the defense against the Third Party Claim, provided that in such event the Indemnifying Party shall not be responsible for, nor shall it be obligated to indemnify or hold harmless

the Indemnified Person against, the Third Party Claim for any amount in excess of such refused settlement or judgment.

20.2.8 The Indemnified Person shall, in all cases, assert any and all provisions in applicable Tariffs and Customer contracts that limit liability to third persons as a bar to, or limitation on, any recovery by a third-person claimant.

20.2.9 The Indemnifying Party and the Indemnified Person shall offer each other all reasonable cooperation and assistance in the defense of any Third Party Claim.

20.3 Each Party agrees that it will not implead or bring any action against the other Party, the other Party's Affiliates, or any of the directors, officers or employees of the other Party or the other Party's Affiliates, based on any claim by any person for personal injury or death that occurs in the course or scope of employment of such person by the other Party or the other Party's Affiliate and that arises out of performance of this Agreement.

20.4 Each Party's obligations under this Section 20 shall survive expiration, cancellation or termination of this Agreement.

21. Insurance

21.1 Best shall maintain during the term of this Agreement and for a period of two years thereafter all insurance and/or bonds required to satisfy its obligations under this Agreement (including, but not limited to, its obligations set forth in Section 20 hereof) and all insurance and/or bonds required by Applicable Law. The insurance and/or bonds shall be obtained from an insurer having an A.M. Best insurance rating of at least A-, financial size category VII or greater. At a minimum and without limiting the foregoing undertaking, Best shall maintain the following insurance:

21.1.1 Commercial General Liability Insurance, on an occurrence basis, including but not limited to, premises-operations, broad form property damage, products/completed operations, contractual liability, independent contractors, and personal injury, with limits of at least \$2,000,000 combined single limit for each occurrence.

21.1.2 Motor Vehicle Liability, Comprehensive Form, covering all owned, hired and non-owned vehicles, with limits of at least \$2,000,000 combined single limit for each occurrence.

21.1.3 Excess Liability, in the umbrella form, with limits of at least \$10,000,000 combined single limit for each occurrence.

21.1.4 Worker's Compensation Insurance as required by Applicable Law and Employer's Liability Insurance with limits of not less than \$2,000,000 per occurrence.

21.1.5 All risk property insurance on a full replacement cost basis for all of Best's real and personal property located at any Collocation site or otherwise located on or in any Verizon premises (whether owned, leased or otherwise occupied by Verizon), facility, equipment or right-of-way.

- 21.2 Any deductibles, self-insured retentions or loss limits (“Retentions”) for the foregoing insurance must be disclosed on the certificates of insurance to be provided to Verizon pursuant to Sections 21.4 and 21.5, and Verizon reserves the right to reject any such Retentions in its reasonable discretion. All Retentions shall be the responsibility of Best.
- 21.3 Best shall name Verizon, Verizon’s Affiliates and the directors, officers and employees of Verizon and Verizon’s Affiliates, as additional insureds on the foregoing insurance.
- 21.4 Best shall, within two (2) weeks of the Effective Date hereof, on a semi-annual basis thereafter, and at such other times as Verizon may reasonably specify, furnish certificates or other proof of the foregoing insurance reasonably acceptable to Verizon. The certificates or other proof of the foregoing insurance shall be sent to: Director –Interconnection Services, Verizon Wholesale Markets, 1095 Avenue of the Americas, Room 1423, New York, NY 10036.
- 21.5 Best shall require its contractors, if any, that may enter upon the premises or access the facilities or equipment of Verizon or Verizon’s affiliated companies to maintain insurance in accordance with Sections 21.1 through 21.3 and, if requested, to furnish Verizon certificates or other adequate proof of such insurance acceptable to Verizon in accordance with Section 21.4.
- 21.6 If Best or Best’s contractors fail to maintain insurance as required in Sections 21.1 through 21.5, above, Verizon may purchase such insurance and Best shall reimburse Verizon for the cost of the insurance.
- 21.7 Certificates furnished by Best or Best’s contractors shall contain a clause stating: “Verizon South Inc., f/k/a GTE South Incorporated shall be notified in writing at least thirty (30) days prior to cancellation of, or any material change in, the insurance.”

22. Intellectual Property

- 22.1 Except as expressly stated in this Agreement, this Agreement shall not be construed as granting a license with respect to any patent, copyright, trade name, trademark, service mark, trade secret or any other intellectual property, now or hereafter owned, controlled or licensable by either Party. Except as expressly stated in this Agreement, 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.
- 22.2 Except as stated in Section 22.4, 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 Affiliates or Customers based on or arising from any Third Party Claim alleging or asserting that the provision or use of any service, facility, arrangement, or software by either Party under this Agreement, or the performance of any service or method, either alone or in combination with the other Party, constitutes direct, vicarious or contributory infringement or inducement to infringe, or misuse or misappropriation of any patent, copyright, trademark, trade secret, or any other proprietary or intellectual property right of any Party or third person. Each Party, however, shall offer to the other reasonable cooperation and assistance in the defense of any such claim.

- 22.3 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 EACH PARTY OF THE OTHER'S SERVICES PROVIDED UNDER THIS AGREEMENT SHALL NOT GIVE RISE TO A CLAIM OF INFRINGEMENT, MISUSE, OR MISAPPROPRIATION OF ANY INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHT.
- 22.4 Best agrees that the Services provided by Verizon hereunder shall be subject to the terms, conditions and restrictions contained in any applicable agreements (including, but not limited to software or other intellectual property license agreements) between Verizon and Verizon's vendors. Verizon agrees to advise Best, directly or through a third party, of any such terms, conditions or restrictions that may limit any Best use of a Service provided by Verizon that is otherwise permitted by this Agreement. At Best's written request, to the extent required by Applicable Law, Verizon will use Verizon's best efforts, as commercially practicable, to obtain intellectual property rights from Verizon's vendor to allow Best to use the Service in the same manner as Verizon that are coextensive with Verizon's intellectual property rights, on terms and conditions that are equal in quality to the terms and conditions under which Verizon has obtained Verizon's intellectual property rights. Best shall reimburse Verizon for the cost of obtaining such rights.

23. Joint Work Product

The Principal Document is the joint work product of the Parties, has been negotiated by the Parties, and shall be fairly interpreted in accordance with its terms. In the event of any ambiguities, no inferences shall be drawn against either Party.

24. Law Enforcement.

- 24.1 Each Party may cooperate with law enforcement authorities and national security authorities to the full extent required or permitted by Applicable Law in matters related to Services provided by it under this Agreement, including, but not limited to, the production of records, the establishment of new lines or the installation of new services on an existing line in order to support law enforcement and/or national security operations, and, the installation of wiretaps, trap-and-trace facilities and equipment, and dialed number recording facilities and equipment.
- 24.2 A Party shall not have the obligation to inform the other Party or the Customers of the other Party of actions taken in cooperating with law enforcement or national security authorities, except to the extent required by Applicable Law.
- 24.3 Where a law enforcement or national security request relates to the establishment of lines (including, but not limited to, lines established to support interception of communications on other lines), or the installation of other services, facilities or arrangements, a Party may act to prevent the other Party from obtaining access to information concerning such lines, services, facilities and arrangements, through operations support system interfaces.

25. Liability

- 25.1 As used in this Section 25, "Service Failure" means a failure to comply with a direction to install, restore or terminate Services under this Agreement, a failure to provide Services under this Agreement, and failures, mistakes, omissions,

interruptions, delays, errors, defects or the like, occurring in the course of the provision of any Services under this Agreement.

- 25.2 Except as otherwise stated in Section 25.5, the liability, if any, of a Party, a Party's Affiliates, and the directors, officers and employees of a Party and a Party's Affiliates, to the other Party, the other Party's Customers, and to any other person, for Claims arising out of a Service Failure shall not exceed an amount equal to the pro rata applicable monthly charge for the Services that are subject to the Service Failure for the period in which such Service Failure occurs.
- 25.3 Except as otherwise stated in Section 25.5, a Party, a Party's Affiliates, and the directors, officers and employees of a Party and a Party's Affiliates, shall not be liable to the other Party, the other Party's Customers, or to any other person, in connection with this Agreement (including, but not limited to, in connection with a Service Failure or any breach, delay or failure in performance, of this Agreement) for special, indirect, incidental, consequential, reliance, exemplary, punitive, or like damages, including, but not limited to, damages for lost revenues, profits or savings, or other commercial or economic loss, even if the person whose liability is excluded by this Section has been advised of the possibility of such damages.
- 25.4 The limitations and exclusions of liability stated in Sections 25.1 through 25.3 shall apply regardless of the form of a claim or action, whether statutory, in contract, warranty, strict liability, tort (including, but not limited to, negligence of a Party), or otherwise.
- 25.5 Nothing contained in Sections 25.1 through 25.4 shall exclude or limit liability:
- 25.5.1 under Sections 20, Indemnification or 41, Taxes.
 - 25.5.2 for any obligation to indemnify, defend and/or hold harmless that a Party may have under this Agreement.
 - 25.5.3 for damages arising out of or resulting from bodily injury to or death of any person, or damage to, or destruction or loss of, tangible real and/or personal property of any person, or Toxic or Hazardous Substances, to the extent such damages are otherwise recoverable under Applicable Law;
 - 25.5.4 for a claim for infringement of any patent, copyright, trade name, trade mark, service mark, or other intellectual property interest;
 - 25.5.5 under Section 258 of the Act or any order of FCC or the Commission implementing Section 258; or
 - 25.5.6 under the financial incentive or remedy provisions of any service quality plan required by the FCC or the Commission.
- 25.6 In the event that the liability of a Party, a Party's Affiliate, or a director, officer or employee of a Party or a Party's Affiliate, is limited and/or excluded under both this Section 25 and a provision of an applicable Tariff, the liability of the Party or other person shall be limited to the smaller of the amounts for which such Party or other person would be liable under this Section or the Tariff provision.
- 25.7 Each Party shall, in its tariffs and other contracts with its Customers, provide that in no case shall the other Party, the other Party's Affiliates, or the directors,

officers or employees of the other Party or the other Party's Affiliates, be liable to such Customers or other third-persons for any special, indirect, incidental, consequential, reliance, exemplary, punitive or other damages, arising out of a Service Failure.

26. Network Management

- 26.1 Cooperation. The Parties will work cooperatively in a commercially reasonable manner to install and maintain a reliable network. Best and Verizon will exchange appropriate information (e.g., network information, maintenance contact numbers, escalation procedures, and information required to comply with requirements of law enforcement and national security agencies) to achieve this desired reliability. In addition, the Parties will work cooperatively in a commercially reasonable manner to apply sound network management principles to alleviate or to prevent traffic congestion and to minimize fraud associated with third number billed calls, calling card calls, and other services related to this Agreement.
- 26.2 Responsibility for Following Standards. 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, network or facilities of the other Party or any third parties connected with or involved directly in the network or facilities of the other.
- 26.3 Interference or Impairment. If a Party ("Impaired Party") reasonably determines that the services, network, facilities, or methods of operation, of the other Party ("Interfering Party") will or are likely to interfere with or impair the Impaired Party's provision of services or the operation of the Impaired Party's network or facilities, the Impaired Party may interrupt or suspend any Service provided to the Interfering Party to the extent necessary to prevent such interference or impairment, subject to the following:
- 26.3.1 Except in emergency situations (e.g., situations involving a risk of bodily injury to persons or damage to tangible property, or an interruption in Customer service) or as otherwise provided in this Agreement, the Impaired Party shall have given the Interfering Party 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,
- 26.3.2 Upon correction of the interference or impairment, the Impaired Party will promptly restore the interrupted or suspended Service. The Impaired Party shall not be obligated to provide an out-of-service credit allowance or other compensation to the Interfering Party in connection with the suspended Service.
- 26.4 Outage Repair Standard. In the event of an outage or trouble in any Service being provided by a Party hereunder, the Providing Party will follow Verizon's standard procedures for isolating and clearing the outage or trouble.

27. Non-Exclusive Remedies

Except as otherwise expressly provided in this Agreement, each of the remedies provided under this Agreement is cumulative and is in addition to any other remedies that

may be available under this Agreement or at law or in equity.

28. Notice of Network Changes

If a Party makes a change in the information necessary for the transmission and routing of services using that Party's facilities or network, or any other change in its facilities or network that will materially affect the interoperability of its facilities or network with the other Party's facilities or network, the Party making the change shall publish notice of the change at least ninety (90) days in advance of such change, and shall use reasonable efforts, as commercially practicable, to publish such notice at least one hundred eighty (180) days in advance of the change; provided, however, that if an earlier publication of notice of a change is required by Applicable Law (including, but not limited to, 47 CFR 51.325 through 51.335) notice shall be given at the time required by Applicable Law.

29. Notices

29.1 Except as otherwise provided in this Agreement, notices given by one Party to the other Party under this Agreement:

29.1.1 shall be in writing;

29.1.2 shall be delivered (a) personally, (b) by express delivery service with next business day delivery, (c) by First Class, certified or registered U.S. mail, postage prepaid, (d) by facsimile telecopy, with a copy delivered in accordance with (a), (b) or (c), preceding, or, (e) by electronic mail, with a copy delivered in accordance with (a), (b) or (c), preceding; and

29.1.3 shall be delivered to the following addresses of the Parties:

To Best:

Attention: Ms. Alycia Massey
44 North Louisville Avenue
Tulsa, OK 74115
Telephone Number: 918/582-5678
Facsimile Number: 918/587-5678
Internet Address: alyciamassey@yahoo.com

To Verizon:

Director-Contract Performance & Administration
Verizon Wholesale Markets
600 Hidden Ridge
HQEWMNOTICES
Irving, TX 75038
Telephone Number: 972-718-5988
Facsimile Number: 972-719-1519
Internet Address: wmnotices@verizon.com

with a copy to:

Vice President and Associate General Counsel
Verizon Wholesale Markets
1320 N. Court House Road
8th Floor
Arlington, VA 22201
Facsimile: 703/974-0744

or to such other address as either Party shall designate by proper notice.

Notices will be deemed given as of the earlier of (a) where there is personal delivery of the notice, the date of actual receipt, (b) where the notice is sent via express delivery service for next business day delivery, the next business day after the notice is sent, (c) where the notice is sent by First Class U.S. Mail, three (3) business days after mailing, (d) where notice is sent via certified or registered U.S. mail, the date of receipt shown on the Postal Service receipt, (e) where the notice is sent via facsimile telecopy, on the date set forth on the telecopy confirmation if sent before 5 PM in the time zone where it is received, or the next business day after the date set forth on the telecopy confirmation if sent after 5 PM in the time zone where it is received, and (f) where the notice is sent via electronic mail, on the date of transmission, if sent before 5 PM in the time zone where it is received, or the next business day after the date of transmission, if sent after 5 PM in the time zone where it is received.

30. Ordering and Maintenance

Best shall use Verizon's electronic Operations Support System access platforms to submit Orders and requests for maintenance and repair of Services, and to engage in other pre-ordering, ordering, provisioning, maintenance and repair transactions. If Verizon has not yet deployed an electronic capability for Best to perform a pre-ordering, ordering, provisioning, maintenance or repair, transaction offered by Verizon, Best shall use such other processes as Verizon has made available for performing such transaction (including, but not limited, to submission of Orders by telephonic facsimile transmission and placing trouble reports by voice telephone transmission).

31. Performance Standards

- 31.1 Verizon shall provide Services under this Agreement in accordance with the performance standards required by Applicable Law, including, but not limited to, Section 251(c) of the Act and 47 CFR §§ 51.305(a)(3), 51.311(a) and (b) and 51.603(b).
- 31.2 To the extent required by Appendix D, Section V, "Carrier-to-Carrier Performance Plan (Including Performance Measurements)," and Appendix D, Attachment A, "Carrier-to-Carrier Performance Assurance Plan," of the Merger Order, Verizon shall provide performance measurement results to Best.
- 31.3 Best shall provide Services under this Agreement in accordance with the performance standards required by Applicable Law.

32. Point of Contact for Best Customers

- 32.1 Best shall establish telephone numbers and mailing addresses at which Best Customers may communicate with Best and shall advise Best Customers of these telephone numbers and mailing addresses.

- 32.2 Except as otherwise agreed to by Verizon, Verizon shall have no obligation, and may decline, to accept a communication from a Best customer, including, but not limited to, a Best Customer request for repair or maintenance of a Verizon Service provided to Best.

33. Predecessor Agreements

- 33.1 Except as stated in Section 33.2 or as otherwise agreed in writing by the Parties:
- 33.1.1 any prior interconnection or resale agreement between the Parties for the Commonwealth of Kentucky pursuant to Section 252 of the Act and in effect immediately prior to the Effective Date is hereby terminated; and
- 33.1.2 any Services that were purchased by one Party from the other Party under a prior interconnection or resale agreement between the Parties for the Commonwealth of Kentucky pursuant to Section 252 of the Act and in effect immediately prior to the Effective Date, shall as of the Effective Date be subject to and purchased under this Agreement.
- 33.2 Except as otherwise agreed in writing by the Parties, if a Service purchased by a Party under a prior interconnection or resale agreement between the Parties pursuant to Section 252 of the Act was subject to a contractual commitment that it would be purchased for a period of longer than one month, and such period had not yet expired as of the Effective Date and the Service had not been terminated prior to the Effective Date, to the extent not inconsistent with this Agreement, such commitment shall remain in effect and the Service will be purchased under this Agreement; provided, that if this Agreement would materially alter the terms of the commitment, either Party make elect to cancel the commitment.
- 33.3 If either Party elects to cancel the commitment pursuant to the proviso in Section 33.2, the Purchasing Party shall not be liable for any termination charge that would otherwise have applied. However, if the commitment was cancelled by the Purchasing Party, the Providing Party shall be entitled to payment from the Purchasing Party of the difference between the price of the Service that was actually paid by the Purchasing Party under the commitment and the price of the Service that would have applied if the commitment had been to purchase the Service only until the time that the commitment was cancelled.

34. Publicity and Use of Trademarks or Service Marks

- 34.1 A Party, its Affiliates, and their respective contractors and Agents, shall not use the other Party's trademarks, service marks, logos or other proprietary trade dress, in connection with the sale of products or services, or in any advertising, press releases, publicity matters or other promotional materials, unless the other Party has given its written consent for such use, which consent the other Party may grant or withhold in its sole discretion.
- 34.2 Neither Party may imply any direct or indirect affiliation with or sponsorship or endorsement of it or its services or products by the other Party.
- 34.3 Any violation of this Section 34 shall be considered a material breach of this Agreement.

35. References

- 35.1 All references to Sections, Appendices and Exhibits shall be deemed to be references to Sections, Appendices and Exhibits of this Agreement unless the context shall otherwise require.
- 35.2 Unless the context shall otherwise require, any reference to a Tariff, agreement, technical or other document (including Verizon or third party guides, practices or handbooks), or provision of Applicable Law, is to such Tariff, agreement, document, or provision of Applicable Law, as amended and supplemented from time to time (and, in the case of a Tariff or provision of Applicable Law, to any successor Tariff or provision).

36. Relationship of the Parties

- 36.1 The relationship of the Parties under this Agreement shall be that of independent contractors and nothing herein shall be construed as creating any other relationship between the Parties.
- 36.2 Nothing contained in this Agreement shall make either Party the employee of the other, create a partnership, joint venture, or other similar relationship between the Parties, or grant to either Party a franchise, distributorship or similar interest.
- 36.3 Except for provisions herein expressly authorizing a Party to act for another Party, 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, in the name or on behalf of the other Party unless otherwise expressly permitted by such other Party in writing, which permission may be granted or withheld by the other Party in its sole discretion.
- 36.4 Each Party shall have sole authority and responsibility to hire, fire, compensate, supervise, and otherwise control its employees, Agents and contractors. Each Party shall be solely responsible for payment of any Social Security or other taxes that it is required by Applicable Law to pay in conjunction with its employees, Agents and contractors, and for withholding and remitting to the applicable taxing authorities any taxes that it is required by Applicable Law to collect from its employees.
- 36.5 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.
- 36.6 The relationship of the Parties under this Agreement is a non-exclusive relationship.

37. Reservation of Rights

- 37.1 Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Agreement, neither Party waives, and each Party hereby expressly reserves, its rights: (a) to appeal or otherwise seek the reversal of and changes in any arbitration decision associated with this Agreement; (b) to challenge the lawfulness of this Agreement and any provision of this Agreement; (c) to seek changes in this Agreement (including, but not limited to, changes in rates, charges and the Services that must be offered) through changes in Applicable Law; and, (d) to challenge the lawfulness and propriety of, and to seek to change, any Applicable Law, including, but not limited to any rule, regulation, order or decision of the Commission, the FCC, or a court

of applicable jurisdiction. Nothing in this Agreement shall be deemed to limit or prejudice any position a Party has taken or may take before the Commission, the FCC, any other state or federal regulatory or legislative bodies, courts of applicable jurisdiction, or industry fora. The provisions of this Section shall survive the expiration, cancellation or termination of this Agreement.

37.2 Best acknowledges Best has been advised by Verizon that it is Verizon's position that:

37.2.1 This Agreement contains certain provisions which are intended to reflect Applicable Law and Commission and/or FCC arbitration decisions; and

37.2.2 For the purposes of Appendix D, Sections 31 and 32, of the Merger Order, such provisions shall not be deemed to have been voluntarily negotiated or agreed to by Verizon and shall not be available to carriers pursuant to Appendix D, Sections 31 and 32 of the Merger Order.

38. Subcontractors

A Party may use a contractor of the Party (including, but not limited to, an Affiliate of the Party) to perform the Party's obligations under this Agreement; provided, that a Party's use of a contractor shall not release the Party from any duty or liability to fulfill the Party's obligations under this Agreement.

39. 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.

40. Survival

The rights, liabilities and obligations of a Party for acts or omissions occurring prior to the expiration, cancellation or termination of this Agreement, the rights, liabilities and obligations of a Party under any provision of this Agreement regarding confidential information (including but not limited to, Section 10, indemnification or defense (including, but not limited to, Section 20, or limitation or exclusion of liability (including, but not limited to, Section 25, and the rights, liabilities and obligations of a Party under any provision of this Agreement which by its terms or nature is intended to continue beyond or to be performed after the expiration, cancellation or termination of this Agreement, shall survive the expiration, cancellation or termination of this Agreement.

41. Taxes

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

41.2 Taxes Imposed on the Providing Party. With respect to any purchase hereunder of Services, if any federal, state or local Tax is imposed by Applicable Law on the receipts of the providing Party, and such Applicable 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 (a) shall provide the providing Party with notice in writing in accordance with Section 41.6 of this Agreement of its intent to pay the Receipts Tax and (b) shall timely pay the Receipts Tax to the applicable tax authority.

- 41.3 Taxes Imposed on Customers. With respect to any purchase hereunder of Services 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 (a) shall be required to impose and/or collect such Tax from the Subscriber and (b) shall timely remit such Tax to the applicable taxing authority.
- 41.4 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 Section 41.1, then, as between the providing Party and the purchasing Party, (a) the purchasing Party shall remain liable for such uncollected Tax and (b) 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 Section 41.1, 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 Section 41.1 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 Section 41.2, 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 Section 41.3, 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.

41.5 Tax exemptions and Exemption Certificates. If Applicable Law clearly exempts a purchase hereunder from a Tax, and if such Applicable 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 Section 41.6. 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 (a) furnishes the providing Party with a letter signed by an officer requesting such an exemption and citing the provision in the Applicable Law which clearly allows such exemption and (b) 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 Verizon with respect to its forbearing to collect such Tax.

41.6 All notices, affidavits, exemption-certificates or other communications required or permitted to be given by either Party to the other, for purposes of this Section 41, 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 Section 29 as well as to the following:

To Verizon:

Tax Administration
Verizon Communications
1095 Avenue of the Americas
Room 3109
New York, NY 10036

To Best:

44 North Louisville Avenue
Tulsa, OK 74115

Either Party may from time to time designate another address or other addressees by giving notice in accordance with the terms of this Section. Any notice or other communication shall be deemed to be given when received.

42. Technology Upgrades

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement, Verizon shall have the right to deploy, upgrade, migrate and maintain its network at its discretion. The Parties acknowledge that Verizon, at its election, may deploy fiber throughout its network and that such fiber deployment may inhibit or facilitate Best's ability to provide service using certain technologies. Nothing in this Agreement shall limit Verizon's ability to modify its network through the incorporation of new equipment or software or otherwise. Best shall be solely responsible for the cost and activities associated with accommodating such changes in its own network.

43. Territory

43.1 This Agreement applies to the territory in which Verizon operates as an Incumbent Local Exchange Carrier in the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

43.2 Notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement, Verizon may terminate this Agreement as to a specific operating territory or portion thereof if Verizon sells or otherwise transfers its operations in such territory or portion thereof to a third-person. Verizon shall provide Best with at least 90 calendar days prior written notice of such termination, which shall be effective upon the date specified in the notice. Verizon shall be obligated to provide Services under this Agreement only within this territory.

44. Third Party Beneficiaries

Except as expressly set forth in this Agreement, this Agreement is for the sole benefit of the Parties and their permitted assigns, and nothing herein shall create or be construed to provide any third-persons (including, but not limited to, Customers or contractors of a Party) with any rights (including, but not limited to, any third-party beneficiary rights) hereunder. Except as expressly set forth in this Agreement, a Party shall have no liability under this Agreement to the Customers of the other Party or to any other third person.

45. 251 and 271 Requirements

45.1 The Parties agree that the performance of the terms of this Agreement will satisfy Verizon's obligations under Section 251 of the Act, and the requirements of the Checklist under Section 271 of the Act.

45.2 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 an application by Verizon or an Affiliate of Verizon pursuant to Section 271(d) of the Act. In the event that any one or more of the provisions contained herein in Verizon's reasonable determination is likely to adversely affect the application pursuant to Section 271(d) of the Act, the Parties agree to make the revisions necessary to eliminate such adverse effect on the application.

46. 252(i) Obligations

46.1 To the extent required by Applicable Law, each Party shall comply with Section 252(i) of the Act and Appendix D, Sections 30 through 32, of the Merger Order ("Merger Order MFN Provisions").

46.2 If Best wishes to exercise any rights it may have under Section 252(i), Best shall provide written notice thereof to Verizon. Upon Verizon's receipt of said notice, in accordance with Section 252(i), the Parties shall amend this Agreement in writing to appropriately reflect the Interconnection, services, and Network Elements, that Best has elected to adopt pursuant to Section 252(i).

46.3 If Best wishes to exercise any rights it may have under the Merger Order MFN Provisions, Best shall provide written notice thereof to Verizon. Upon Verizon's receipt of said notice, in accordance with the Merger Order MFN Provisions, the Parties shall amend this Agreement in writing to appropriately reflect the interconnection arrangements or unbundled Network Elements, that Best has elected to adopt pursuant to the Merger Order MFN Provisions.

46.4 To the extent that the exercise by Best of any rights it may have under Section 252(i) or the Merger Order MFN Provisions results in the rearrangement of Services by Verizon, Best shall be solely liable for all costs associated therewith, as well as for any termination charges associated with the termination of existing Verizon Services.

47. Use of Service

Each Party shall make commercially reasonable efforts to ensure that its Customers comply with the provisions of this Agreement (including, but not limited to the provisions of applicable Tariffs) applicable to the use of Services purchased by it under this Agreement.

48. Waiver

A failure or delay of either Party to enforce any of the provisions of this Agreement, or any right or remedy available under this Agreement or at law or in equity, or to require performance of any of the provisions of this Agreement, or to exercise any option which is provided under this Agreement, shall in no way be construed to be a waiver of such provisions, rights, remedies or options.

49. Warranties

EXCEPT AS EXPRESSLY STATED IN THIS AGREEMENT, NEITHER PARTY MAKES OR RECEIVES ANY WARRANTY, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, WITH RESPECT TO THE SERVICES PROVIDED, OR TO BE PROVIDED, UNDER THIS AGREEMENT AND THE PARTIES DISCLAIM ANY OTHER WARRANTIES, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO, WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY, WARRANTIES OF FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE WARRANTIES AGAINST INFRINGEMENT, AND WARRANTIES ARISING BY TRADE CUSTOM, TRADE USAGE, COURSE OF DEALING OR PERFORMANCE, OR OTHERWISE.

50. Withdrawal of Services

50.1 Notwithstanding anything contained in this Agreement, except as otherwise required by Applicable Law, Verizon may terminate its offering and/or provision of any Service under this Agreement upon thirty (30) days prior written notice to Best.

50.2 Notwithstanding anything contained in this Agreement, except as otherwise required by Applicable Law, Verizon may with thirty (30) days prior written notice to Best terminate any provision of this Agreement that provides for the payment by Verizon to Best of compensation related to traffic, including, but not limited to, Reciprocal Compensation and other types of compensation for termination of traffic delivered by Verizon to Best. Following such termination, except as otherwise agreed in writing by the Parties, Verizon shall be obligated to provide compensation to Best related to traffic only to the extent required by Applicable Law. If Verizon exercises its right of termination under this Section, the Parties shall negotiate in good faith appropriate substitute provisions for compensation related to traffic; provided, however, that except as otherwise voluntarily agreed by Verizon in writing in its sole discretion, Verizon shall be obligated to provide compensation to Best related to traffic only to the extent required by Applicable Law. If within thirty (30) days after Verizon's notice of termination the Parties are unable to agree in writing upon mutually acceptable substitute provisions for compensation related to traffic, either Party may submit their disagreement to dispute resolution in accordance with Section 14 of this Agreement.

SIGNATURE PAGE

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties hereto have caused this Agreement to be executed as of the Effective Date.

ALYCIA MASSEY D/B/A BEST
COMMUNICATIONS

VERIZON SOUTH INC., F/K/A GTE
SOUTH INCORPORATED

By: _____

By: _____

Printed: _____

Printed: _____

Title: _____

Title _____

GLOSSARY

1. General Rule

- 1.1 The provisions of Sections 1.1 through 1.4 apply with regard to the Principal Document. Terms used in a Tariff shall have the meanings stated in the Tariff.
- 1.2 Unless the context clearly indicates otherwise, when used in the Principal Document the terms listed in this Glossary shall have the meanings stated in this Glossary. A defined term intended to convey the meaning stated in this Glossary is capitalized when used. Other terms that are capitalized, and not defined in this Glossary or elsewhere in the Principal Document, shall have the meaning stated in the Act. Additional definitions that are specific to the matters covered in a particular provision of the Principal Document may appear in that provision. To the extent that there may be any conflict between a definition set forth on this Glossary and any definition in a specific provision, the definition set forth in the specific provision shall control with respect to that provision.
- 1.3 Unless the context clearly indicates otherwise, any term defined in this Glossary which is defined or used in the singular shall include the plural, and any term defined in this Glossary which is defined or used in the plural shall include the singular.
- 1.4 The words "shall" and "will" are used interchangeably throughout the Principal Document and the use of either indicates a mandatory requirement. The use of one or the other shall not confer a different degree of right or obligation for either Party.

2. Definitions

2.1 Act.

The Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. §151 et. seq.), as from time to time amended (including, without limitation by the Telecommunications Act of 1996, Public Law 104-104 of the 104th United States Congress effective February 8, 1996), and as further interpreted in the duly authorized and effective rules and regulations of the FCC or the Commission.

2.2 ADSL (Asymmetrical Digital Subscriber Line).

A transmission technology on twisted pair copper Loop plant, which transmits an asymmetrical digital signal of up to 6 Mbps to the Customer and up to 640 kbps from the Customer, as specified in ANSI standards T1.413-1998 and Bell Atlantic Technical Reference TR-72575.

2.3 Affiliate.

Shall have the meaning set forth in the Act.

2.4 Agent.

An agent or servant.

2.5 Agreement.

This Agreement, as defined in Section 1 of the General Terms and Conditions.

2.6 Automated Message Accounting (AMA).

The structure inherent in switch technology that initially records telecommunication message information. AMA format is contained in the Automated Message Accounting document, published by Telcordia Technologies as GR-1100-CORE that defines the industry standard for message recording.

2.7 Ancillary Traffic.

All traffic that is destined for ancillary services, or that may have special billing requirements, including but not limited to the following: 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.

2.8 Automatic Number Identification (ANI).

The signaling parameter which refers to the number transmitted through the network identifying the billing number of the calling Party.

2.9 Answer Supervision.

An off-hook supervisory signal.

2.10 Applicable Law.

All effective laws, government regulations and orders, applicable to each Party's performance of its obligations under this agreement.

2.11 ASR (Access Service Request).

An industry standard form, which contains data elements and usage rules used by the Parties to add, establish, change or disconnect services or trunks for the purposes of interconnection.

2.12 Automatic Number Identification (ANI).

The signaling parameter which refers to the number transmitted through the network identifying the billing number of the calling Party.

2.13 Basic Local Exchange Service.

Voice grade access to the network that provides: the ability to place and receive calls; touch-tone service, access to operator services; access to directory assistance; access to emergency services (E911); access to telephone relay service (TRS); access to Interexchange Carriers of the Customer's choice; standard white pages directory listing; and toll blocking for low-income consumers participating in Lifeline (subject to technical feasibility).

2.14 Bona Fide Request (BFR).

The process described in the UNE Attachment that prescribes the terms and conditions relating to a Party's request that the other Party provides a UNE that it

is not otherwise required to provide under the terms of this Agreement.

2.15 Business Day.

Monday through Friday, except for holidays on which the U.S. mail is not delivered.

2.16 Calendar Quarter.

January through March, April through June, July through September, or October through December.

2.17 Calendar Year.

January through December.

2.18 CCS (Common Channel Signaling).

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 content of the call.

2.19 Central Office.

A local switching system for connecting lines to lines, lines to trunks, or trunks to trunks for the purpose of originating/terminating calls over the public switched telephone network. A single Central Office may handle several Central Office codes ("NXX"). Sometimes this term is used to refer to a telephone company building in which switching systems and telephone equipment are installed.

2.20 Central Office Switch.

A switch used to provide Telecommunications Services including but not limited to an End Office Switch or a Tandem Switch. A Central Office Switch may also be employed as combination End Office/Tandem Office Switch.

2.21 Claims.

Any and all claims, demands, suits, actions, settlements, judgments, fines, penalties, liabilities, injuries, damages, losses, costs (including, but not limited to, court costs), and expenses (including, but not limited to, reasonable attorney's fees).

2.22 CLEC (Competitive Local Exchange Carrier).

Any corporation or other person legally able to provide Local Exchange Service in competition with an ILEC.

2.23 CLLI Codes.

Common Language Location Identifier Codes.

2.24 Centralized Message Distribution System (CMDS).

The billing record and clearing house transport system that ILECs use to

efficiently exchange out collects and in collects as well as Carrier Access Billing System (CABS) records.

2.25 Commission.

Kentucky Public Service Commission.

2.26 Conversation Time.

The time that both Parties' equipment is used for a completed call measured from the receipt of Answer Supervision to the receipt of Disconnect Supervision.

2.27 Calling Party Number (CPN).

A CCS parameter that identifies the calling party's telephone number.

2.28 CPNI (Customer Proprietary Network Information).

Shall have the meaning set forth in Section 222 of the Act, 47 U.S.C. § 222.

2.29 Cross Connection.

A jumper cable or similar connection, provided in connection with a Collocation arrangement 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.

2.30 Customer.

A third party residence or business end-user subscriber to Telephone Exchange Services provided by either of the Parties.

2.31 Digital Signal Level.

One of several transmission rates in the time-division multiplex hierarchy.

2.32 Digital Signal Level 0 (DS0).

The 64kbps zero-level signal in the time-division multiplex hierarchy.

2.33 Digital Signal Level 1 (DS1).

The 1.544 Mbps first-level signal in the time-division multiplex hierarchy.

2.34 Digital Signal Level 1 (DS3).

The 44.736 Mbps third-level signal in the time-division multiplex hierarchy.

2.35 Effective Date.

Shall have the meaning set forth in the Preface of this Agreement.

2.36 EMI (Exchange Message Interface).

Standard used for the interexchange of telecommunications message information

between exchange carriers and interexchange carriers for billable, non-billable, sample, settlement and study data. Data is provided between companies via a unique record layout that contains Customer billing information, account summary and tracking analysis. EMI format is contained in document SR-320 published by the Alliance for Telcom Industry Solutions.

2.37 End Office Switch or End Office.

A switching entity that is used to terminate Customer station Loops for the purpose of interconnection to each other and to trunks.

2.38 Entrance Facility.

The facility between a Party's designated premises and the Central Office serving that designated premises.

2.39 Exchange Access.

Shall have the meaning set forth in the Act.

2.40 FCC.

The Federal Communications Commission.

2.41 FCC Regulations.

The regulations duly and lawfully promulgated by the FCC, as in effect from time to time.

2.42 HDSL (High-Bit Rate Digital Subscriber Line).

A transmission technology that transmits up to a DS1 level signal, using any one of the following line codes: 2 Binary/1 Quaternary (2B1Q), Carrierless AM/PM, Discrete Multitone (DMT) or 3 Binary/1 Octal (3BO).

2.43 IDLC (Integrated Digital Loop Carrier).

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.

2.44 ILEC (Incumbent Local Exchange Carrier).

Shall have the meaning stated in the Act.

2.45 Inside Wire or Inside Wiring.

All wire, cable, terminals, hardware, and other equipment or materials on the customer's side of the Rate Demarcation Point.

2.46 Internet Traffic.

Traffic that is transmitted to or returned from the Internet at any point during the duration of the transmission.

- 2.47 InterLATA Service.
Shall have the meaning set forth in the Act.
- 2.48 IntraLATA.
Telecommunications services that originate and terminate at a point within the same LATA.
- 2.49 IP (Interconnection Point).
The point at which a Party who receives Local Traffic originating on the network of the other Party assesses Reciprocal Compensation charges for the further transport and termination of that Local Traffic.
- 2.50 ISDN (Integrated Services Digital Network).
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 (2) 64 kbps bearer channels and one (1) 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 (23B+D).
- 2.51 ISDN User Part (ISUP).
A part of the SS7 protocol that defines call setup messages and call takedown messages.
- 2.52 IXC (Interexchange Carrier).
A Telecommunications Carrier that provides, directly or indirectly, InterLATA or intraLATA Telephone Toll Services.
- 2.53 LATA (Local Access and Transport Area).
Shall have the meaning set forth in the Act.
- 2.54 LEC (Local Exchange Carrier).
Shall have the meaning set forth in the Act.
- 2.55 LERG (Local Exchange Routing Guide).
The Telcordia Technologies reference customarily used to identify NPANXX routing and homing information, as well as network element and equipment designation.
- 2.56 LIDB (Line Information Data Base).
One or all, as the context may require, of the Line Information databases owned individually by Verizon and other entities which provide, among other things, calling card validation functionality for telephone line number cards issued by Verizon and other entities. A LIDB also contains validation data for collect and third number-billed calls; i.e., Billed Number Screening.

2.57 Line Side.

An End Office Switch connection that provides transmission, switching and optional features suitable for Customers connection to the public switched network, including loop start supervision, ground start supervision and signaling for BRI-ISDN service.

2.58 Local Traffic.

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 Verizon's then current local calling area (including non-optional local calling scope arrangements) as defined in Verizon's effective Customer Tariffs. A non-optional local calling scope arrangement is an arrangement that provides Customers a local calling scope (Extended Area Service, "EAS"), beyond their basic exchange serving area. Local Traffic does not include optional local calling scope traffic (i.e., traffic that under an optional rate package chosen by the Customer terminates outside of the Customer's basic exchange serving area). IntraLATA calls originated on a 1+ presubscription basis, or on a casual dialed (10XXX/101XXXX) basis are not considered Local Traffic. Local Traffic does not include any Internet Traffic.

2.59 Loop.

A transmission path that extends from a Main distribution Frame, DSX-panel, or functionally comparable piece of equipment in a Customer's serving End Office to the Rate Demarcation Point (or NID if installed at the Rate Demarcation Point) in or at the customer's premises. The actual transmission facilities used to provide a Loop may utilize any of several technologies.

2.60 LSR (Local Service Request).

The industry standard form, which contains data elements and usage rules, used by the Parties to establish, add, change or disconnect resold services and Unbundled Network Elements for the purposes of competitive local services.

2.61 MDF (Main Distribution Frame).

The primary point at which outside plant facilities terminate within a Wire Center, for interconnection to other telecommunications facilities within the Wire Center. The distribution frame used to interconnect cable pairs and line trunk equipment terminating on a switching system.

2.62 MECAB (Multiple Exchange Carrier Access Billing).

Document prepared by the Billing Committee of the Ordering and Billing Forum (OBF), which functions under the auspices of the Carrier Liaison Committee (CLC) of the Alliance for Telecommunications Industry Solutions (ATIS). The MECAB document, published by Telcordia Technologies 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.

2.63 MECOD (Multiple Exchange Carriers Ordering and Design Guidelines for Access Services - Industry Support Interface).

A document developed by the Ordering/Provisioning Committee under the auspices 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 MECOD document, published by Telcordia Technologies as Special Report SR-STS-002643, establishes methods for processing orders for Exchange Access Service that is to be provided by two or more LECs.

2.64 NANP (North American Numbering Plan).

The system of telephone numbering employed in the United States, Canada, Bermuda, Puerto Rico and certain Caribbean islands. The NANP format is a 10-digit number that consist of a 3-digit NPA Code (commonly referred to as area code), followed by a 3-digit NXX code and 4 digit line number.

2.65 Network Element.

Shall have the meaning stated in the Act.

2.66 NID (Network Interface Device).

The Verizon provided interface terminating Verizon's Telecommunications network on the property where the Customer's service is located at a point determined by Verizon. The NID contains a FCC Part 68 registered jack from which inside wire may be connected to Verizon's network.

2.67 NPA (Numbering Plan Area).

Also sometimes referred to as an area code, is the first three-digit indicator of each 10-digit telephone number within the NANP. Each NPA contains 800 possible NXX Codes. There are two general categories of NPA, "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 that may be provided across multiple geographic NPA areas. 500, 700, 800, 888 and 900 are examples of Non-Geographic NPAs.

2.68 NXX, NXX Code, Central Office Code or CO Code.

The three-digit switch entity indicator (i.e. the first three digits of a seven-digit telephone number). Each NXX Code contains 10,000 station numbers.

2.69 Order.

An order or application to provide, change or terminate a Service (including, but not limited to, a commitment to purchase a stated number or minimum number of lines or other Services for a stated period or minimum period of time).

2.70 PIU (Percent Interstate Usage).

A percentage calculated by dividing the number of minutes of interstate traffic by the total number of minutes of interstate and intrastate traffic. A factor that is used to determine the interstate portion of minutes of traffic exchanged via Traffic

Exchange Trunks. PIU is developed from the measurement of calls in which the calling and called parties are not located within the same state.

2.71 PLU (Percent Local Usage).

A percentage calculated by dividing the number of minutes of Local Traffic by the total number of minutes of intrastate traffic. A factor that is used to determine the portion of Local Traffic minutes exchanged via Traffic Exchange Trunks. PLU is developed from the measurement of calls in which the calling and called parties are located within a given local calling area or EAS area as defined in Verizon's effective Customer Tariff(s).

2.72 POI (Point of Interconnection).

The physical location where the originating Party's facilities physically interconnect with the terminating Party's facilities for the purpose of exchanging traffic.

2.73 Port.

A line card (or equivalent) and associated peripheral equipment on an End Office Switch that interconnects individual Loops or individual Customer trunks with 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) that serves as the Customer's network address. The Port is part of the provision of unbundled local Switching Element.

2.74 Principal Document.

This document, including, but not limited to, the Title Page, the Table of Contents, the Preface, the General Terms and Conditions, the signature page, this Glossary, the Attachments, and the Appendices to the Attachments

2.75 Providing Party.

A Party offering or providing a Service to the other Party under this Agreement.

2.76 Purchasing Party.

A Party requesting or receiving a Service from the other Party under this Agreement.

2.77 Rate Center Area or Exchange Area.

The geographic area that 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 that 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.

2.78 Rate Center Point.

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.

2.79 Rate Demarcation Point.

The physical point in a Verizon provided network facility at which Verizon's responsibility for maintaining that network facility ends and the Customer's responsibility for maintaining the remainder of the facility begins, as set forth in Verizon's applicable Tariffs, if any, or as otherwise prescribed under Applicable Law.

2.80 Reciprocal Compensation.

The arrangement for recovering costs incurred for the transport and termination of Local Traffic originating on one Party's network and terminating on the other Party's network.

2.81 Retail Prices.

The prices at which a Service is provided by Verizon at retail to subscribers who are not Telecommunications Carriers.

2.82 Routing Point.

A specific geographic point identified by a specific V&H coordinate. The Routing Point is used to route inbound traffic to specified NAP-NXXs and the Rate Center Point is used to calculate mileage measurements for distance-sensitive transport charges of switched access services. Pursuant to Telecordia Practice BR-795-100-100, the RateCenter Point may be an End Office location, or a "LEC Consortium Point Of Interconnection." The Routing Point must be located within the LATA in which the corresponding NPA-NXX is located. However, the 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 Routing Point corresponding to each unique and separate Rate Center Area.

2.83 SCP (Service Control Point).

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 SSP 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.

2.84 Service.

Any Interconnection arrangement, Network Element, Telecommunications Service, Collocation arrangement, or other service, facility or arrangement, offered for sale by a Party under this Agreement.

2.85 (SONET) Synchronous Optical Network.

Synchronous electrical (STS) or optical channel (OC) connections between LECs.

- 2.86 Signaling Point (SP).
- A node in the CCS network that originates and/or receives signaling messages, or transfers signaling messages from one signaling link to another, or both.
- 2.87 SSP (Service Switching Point).
- A Signaling Point that can launch queries to databases and receive/interpret responses used to provide specific Customer services.
- 2.88 SS7 (Signaling System 7).
- 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). Verizon and Best currently utilize this out-of-band signaling protocol.
- 2.89 STP (Signal Transfer Point).
- A packet switch in the CCS network that is used to route signaling messages among SSPs, SCPs and other STPs in order to set up calls and to query databases for advanced services. Verizon's network includes mated pairs of local and regional STPs. STPs are provided in pairs for redundancy. Verizon STPs conform to ANSI T1.111-8 standards. It provides SS7 Network Access and performs SS7 message routing and screening.
- 2.90 Subsidiary.
- A corporation or other legal entity that is controlled by a Party.
- 2.91 Switched Access Detail Usage Date.
- A category 1101XX record as defined in the EMI Bellcore Practice BR-010-200-010.
- 2.92 Switched Access Summary Usage Date.
- A category 1150XX record as defined in the EMI Bellcore Practice BR-010-200-010.
- 2.93 Switched Exchange Access Service.
- 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.
- 2.94 Tandem Switches.
- 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 point of presence, and to provide Switched Exchange Access Services.

2.95 Tariff.

2.95.1 Any applicable Federal or state tariff of a Party, as amended from time-to-time;

2.95.2 Any standard agreement or other document, as amended from time-to-time, that sets forth the generally available terms, conditions and prices under which a Party offers a Service.

The term "Tariff" does not include any Verizon statement of generally available terms (SGAT) which has been approved or is pending approval by the Commission pursuant to Section 252(f) of the Act.

2.96 Telcordia Technologies.

Formerly known as Bell Communications Research, a wholly owned subsidiary of Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC). The organization conducts research and development projects for its owners, including development of new Telecommunications Services. Telcordia Technologies also provides generic requirements for the telecommunications industry for products, services and technologies.

2.97 Telecommunications Carrier.

Shall have the meaning set forth in the Act.

2.98 Telecommunications Services.

Shall have the meaning set forth in the Act.

2.99 Telephone Exchange Service.

Shall have the meaning set forth in the Act.

2.100 Third Party Claim.

A Claim where there is (a) a claim, demand, suit or action by a person who is not a Party, (b) a settlement with, judgment by, or liability to, a person who is not a Party, or (c) a fine or penalty imposed by a person who is not a Party.

2.101 Toll Traffic.

Traffic that is originated by a Customer of one Party on that Party's network and delivered 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.

2.102 Toxic or Hazardous Substance.

Toxic or Hazardous Substance means any substance designated or defined as toxic or hazardous under any "Environmental Law" or that pose a risk to human health or safety, or the environment, and products and materials containing such substance. "Environmental Laws" means the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act, the Emergency Planning and

Community Right-to-Know Act, the Water Pollution Control Act, the Air Pollution Control Act, the Toxic Substances Control Act, the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, the Occupational Safety and Health Act, and all other Federal, State or local laws or governmental regulations or requirements, that are similar to the above-referenced laws or that otherwise govern releases, chemicals, products, materials or wastes that may pose risks to human health or safety, or the environment, or that relate to the protection of wetlands or other natural resources.

2.103 Trunk Side.

A Central Office Switch connection that is capable of, and has been programmed to treat the circuit as, connecting to another switching entity, for example, to another carrier's network. Trunk side connections offer those transmission and signaling features appropriate for the connection of switching entities and cannot be used for the direct connection of ordinary telephone station sets.

2.104 Universal Digital Loop Carrier (UDLC).

UDLC arrangements consist of the Central Office Terminal and the Remote Terminal located in the outside plant or customer premises. The Central Office and the Remote Terminal units perform analog to digital conversions to allow the feeding facility to be digital. UDLC is deployed where the types of services to be provisioned by the systems cannot be integrated such as non-switched services and unbundled loops.

2.105 Unbundled Network Element (UNE).

A Network Element that Verizon is obligated to provide to CLECs on an unbundled basis pursuant to Applicable Law.

2.106 V and H Coordinates Method.

A method of computing airline miles between two points by utilizing an established formula that is based on the vertical and horizontal coordinates of the two points.

2.107 Voice Grade.

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 "DS0" or "sub-DS1" may also be used.

2.108 Wire Center.

A building or portion thereof which serves as a Routing Point for Switched Exchange Access Service. The Wire Center serves as the premises for one or more Central Offices.

ADDITIONAL SERVICES ATTACHMENT

1. Alternate Billed Calls

- 1.1 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 accordance with an arrangement mutually agreed to by the Parties.

2. Dialing Parity - Section 251(b)(3)

Each Party shall provide the other Party with nondiscriminatory access to such services and information as are necessary to allow the other Party to implement local Dialing Parity in accordance with the requirements of Section 251(b)(3) of the Act.

3. Directory Assistance (DA) and Operator Services

- 3.1 Either Party may request that the other Party provide the requesting Party with nondiscriminatory access to the other Party's directory assistance services (DA), IntraLATA operator call completion services (OS), and/or directory assistance listings database. If either Party makes such a request, the Parties shall enter into a mutually acceptable written agreement for such access.
- 3.2 Best shall arrange, at its own expense, the trunking and other facilities required to transport traffic to and from the designated DA and OS switch locations.

4. Directory Listing and Directory Distribution

To the extent required by Applicable Law, Verizon will provide directory services to Best. Such services will be provided in accordance with the terms set forth herein.

4.1 Listing Information.

As used herein, "Listing Information" means a Best Customer's primary name, address (including city, state and zip code), telephone number(s), the delivery address and number of directories to be delivered, and, in the case of a business Customer, the primary business heading under which the business Customer desires to be placed, and any other information Verizon deems necessary for the publication and delivery of directories.

4.2 Listing Information Supply.

Best shall provide to Verizon on a regularly scheduled basis, at no charge, and in a format required by Verizon or by a mutually agreed upon industry standard (e.g., Ordering and Billing Forum developed), all Listing Information and the service address for each Best Customer whose service address location falls within the geographic area covered by the relevant Verizon directory. Best shall also provide to Verizon on a daily basis, (a) information showing Best Customers who have disconnected or terminated their service with Best; and (b) delivery information for each non-listed or non-published Best Customer to enable Verizon to perform its directory distribution responsibilities. Verizon shall promptly provide to Best, (normally within forty-eight (48) hours of receipt by Verizon, excluding non-Business Days), a query on any listing that is not acceptable.

4.3 Listing Inclusion and Distribution.

Verizon shall include each Best Customer's Primary Listing in the appropriate alphabetical directory and, for business Customers, in the appropriate classified (Yellow Pages) directory in accordance with the directory configuration, scope and schedules determined by Verizon in its sole discretion, and shall provide initial distribution of such directories to such Best Customers in the same manner it provides initial distribution of such directories to its own Customers. "Primary Listing" means a Customer's primary name, address, and telephone number. Listings of Best's Customers shall be interfiled with listings of Verizon's Customers and the Customers of other LECs included in the Verizon directories. Best shall pay Verizon's tariffed charges for additional and foreign alphabetical listings and other alphabetical services (e.g. caption arrangements) for Best's Customers.

4.4 Verizon Information.

Upon request by Best, Verizon shall make available to Best the following information to the extent that Verizon provides such information to its own business offices a directory list of relevant NXX codes, directory and "Customer Guide" close dates, publishing data, and Yellow Pages headings. Verizon also will make available to Best, upon written request, a copy of Verizon's alphabetical listings standards and specifications manual.

4.5 Confidentiality of Listing Information.

Verizon shall accord Best Listing Information the same level of confidentiality that Verizon accords its own listing information, and shall use such Listing Information solely for the purpose of providing directory-related services; provided, however, that should Verizon elect to do so, it may use or license Best Listing Information for directory publishing, direct marketing, or any other purpose for which Verizon uses or licenses its own listing information, so long as Best Customers are not separately identified as such; and provided further that Best may identify those of its Customers who request that their names not be sold for direct marketing purposes, and Verizon shall honor such requests to the same extent it does so for its own Customers. Verizon shall not be obligated to compensate Best for Verizon's use or licensing of Best Listing Information.

4.6 Accuracy.

Both Parties shall use commercially reasonable efforts to ensure the accurate publication of Best Customer listings. At Best's request, Verizon shall provide Best with a report of all Best Customer listings normally no more than ninety (90) days and no less than thirty (30) days prior to the service order close date for the applicable directory. Verizon shall process any corrections made by Best with respect to its listings, provided such corrections are received prior to the close date of the particular directory.

4.7 Indemnification.

Best shall adhere to all practices, standards, and ethical requirements established by Verizon with regard to listings. By providing Verizon with Listing Information, Best warrants to Verizon that Best has the right to provide such Listing Information to Verizon on behalf of its Customers. Best shall make commercially reasonable efforts to ensure that any business or person to be

listed is authorized and has the right (a) to provide the product or service offered, and (b) to use any personal or corporate name, trade name, trademark, service mark or language used in the listing. Best agrees to release, defend, hold harmless and indemnify Verizon 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 Verizon's publication or dissemination of the Listing Information as provided by Best hereunder.

4.8 Liability.

Verizon's liability to Best in the event of a Verizon error in or omission of a listing shall not exceed the lesser of the amount of charges actually paid by Best for such listing or the amount by which Verizon would be liable to its own customer for such error or omission. Best agrees to take all reasonable steps, including, but not limited to, entering into appropriate contractual provisions with its Customers, to ensure that its and Verizon's liability to Best's Customers in the event of a Verizon error in or omission of a listing shall be subject to the same limitations of liability applicable between Verizon and its own Customers.

4.9 Service Information Pages.

Verizon shall include all Best NXX codes associated with the geographic areas to which each directory pertains, to the extent it does so for Verizon's own NXX codes, in any lists of such codes that are contained in the general reference portion of each directory. Best's NXX codes shall appear in such lists in the same manner as Verizon's NXX information. In addition, when Best is authorized to, and is offering, local service to Customers located within the geographic area covered by a specific directory, at Best's request, Verizon shall include, at no charge, in the "Customer Guide" or comparable section of the applicable alphabetical directories, Best's critical contact information for Best's installation, repair and Customer service, as provided by Best, and such other essential local service oriented information as is agreed to in writing by the Parties. Such critical contact information shall appear alphabetically by local exchange carrier and in accordance with Verizon's generally applicable policies. Best shall be responsible for providing the necessary information to Verizon by the applicable close date for each affected directory.

4.10 Directory Publication.

Nothing in this Agreement shall require Verizon to publish a directory where it would not otherwise do so.

4.11 Other Directory Services.

Best acknowledges that if Best desires directory services in addition to those described herein, such additional services must be obtained under separate agreement with Verizon's directory publishing company.

5. Information Services Traffic

- 5.1 For purposes of this Section 5, Voice Information Services and Voice Information Services Traffic refer to switched voice traffic, delivered to information service providers who offer recorded voice announcement information or open vocal discussion programs to the general public. Voice Information Services Traffic does not include any form of Internet Traffic. Voice Information Services Traffic

also does not include 555 traffic or similar traffic with AIN service interfaces, which traffic shall be subject to separate arrangements between the Parties. Voice Information services Traffic is not subject to Reciprocal Compensation as Local Traffic under the Interconnection Attachment.

- 5.2 If a Best Customer is served by resold Verizon Telecommunications Service or a Verizon Local Switching UNE, subject to any call blocking feature used by Best, to the extent reasonably feasible, Verizon will route Voice Information Services Traffic originating from such Service or UNE to the Voice Information Service platform. For such Voice Information Services Traffic, unless Best has entered into an arrangement with Verizon to bill and collect Voice Information Services provider charges from Best's Customers, Best shall pay to Verizon without discount the Voice Information Services provider charges. Best shall pay Verizon such charges in full regardless of whether or not it collects such charges from its own Customers.
- 5.3 Best shall have the option to route Voice Information Services Traffic that originates on its own network to the appropriate Voice Information Services platform(s) connected to Verizon's network. In the event Best exercises such option, Best will establish, at its own expense, a dedicated trunk group to the Verizon Voice Information Service serving switch. This trunk group will be utilized to allow Best to route Voice Information Services Traffic originated on its network to Verizon. For such Voice Information Services Traffic, unless Best has entered into an arrangement with Verizon to bill and collect Voice Information Services provider charges from Best's Customers, Best shall pay to Verizon without discount the Voice Information Services provider charges. Best shall pay Verizon such charges in full regardless of whether or not it collects such charges from its own Customers.
- 5.4 Best shall pay Verizon such charges in full regardless of whether or not it collects charges for such calls from its own Customers.
- 5.5 For variable rated Voice Information Services Traffic (e.g., NXX 550, 540, 976, 970, 940, as applicable) from Best Customers served by resold Verizon Telecommunications Services or a Verizon Local Switching Network Element, Best shall either (a) pay to Verizon without discount the Voice Information Services provider charges, or (b) enter into an arrangement with Verizon to bill and collect Voice Information Services provider charges from Best's Customers.
- 5.6 Either Party may request the other Party provide the requesting Party with non discriminatory access to the other party's information services platform, where such platform exists. If either Party makes such a request, the Parties shall enter into a mutually acceptable written agreement for such access.
- 5.7 In the event Best exercises such option, Best will establish, at its own expense, a dedicated trunk group to the Verizon Information Service serving switch. This trunk group will be utilized to allow Best to route information services traffic originated on its network to Verizon.

6. Intercept and Referral Announcements

- 6.1 When a Customer changes its service provider from Verizon to Best, or from Best to Verizon, 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 the Customer's new number or other appropriate information, to

the extent known to the Party formerly providing service. Notwithstanding the foregoing, a Party shall not be obligated under this Section to provide a Referral Announcement if the Customer owes the Party unpaid overdue amounts or the Customer requests that no Referral Announcement be provided.

- 6.2 Referral Announcements shall be provided, in the case of business Customers, for a period of not less than one hundred and twenty (120) days after the date the Customer changes its telephone number, and, in the case of residential Customers, not less than thirty (30) days after the date the Customer changes its telephone number; provided that if a longer time period is required by Applicable Law, such longer time period shall apply. Except as otherwise provided by Applicable Law, the period for a referral may be shortened by the Party formerly providing service if a number shortage condition requires reassignment of the telephone number.
- 6.3 This referral announcement will be provided by each Party at no charge to the other Party; provided that the Party formerly providing service may bill the Customer its standard Tariff charge, if any, for the referral announcement.

7. Originating Line Number Screening (OLNS)

Upon request, Verizon will update its database used to provide originating line number screening (the database of information which indicates to an operator the acceptable billing methods for calls originating from the calling number (e.g., penal institutions, COCOTS).

8. Operations Support Systems (OSS)

8.1 Definitions.

- 8.1.1 Verizon Operations Support Systems: Verizon systems for pre-ordering, ordering, provisioning, maintenance and repair, and billing.
- 8.1.2 Verizon OSS Services: Access to Verizon Operations Support Systems functions. The term "Verizon OSS Services" includes, but is not limited to: (a) Verizon's provision of Best Usage Information to Best pursuant to Section 8.1.3 below; and, (b) "Verizon OSS Information", as defined in Section 8.1.4 below.
- 8.1.3 Verizon OSS Facilities: Any gateways, interfaces, databases, facilities, equipment, software, or systems, used by Verizon to provide Verizon OSS Services to Best.
- 8.1.4 Verizon OSS Information: Any information accessed by, or disclosed or provided to, Best through or as a part of Verizon OSS Services. The term "Verizon OSS Information" includes, but is not limited to: (a) any Customer Information related to a Verizon Customer or a Best Customer accessed by, or disclosed or provided to, Best through or as a part of Verizon OSS Services; and, (b) any Best Usage Information (as defined in Section 8.1.6 below) accessed by, or disclosed or provided to, Best.
- 8.1.5 Verizon Retail Telecommunications Service: Any Telecommunications Service that Verizon provides at retail to subscribers that are not Telecommunications Carriers. The term "Verizon Retail Telecommunications Service" does not include any Exchange Access

service (as defined in Section 3(16) of the Act, 47 U.S.C. § 153(16)) provided by Verizon.

- 8.1.6 Best Usage Information: The usage information for a Verizon Retail Telecommunications Service purchased by Best under this Agreement that Verizon would record if Verizon was furnishing such Verizon Retail Telecommunications Service to a Verizon end-user retail Customer.
- 8.1.7 Customer Information: CPNI of a Customer and any other non-public, individually identifiable information about a Customer or the purchase by a Customer of the services or products of a Party.

8.2 Verizon OSS Services.

- 8.2.1 Upon request by Best, Verizon shall provide to Best, pursuant to Section 251(c)(3) of the Act, 47 U.S.C. § 251(c)(3), Verizon OSS Services.
- 8.2.2 Subject to the requirements of Applicable Law, Verizon Operations Support Systems, Verizon Operations Support Systems functions, Verizon OSS Facilities, Verizon OSS Information, and the Verizon OSS Services that will be offered by Verizon, shall be as determined by Verizon. Subject to the requirements of Applicable Law, Verizon shall have the right to change Verizon Operations Support Systems, Verizon Operations Support Systems functions, Verizon OSS Facilities, Verizon OSS Information, and the Verizon OSS Services, from time-to-time, without the consent of Best.

8.3 Best Usage Information.

- 8.3.1 Upon request by Best, Verizon shall provide to Best, pursuant to Section 251(c)(3) of the Act, 47 U.S.C. § 251(c)(3), Best Usage Information.
- 8.3.2 Best Usage Information will be available to Best through the following:
 - 8.3.2.1 Daily Usage File on Data Tape.
 - 8.3.2.2 Daily Usage File through Network Data Mover (NDM).
 - 8.3.2.3 Daily Usage File through Centralized Message Distribution System (CMDS) (Former Bell Atlantic service areas only).
 - 8.3.2.4 Best Usage Information will be provided in a Bellcore Exchange Message Records (EMI) format.
 - 8.3.2.5 Daily Usage File Data Tapes provided pursuant to Section 8.3.2.1 above will be issued each day, Monday through Friday, except holidays observed by Verizon.
- 8.3.3 Except as stated in this Section 8.3, subject to the requirements of Applicable Law, the manner in which, and the frequency with which, Best Usage Information will be provided to Best shall be determined by Verizon.

8.4 Access to and Use of Verizon OSS Facilities.

- 8.4.1 Verizon OSS Facilities may be accessed and used by Best only to the extent necessary for Best's access to and use of Verizon OSS Services pursuant to the Agreement.
 - 8.4.2 Verizon OSS Facilities may be accessed and used by Best only to provide Telecommunications Services to Best Customers.
 - 8.4.3 Best shall restrict access to and use of Verizon OSS Facilities to Best. This Section 8 does not grant to Best any right or license to grant sublicenses to other persons, or permission to other persons (except Best's employees, agents and contractors, in accordance with Section 8.4.7 below), to access or use Verizon OSS Facilities.
 - 8.4.4 Best shall not (a) alter, modify or damage the Verizon OSS Facilities (including, but not limited to, Verizon software), (b) copy, remove, derive, reverse engineer, or decompile, software from the Verizon OSS Facilities, or (c) obtain access through Verizon OSS Facilities to Verizon databases, facilities, equipment, software, or systems, which are not offered for Best's use under this Section 8.
 - 8.4.5 Best shall comply with all practices and procedures established by Verizon for access to and use of Verizon OSS Facilities (including, but not limited to, Verizon practices and procedures with regard to security and use of access and user identification codes).
 - 8.4.6 All practices and procedures for access to and use of Verizon OSS Facilities, and all access and user identification codes for Verizon OSS Facilities: (a) shall remain the property of Verizon; (b) shall be used by Best only in connection with Best's use of Verizon OSS Facilities permitted by this Section 8; (c) shall be treated by Best as Confidential Information of Verizon pursuant to Section 10 of the Agreement; and, (d) shall be destroyed or returned by Best to Verizon upon the earlier of request by Verizon or the expiration or termination of the Agreement.
 - 8.4.7 Best's employees, agents and contractors may access and use Verizon OSS Facilities only to the extent necessary for Best's access to and use of the Verizon OSS Facilities permitted by this Agreement. Any access to or use of Verizon OSS Facilities by Best's employees, agents, or contractors, shall be subject to the provisions of the Agreement, including, but not limited to, Section 10 of the Agreement and Section 8.5.2.3 of this Attachment.
- 8.5 Verizon OSS Information.
- 8.5.1 Subject to the provisions of this Section 8 and Applicable Law, Verizon grants to Best a non-exclusive license to use Verizon OSS Information.
 - 8.5.2 All Verizon OSS Information shall at all times remain the property of Verizon. Except as expressly stated in this Section 8, Best shall acquire no rights in or to any Verizon OSS Information.
 - 8.5.2.1 The provisions of this Section 8.5.2 shall apply to all Verizon OSS Information, except (a) Best Usage Information, (b) CPNI of Best, and (c) CPNI of a Verizon Customer or a Best Customer, to the extent the Customer has authorized Best to

use the Customer Information.

- 8.5.2.2 Verizon OSS Information may be accessed and used by Best only to provide Telecommunications Services to Best Customers.
 - 8.5.2.3 Best shall treat Verizon OSS Information that is designated by Verizon, through written or electronic notice (including, but not limited to, through the Verizon OSS Services), as “Confidential” or “Proprietary” as Confidential Information of Verizon pursuant to Section 10 of the Agreement.
 - 8.5.2.4 Except as expressly stated in this Section 8, this Agreement does not grant to Best any right or license to grant sublicenses to other persons, or permission to other persons (except Best’s employees, agents or contractors, in accordance with Section 8.5.2.5 below, to access, use or disclose Verizon OSS Information.
 - 8.5.2.5 Best’s employees, agents and contractors may access, use and disclose Verizon OSS Information only to the extent necessary for Best’s access to, and use and disclosure of, Verizon OSS Information permitted by this Section 8. Any access to, or use or disclosure of, Verizon OSS Information by Best’s employees, agents or contractors, shall be subject to the provisions of this Agreement, including, but not limited to, Section 10 of the Agreement and Section 8.5.2.3 above.
 - 8.5.2.6 Best’s license to use Verizon OSS Information shall expire upon the earliest of: (a) the time when the Verizon OSS Information is no longer needed by Best to provide Telecommunications Services to Best Customers; (b) termination of the license in accordance with this Section 8; or (c) expiration or termination of the Agreement.
 - 8.5.2.7 All Verizon OSS Information received by Best shall be destroyed or returned by Best to Verizon, upon expiration, suspension or termination of the license to use such Verizon OSS Information.
- 8.5.3 Unless sooner terminated or suspended in accordance with the Agreement or this Section 8 (including, but not limited to, Section 2.2 of the Agreement and Section 8.6.1 below), Best’s access to Verizon OSS Information through Verizon OSS Services shall terminate upon the expiration or termination of the Agreement.
- 8.5.3.1 Verizon shall have the right (but not the obligation) to audit Best to ascertain whether Best is complying with the requirements of Applicable Law and this Agreement with regard to Best’s access to, and use and disclosure of, Verizon OSS Information.
 - 8.5.3.2 Without in any way limiting any other rights Verizon may have under the Agreement or Applicable Law, Verizon shall have the right (but not the obligation) to monitor Best’s access to

and use of Verizon OSS Information which is made available by Verizon to Best pursuant to this Agreement, to ascertain whether Best is complying with the requirements of Applicable Law and this Agreement, with regard to Best's access to, and use and disclosure of, such Verizon OSS Information. The foregoing right shall include, but not be limited to, the right (but not the obligation) to electronically monitor Best's access to and use of Verizon OSS Information which is made available by Verizon to Best through Verizon OSS Facilities.

8.5.3.3 Information obtained by Verizon pursuant to this Section 8.5.3.3 shall be treated by Verizon as Confidential Information of Best pursuant to Section 10 of the Agreement; provided that, Verizon shall have the right (but not the obligation) to use and disclose information obtained by Verizon pursuant to this Section 8.5.3.3 to enforce Verizon's rights under the Agreement or Applicable Law.

8.6 Liabilities and Remedies.

8.6.1 Any breach by Best, or Best's employees, agents or contractors, of the provisions of Sections 8.4 or 8.5 above shall be deemed a material breach of the Agreement. In addition, if Best or an employee, agent or contractor of Best at any time breaches a provision of Sections 8.4 or 8.5 above and such breach continues for more than ten (10) days after written notice thereof from Verizon, then, except as otherwise required by Applicable Law, Verizon shall have the right, upon notice to Best, to suspend the license to use Verizon OSS Information granted by Section 8.5.1 above and/or the provision of Verizon OSS Services, in whole or in part.

8.6.2 Best agrees that Verizon would be irreparably injured by a breach of Sections 8.4 or 8.5 above by Best or the employees, agents or contractors of Best, and that Verizon shall be entitled to seek equitable relief, including injunctive relief and specific performance, in the event of any such breach. Such remedies shall not be deemed to be the exclusive remedies for any such breach, but shall be in addition to any other remedies available under this Agreement or at law or in equity.

8.7 Relation to Applicable Law.

The provisions of Sections 8.4, 8.5 and 8.6 above shall be in addition to and not in derogation of any provisions of Applicable Law, including, but not limited to, 47 U.S.C. § 222, and are not intended to constitute a waiver by Verizon of any right with regard to protection of the confidentiality of the information of Verizon or Verizon Customers provided by Applicable Law.

8.8 Cooperation.

Best, at Best's expense, shall reasonably cooperate with Verizon in using Verizon OSS Services. Such cooperation shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

8.8.1 Upon request by Verizon, Best shall by no later than the fifteenth (15th) day of each calendar month submit to Verizon reasonable, good faith

estimates (by central office or other Verizon office or geographic area designated by Verizon) of the volume of each Verizon Retail Telecommunications Service for which Best anticipates submitting orders in each week of the next calendar month.

8.8.2 Upon request by Verizon, Best shall by no later than the fifteenth (15th) day of each calendar month submit to Verizon reasonable, good faith estimates (by central office or other Verizon office or geographic area designated by Verizon) of the volume of each Verizon Retail Telecommunications Service for which Best anticipates submitting orders in each week of the next calendar month.

8.8.3 Best shall reasonably cooperate with Verizon in submitting orders for Verizon Retail Telecommunications Services and otherwise using the Verizon OSS Services, in order to avoid exceeding the capacity or capabilities of such Verizon OSS Services.

8.8.4 Best shall participate in cooperative testing of Verizon OSS Services and shall provide assistance to Verizon in identifying and correcting mistakes, omissions, interruptions, delays, errors, defects, faults, failures, or other deficiencies, in Verizon OSS Services.

8.9 Verizon Access to Information Related to Best Customers.

8.9.1 Verizon shall have the right to access, use and disclose information related to Best Customers that is in Verizon's possession (including, but not limited to, in Verizon OSS Facilities) to the extent such access, use and/or disclosure has been authorized by the Best Customer in the manner required by Applicable Law.

8.9.2 Upon request by Verizon, Best shall negotiate in good faith and enter into a contract with Verizon, pursuant to which Verizon may obtain access to Best's operations support systems (including, systems for pre-ordering, ordering, provisioning, maintenance and repair, and billing) and information contained in such systems, to permit Verizon to obtain information related to Best Customers (as authorized by the applicable Best Customer), to permit Customers to transfer service from one Telecommunications Carrier to another, and for such other purposes as may be permitted by Applicable Law.

8.10 Verizon Pre-OSS Services.

8.10.1 As used in this Section 8, "Verizon Pre-OSS Service" means a service which allows the performance of an activity which is comparable to an activity to be performed through a Verizon OSS Service and which Verizon offers to provide to Best prior to, or in lieu of, Verizon's provision of the Verizon OSS Service to Best. The term "Verizon Pre-OSS Service" includes, but is not limited to, the activity of placing orders for Verizon Retail Telecommunications Services through a telephone facsimile communication.

8.10.2 Subject to the requirements of Applicable Law, the Verizon Pre-OSS Services that will be offered by Verizon shall be as determined by Verizon and Verizon shall have the right to change Verizon Pre-OSS Services, from time-to-time, without the consent of Best.

- 8.10.3 Subject to the requirements of Applicable Law, the prices for Verizon Pre-OSS Services shall be as determined by Verizon and shall be subject to change by Verizon from time-to-time.
- 8.10.4 The provisions of Sections 8.4 through 8.8 above shall also apply to Verizon Pre-OSS Services. For the purposes of this Section 8.10: (a) references in Sections 8.4 through 8.8 above to Verizon OSS Services shall be deemed to include Verizon Pre-OSS Services; and, (b) references in Sections 8.4 through 8.8 above to Verizon OSS Information shall be deemed to include information made available to Best through Verizon Pre-OSS Services.
- 8.10.5 Best acknowledges that the Verizon OSS Information, by its nature, is updated and corrected on a continuous basis by Verizon, and therefore that Verizon OSS Information is* subject to change from time to time.

8.11 Cancellations.

Verizon may cancel orders for service which have had no activity within thirty-one (31) consecutive calendar days after the original service date. (Certain complex UNEs and UNEs requiring facility build-outs that may take longer than thirty-one (31) days to provision will be excluded from this provision).

9. Poles, Ducts, Conduits and Rights-of-Way

To the extent required by Applicable Law (including, but not limited to, Sections 224, 251(b)(4) and 271(c)(2)(B)(iii) of the Act), each Party ("Providing Party") shall afford the other Party non-discriminatory access to poles, ducts, conduits and rights-of-way owned or controlled by the Providing Party. Such access shall be provided in accordance with Applicable Law pursuant to the Providing Party's applicable Tariffs, or, in the absence of an applicable Providing Party Tariff, the Providing Party's generally offered form of license agreement, or, in the absence of such a Tariff and license agreement, a mutually acceptable agreement to be negotiated by the Parties.

10. Telephone Numbers

- 10.1 This Section applies in connection with Best Customers served by Telecommunications Services provided by Verizon to Best for resale or a Local Switching Network Element provided by Verizon to Best.
- 10.2 Best's use of telephone numbers shall be subject to Applicable Law the rules of the North American Numbering Council and the North American Numbering Plan Administrator, the applicable provisions of this Agreement (including, but not limited to, this Section 10), and Verizon's practices and procedures for use and assignment of telephone numbers, as amended from time-to-time.
- 10.3 Subject to Sections 10.2 and 10.4, if a Customer of either Verizon or Best who is served by a Verizon Telecommunications Service ("VTS") or a Verizon Local Switching Network Element ("VLSNE") changes the LEC that serves the Customer using such VTS or VLSNE (including a change from Verizon to Best, from Best to Verizon, or from Best to a LEC other than Verizon), after such change, the Customer may continue to use with such VTS or VLSNE the telephone numbers that were assigned to the VTS or VLSNE for the use of such Customer by Verizon immediately prior to the change.

- 10.4 Verizon shall have the right to change the telephone numbers used by a Customer if at any time: (a) the Customer requests service at a new location, that is not served by the Verizon switch and the Verizon rate center from which the Customer previously had service; (b) continued use of the telephone numbers is not technically feasible; or, (c) in the case of Telecommunications Service provided by Verizon to Best for resale, the type or class of service subscribed to by the Customer changes.
- 10.5 If service on a VTS or VLSNE provided by Verizon to Best under this Agreement is terminated and the telephone numbers associated with such VTS or VLSNE have not been ported to a Best switch, the telephone numbers shall be available for reassignment by Verizon to any person to whom Verizon elects to assign the telephone numbers, including, but not limited to, Verizon, Verizon Customers, Best, or Telecommunications Carriers other than Verizon and Best.
- 10.6 Best may reserve telephone numbers only to the extent Verizon's Customers may reserve telephone numbers.

INTERCONNECTION ATTACHMENT

1. General

Each Party ("Providing Party") shall provide to the other Party, in accordance with this Agreement and Applicable Law, interconnection with the Providing Party's network for the transmission and routing of Telephone Exchange Service and Exchange Access.

2. Points of Interconnection (POI) and Trunk Types

2.1 Points of Interconnection ("POI").

2.1.1 As and to the extent required by Section 251 of the Act, the Parties shall provide interconnection of their networks at any technically feasible point as specified in this Agreement. To the extent the originating Party's POI is not located at the terminating Party's relevant Interconnection Point ("IP"), the originating Party is responsible for transporting its traffic from its POI to the terminating Party's relevant IP.

2.1.2 Best may specify any of the following methods for interconnection with Verizon:

2.1.2.1 a Collocation node Best has established at the Verizon-IP pursuant to the Collocation Attachment; and/or

2.1.2.2 a Collocation node that has been established separately at the Verizon-IP by a third party with whom Best has contracted for such purposes; and/or

2.1.2.3 an Entrance Facility and transport leased from Verizon (and any necessary multiplexing) pursuant to the applicable Verizon access Tariff, from the Best POI to the Verizon-IP.

2.1.3 Verizon may specify any of the following methods for interconnection with Best:

2.1.3.1 interconnection at a Collocation node that Best has established at the Verizon-IP pursuant to the Collocation Attachment; and/or

2.1.3.2 interconnection at a Collocation node that has been established separately at the Verizon-IP by a third party and that is used by Best; and/or

2.1.3.3 a Collocation node or other operationally equivalent arrangement Verizon established at the Best-IP ; and/or

2.1.3.4 a Collocation node established separately at the Best-IP by a third party with whom Verizon has contracted for such purposes; and/or

2.1.3.5 an Entrance Facility leased from Best (and any necessary multiplexing), to the Best-IP.

2.2 Trunk Types.

- 2.2.1 In interconnecting their networks pursuant to this Attachment, the Parties' will use, as appropriate, the following separate and distinct trunk groups:
- 2.2.1.1 Local Interconnection Trunks for the transmission and routing of Local Traffic, translated LEC IntraLATA toll free service access code (e.g., 800/888/877) traffic, and IntraLATA Toll Traffic, between their respective Telephone Exchange Service Customers pursuant to Section 252(c)(2) of the Act, Tandem Transit Traffic, and, Internet Traffic, all in accordance with Sections 5 through 7 of this Attachment;
 - 2.2.1.2 Access Toll Connecting Trunks for the transmission and routing of Exchange Access traffic, including translated InterLATA toll free service access code (e.g., 800/888/877) traffic, between Best Telephone Exchange Service Customers and purchasers of Switched Exchange Access Service via a Verizon access Tandem, pursuant to Section 251(c)(2) of the Act, in accordance with Sections 8 through 10 of this Attachment; and
 - 2.2.1.3 Miscellaneous Trunk Groups as mutually agreed to by the Parties, including, but not limited to: (a) choke trunks for traffic congestion and testing; and, (b) untranslated IntraLATA/InterLATA toll free service access code (e.g. 800/888/877) traffic.
- 2.2.2 Other types of trunk groups may be used by the Parties as provided in other Attachments to this Agreement (e.g., 911/E911 Trunks; Information Services Trunks) or in other separate agreements between the Parties (e.g., Directory Assistance Trunks, Operator Services Trunks, BLV/BLVI Trunks).
- 2.2.3 Except as otherwise provided in this Agreement, the Parties will mutually agree upon where One Way Local Interconnection Trunks (trunks with traffic going in one direction, including one-way trunks and uni-directional two-way trunks) and/or Two Way Local Interconnection Trunks (trunks with traffic going in both directions) will be deployed.
- 2.2.4 In the event the traffic volume between a Verizon End Office and the Best POI, which is carried by a Final **Tandem** Local Interconnection Trunk group, exceeds the CCS busy hour equivalent of one (1) DS-1 at any time and/or 200,000 combined minutes of use for a single month: (a) if One-Way Interconnection Trunks are used, the originating Party shall promptly establish new End Office One-Way local Interconnection Trunk groups between the Verizon End Office and the POI; or, (b) if Two-Way Local Interconnection Trunks are used, then Best shall promptly submit an ASR to Verizon to establish **new End Office** Two-Way Local Interconnection Trunk groups between that Verizon End Office and the POI.

2.3 One Way Interconnection Trunks.

- 2.3.1 Best shall provide its own facilities or purchase transport for the delivery of traffic to any Collocation arrangement it establishes at a Verizon-IP pursuant to the Collocation Attachment.
 - 2.3.2 Best may order from Verizon any of the interconnection methods specified above in accordance with the rates and charges, order intervals, and other terms and conditions in this Agreement, in any applicable Tariff(s), or as may be otherwise agreed to between the Parties.
 - 2.3.3 Verizon shall provide its own facilities or purchase necessary transport for the delivery of traffic to any Collocation node it establishes at a Best-IP.
 - 2.3.4 Verizon may order from Best any of the Interconnection methods specified above in accordance with the rates and charges, order intervals and other terms and conditions, set forth in this Agreement, in any applicable Tariff(s), or as may be otherwise agreed to between the Parties.
 - 2.3.5 The publication "Telcordia Technical Publication GR-342-CORE; High Capacity Digital Special Access Service, Transmission Parameter Limits and Interface Combination" describes the specification and interfaces generally utilized by Verizon and is referenced herein to assist the Parties in meeting their respective Interconnection responsibilities.
 - 2.3.6 If a Party elects to provision its own One Way trunks, that Party will be responsible for the expense of providing such trunks for the delivery of Local Traffic and IntraLATA toll traffic to the other Party's IP.
- 2.4 Two-Way Interconnection Trunks.
- 2.4.1 Where the Parties have agreed to use Two Way Local Interconnection Trunks, prior to ordering any Two-Way Local Interconnection Trunks from Verizon, Best shall meet with Verizon to conduct a joint planning meeting ("Joint Planning Meeting"). At that Joint Planning Meeting, each Party shall provide to the other Party originating CCS (Hundred Call Second) information, and the Parties shall mutually agree on the appropriate initial number of Two-Way **End Office and Tandem** Local Interconnection Trunks and the interface specifications at the Point of Interconnection (POI).
 - 2.4.2 Two-Way Local Interconnection Trunks shall be from a Verizon End Office or Tandem to a mutually agreed upon POI. Where the Best is collocated in a Verizon Wire Center, the POI shall be at the Verizon Wire Center.
 - 2.4.3 On a semi-annual basis, Best shall submit a good faith forecast to Verizon of the number of **End Office and Tandem** Two-Way Local Interconnection Trunks that Best anticipates that Verizon will need to provide during the ensuing two (2) year period. Best's trunk forecasts shall conform to the Verizon CLEC trunk forecasting guidelines as in effect at that time.
 - 2.4.4 The Parties shall meet (telephonically or in person) from time to time, as

needed, to review data on **End Office and Tandem** Two-Way Local Interconnection Trunks to determine the need for new trunk groups and to plan any necessary changes in the number of Two-Way Local Interconnection Trunks.

- 2.4.5 Two-Way Local Interconnection Trunks shall have SS7 Common Channel Signaling. The Parties agree to utilize B8ZS and Extended Super Frame (ESF) DS1 facilities, where available.
- 2.4.6 With respect to **End Office** Two-Way Local Interconnection Trunks, both Parties shall use an economic CCS equal to five (5).
- 2.4.7 Two-Way Local Interconnection Trunk groups that connect to a Verizon access Tandem shall be engineered using a design blocking objective of Neal-Wilkenson B.005 during the average time consistent busy hour; Two-Way Local Interconnection Trunk groups that connect to a Verizon local Tandem shall be engineered using a design blocking objective of Neal Wilkenson B.01 during the average time consistent busy hour. Verizon and Best shall engineer Two-Way Local Interconnection Trunks using national standards.
- 2.4.8 Best shall determine and order the number of Two-Way Local Interconnection Trunks that are required to meet the applicable design blocking objective for all traffic carried on each Two-Way Local Interconnection Trunk group. Best shall order Two-Way Local Interconnection Trunks by submitting ASRs to Verizon setting forth the number of Two-Way Local Interconnection Trunks to be installed and the requested installation dates within Verizon's effective standard intervals or negotiated intervals, as appropriate. Best shall complete ASRs in accordance with Ordering and Billing Forum Guidelines as in effect from time to time.
- 2.4.9 Verizon may monitor Two-Way Local Interconnection Groups using service results for the applicable design blocking objective. If Verizon observes blocking in excess of the applicable design objective on any final Two-Way Local Interconnection Trunk group and Best has not notified Verizon that it has corrected such blocking, Verizon may submit to Best a Trunk Group Service Request directing Best to remedy the blocking. Upon receipt of a Trunk Group Service Request, Best will complete an ASR to augment the Two-Way Local Interconnection Group with excessive blocking and submit the ASR to Verizon within five (5) business days.
- 2.4.10 **Any Tandem** Two-Way Local Interconnection Trunk group between the Best's POI and a Verizon Tandem will be limited to a maximum of 240 trunks unless otherwise agreed to by the Parties. In the event that any **Tandem** Two-Way Local Interconnection Trunk group exceeds the 240 trunk level at any time, Best shall promptly submit an ASR to Verizon to establish new or additional **End Office** Trunk groups to insure that such **Tandem** Two-Way Local Interconnection Trunk group does not exceed the 240 trunk level.
- 2.4.11 Upon request, Best will submit a written report to Verizon each month setting forth trunk utilization information and percentages. Best will calculate utilization percentages by using a traffic data analyzation system specified by Verizon, industry standard study periods and a time

consistent busy hour.

- 2.4.12 The Parties will review all Tandem Two-Way Local Interconnection Trunk groups that reach a utilization level of seventy percent (70%), or greater, to determine whether those groups should be augmented. Best will promptly augment all Tandem Two-Way Local Interconnection Trunk groups that reach a utilization level of eighty percent (80%) by submitting ASRs for additional trunks sufficient to attain a utilization level of approximately seventy percent (70%), unless the Parties agree that additional trunking is not required. For each Tandem Two-Way Local Interconnection Trunk group with a utilization level of less than sixty percent (60%), unless the Parties agree otherwise, Best will promptly submit ASRs to disconnect a sufficient number of Local Interconnection Trunks to attain a utilization level of approximately sixty percent (60%) for each respective group. In the event Best fails to submit an ASR for Two-Way Local Interconnection Trunks in conformance with this section, Verizon may bill Best for the excess Local Interconnection Trunks at the applicable rates provided for in the Pricing Attachment.
- 2.4.13 The performance standard on **final** Two-Way Local Interconnection Trunks shall be that no such Local Interconnection Trunk group will exceed its design blocking objective (B.005 or B.01, as applicable) for three (3) consecutive calendar traffic study months.
- 2.4.14 Because Verizon will not be in control of the timing and sizing of the Two-Way Local Interconnection Trunks between its network and Best's network, Verizon's performance on these Two-Way Local Interconnection Trunk groups shall not be subject to any performance measurements and remedies under this Agreement, and, except as otherwise required by Applicable Law, under any FCC or Commission approved carrier-to-carrier performance assurance guidelines or plan.
- 2.4.15 Upon three (3) months prior written notice and with the mutual agreement of the Parties, either Party may withdraw its traffic from a Two-Way Local Interconnection Trunk group and install One-Way Local Interconnection Trunks to the applicable POI.
- 2.4.16 Notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement, Two-Way Local Interconnection Trunks shall only carry **Local Traffic, IntraLATA Toll Traffic and Internet Traffic.**
- 2.4.17 Best will route its traffic to Verizon over the **End Office and Tandem** Two-Way Local Interconnection Trunks in accordance with SR-TAP192, including but not limited to those standards requiring that a call from Best to a Verizon End Office will first be routed to the **End Office** Local Interconnection Trunk group between Best and the Verizon End Office.
- 2.4.18 When the Parties implement Two-Way Local Interconnection Trunks, the Parties will work cooperatively to calculate a Proportionate Percentage of Use or "PPU" factor, based on the total number of minutes of Traffic that each Party originates over the Two-Way Local Interconnection Trunks.. Best will pay a percentage of Verizon's monthly recurring charges for the facility on which the Two-Way Local Interconnection Trunks ride equal to Best's percentage of use of the facility as shown by the PPU. The PPU shall not be applied to calculate the charges for any portion of a facility that is on Best's side of Best's-IP, which charges shall

be solely the financial responsibility of Best. Non-recurring charges for the facility on which the Two-Way Interconnection Trunks ride shall be apportioned as follows: (a) for the portion of the Trunks on Verizon's side of the Best-IP, the non-recurring charges shall be divided equally between the Parties; and, (b) for the portion of the Trunks on Best's side of the Best-IP, Best shall be solely responsible for the non-recurring charges. Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions of this Section 2.4.18, if Best fails to provide IPs at Verizon's Tandem or End Office(s) in accordance with this Agreement, Best will be responsible for one hundred percent (100%) of all recurring and non-recurring charges associated with Two-Way Local Interconnection Trunk groups until Best establishes such IPs.

3. Alternative Interconnection Arrangements

- 3.1 In addition to the foregoing methods of Interconnection, and subject to mutual agreement of the Parties, the Parties may agree to establish an End Point Fiber Meet arrangement, which may include a SONET backbone with an optical interface at the OC-n level in accordance with the terms of this Section. The Fiber Distribution Frame at the Best location shall be designated as the POI for both Parties.
- 3.2 The establishment of any End Point Fiber Meet arrangement is expressly conditioned upon the Parties' reaching prior written agreement on routing, 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 End Point Fiber Meet arrangement.
- 3.3 Except as otherwise agreed by the Parties, End Point Fiber Meet arrangements shall be used only for the termination of Local Traffic, Internet Traffic, and IntraLATA Toll Traffic.

4. Initiating Interconnection

- 4.1 If Best determines to offer Telephone Exchange Services and to interconnect with Verizon in any LATA in which Verizon also offers Telephone Exchange Services and in which the Parties are not already interconnected pursuant to this Agreement, Best shall provide written notice to Verizon of the need to establish Interconnection in such LATA pursuant to this Agreement.
- 4.2 The notice provided in Section 5.1 shall include (a) the initial Routing Point(s); (b) the applicable Best-IPs to be established in the relevant LATA in accordance with this Agreement; (c) Best's intended Interconnection activation date; and (d) a forecast of Best's trunking requirements conforming to Section 14.3; and (e) such other information as Verizon shall reasonably request in order to facilitate Interconnection.
- 4.3 The interconnection activation date in the new LATA shall be mutually agreed to by the Parties after receipt by Verizon of all necessary information as indicated above. Within ten (10) business days of Verizon's receipt of Best's notice provided for in Section 4.1, Verizon and Best shall confirm the Verizon-IP(s), the Best-IP(s) and the mutually agreed upon Interconnection activation date for the new LATA.

5. Transmission and Routing of Telephone Exchange Service Traffic

5.1 Scope of Traffic.

Section 5 prescribes parameters for Local Interconnection Trunks used for Interconnection pursuant to Sections 2 through 4 of this Attachment.

5.2 Trunk Group Connections and Ordering.

- 5.2.1 Both Parties shall use either a DS-1 or DS-3 interface at the POI. Upon mutual agreement, the Parties may use other types of interfaces, such as STS-1, at the POI, when and where available. When Local Interconnection Trunks are provisioned using a DS-3 interface facility, Best shall order the multiplexed DS-3 facilities to the Verizon Central Office that is designated in the NECA 4 Tariff as an Intermediate Hub location, unless otherwise agreed to in writing by Verizon. The specific NECA 4 Intermediate Hub location to be used for Two-Way Local Interconnection Trunks shall be in the appropriate Tandem subtending area based on the LERG. In the event the appropriate DS-3 Intermediate Hub is not used, then Best shall pay 100% of the facility charges for the Two-Way Local Interconnection Trunks.
- 5.2.2 Each Party will identify its Carrier Identification Code, a three or four digit numeric code obtained from Telcordia, to the other Party when ordering a trunk group.
- 5.2.3 Unless mutually agreed to by both Parties, each Party will outpulse ten (10) digits to the other Party.
- 5.2.4 Each Party will use commercially reasonable efforts to monitor trunk groups under its control and to augment those groups using generally accepted trunk engineering standards so as to not exceed blocking objectives. Each Party agrees to use modular trunk engineering techniques for trunks subject to this Attachment .
- 5.2.5 Switching System Hierarchy and Trunking Requirements. For purposes of routing Best traffic to Verizon, the subtending arrangements between Verizon Tandem Switches and Verizon End Office Switches shall be the same as the Tandem/End Office subtending arrangements Verizon maintains for the routing of its own or other carriers' traffic. For purposes of routing Verizon traffic to Best, the subtending arrangements between Best Tandem Switches and Best End Office Switches shall be the same as the Tandem/End Office subtending arrangements which Best maintains for the routing of its own or other carriers' traffic.
- 5.2.6 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 the Unbundled Network Element Attachment or applicable access tariff.
- 5.2.7 Grades of Service. The Parties shall initially engineer and shall monitor and augment all trunk groups consistent with the Joint Process as set forth in Section 13.1.

6. Trunking Measurement and Billing over Local Interconnection Trunks

- 6.1 For billing purposes, each Party shall pass Calling Party Number (CPN) information on at least ninety-five percent (95%) of calls carried over the Local Interconnection Trunks.
- 6.1.1 If the originating Party passes CPN on ninety-five percent (95%) or more of its calls, the receiving Party shall bill the originating Party the Local Traffic call completion rate, intrastate Exchange Access rates, intrastate/interstate Tandem Transit Traffic rates, or interstate Switched Exchange Access Service rates, applicable to each relevant minute of traffic, as provided in the Pricing Attachment and applicable Tariffs, for which CPN is passed. For any remaining (up to 5%) calls without CPN information, the receiving Party shall bill the originating Party for such traffic at the Local Traffic call completion rate, intrastate Switched Exchange Access Service rates, intrastate/interstate Tandem Transit Traffic rates, or interstate Switched Exchange Access Service rates, applicable to each relevant minute of traffic, as provided in Pricing Attachment and applicable Tariffs, in direct proportion to the minutes of use of calls passed with CPN information.
- 6.1.2 If the originating Party passes CPN on less than ninety-five percent (95%) of its calls and the originating Party chooses to combine Local and Toll Traffic on the same trunk group, the receiving Party shall bill the higher of its interstate Switched Exchange Access Service rates or its intrastate Switched Exchange Access Services rates for all traffic except Internet Traffic that is passed without CPN, unless the Parties agree that other rates should apply to such traffic.
- 6.2 At such time as a receiving Party has the capability, on an automated basis, to use such CPN and/or other call detail information to classify traffic delivered over Local Interconnection Trunks by the other Party as either Local Traffic or Toll Traffic, such receiving Party shall bill the originating Party the Local Traffic call completion rate, intrastate Exchange Access rates, or interstate Exchange Access rates applicable to each relevant minute of Traffic for which CPN is passed, as provided in the Pricing Attachment and applicable Tariffs. If the receiving Party lacks the capability, on an automated basis, to use CPN information to classify on an automated basis traffic delivered by the other Party as either Local Traffic or Toll Traffic, the originating Party will supply a PIU and PLU factor. The PIU and PLU factors shall be supplied in writing by the originating Party within thirty (30) days of the Effective Date and shall be updated in writing by the originating Party quarterly. Measurement of billing minutes for purposes of determining terminating compensation shall be in conversation seconds. Measurement of billing minutes for originating toll free service access code (e.g., 800/888/877) calls shall be in accordance with applicable Tariffs. If the amount of traffic (excluding Toll Traffic) that Verizon delivers to Best exceeds twice the amount of traffic that Best delivers to Verizon as Local Traffic ("2:1 ratio"), then the amount of traffic that Verizon delivers to Best in excess of such 2:1 ratio shall be presumed to be Internet Traffic and not subject to the Local Traffic call completion rate (Reciprocal Compensation).

7. Reciprocal Compensation Arrangements – Pursuant to Section 251(b)(5)

- 7.1 Local Traffic Reciprocal Compensation Interconnection Points.

- 7.1.1 Except as otherwise agreed by the Parties, the Interconnection Points (“IPs”) from which Best will provide transport and termination of Local Traffic to its Customers (“Best-IPs”) shall be as follows:
- 7.1.1.1 For each LATA in which Best requests to interconnect with Verizon, except as otherwise agreed by the Parties, Best shall establish a Best IP in each Verizon Rate Center Area (or Exchange Area) where Best chooses to assign telephone numbers to its Customers. Best shall establish such Best-IP consistent with the methods of interconnection and interconnection trunking architectures that it will use pursuant to Section 2 of this Attachment.
- 7.1.1.2 At any time that Best establishes a Collocation site at a Verizon End Office Wire Center in a LATA in which Best is interconnected or requesting interconnection with Verizon, either Party may request in writing that such Best Collocation site be established as the Best-IP for traffic originated by Verizon Customers served by that End Office. Upon such request, the Parties shall negotiate in good faith mutually acceptable arrangements for the transition to such Best-IP. If the Parties have not reached agreement on such arrangements within thirty (30) days, (a) either Party may pursue available dispute resolution mechanisms; and, (b) Best shall bill and Verizon shall pay the lesser of the negotiated intercarrier compensation rate or the End Office reciprocal compensation rate for the relevant traffic less Verizon's transport rate, tandem switching rate (to the extent traffic is tandem switched), and other costs (to the extent that Verizon purchases such transport from Best or a third party), from the originating Verizon End Office to the receiving Best-IP.
- 7.1.1.3 In any LATA where the Parties are already interconnected prior to the effective date of this Agreement, Best may maintain existing IPs, except that Verizon may request in writing to transition such Best-IPs to the Best-IPs described in subsections 7.1.1.1 and 7.1.1.2, above. Upon such request, the Parties shall negotiate a mutually satisfactory arrangements for the transition to IPs that conform to subsections 7.1.1.1 and 7.1.1.2, above. If the Parties have not reached agreement on such arrangements within thirty (30) days, (a) either Party may pursue available dispute resolution mechanisms; and, (b) Best shall bill and Verizon shall pay only the lesser of the negotiated intercarrier compensation rate or the End Office reciprocal compensation rate for relevant traffic, less Verizon's transport rate, tandem switching rate (to the extent traffic is tandem switched), and other costs (to the extent that Verizon purchases such transport from Best or a third party), from Verizon's originating End Office to the Best IP.
- 7.1.2 Except as otherwise agreed by the Parties, the Interconnection Points (“IPs”) from which Verizon will provide transport and termination of Local Traffic to its Customers (“Verizon-IPs”) shall be as follows:
- 7.1.2.1 For Local Traffic delivered by Best to the Verizon Tandem

subtended by the terminating End Office serving the Verizon Customer, the Verizon-IP will be the Verizon Tandem Wire Center.

- 7.1.2.2 For Local Traffic delivered by Best to the Verizon terminating End Office Wire Center serving the Verizon Customer, the Verizon-IP will be Verizon End Office Wire Center.
- 7.1.3 Should either Party offer additional IPs to any Telecommunications Carrier that is not a Party to this Agreement, the other Party may elect to deliver traffic to such IPs for the NXXs or functionalities served by those IPs. To the extent that any such Best-IP is not located at a Collocation site at a Verizon Tandem Wire Center or Verizon End Office Wire Center, then Best shall permit Verizon to establish physical Interconnection through collocation or other operationally comparable arrangements acceptable to Verizon at the Best-IP, to the extent such physical Interconnection is technically feasible.
- 7.1.4 Each Party is responsible for delivering its Local Traffic that is to be terminated by the other Party to the other Party's relevant IP.
- 7.2 The Parties shall compensate each other for the transport and termination of Local Traffic delivered to the terminating Party in accordance with Section 251(b)(5) of the Act at the rates stated in the Pricing Attachment. These rates are to be applied at the Best-IP for traffic delivered by Verizon for termination by Best, and at the Verizon-IP for traffic delivered by Best for termination by Verizon. Except as expressly specified in this Agreement, no additional charges shall apply for the termination from the IP to the Customer of Local Traffic delivered to the Verizon-IP by Best or the Best-IP by Verizon. When such Local Traffic is delivered over the same trunks as Toll Traffic, any port or transport or other applicable access charges related to the delivery of Toll Traffic from the IP to an end user shall be prorated to be applied only to the Toll Traffic. The designation of traffic as Local Traffic for purposes of Reciprocal Compensation shall be based on the actual originating and terminating points of the complete end-to-end communication.
- 7.3 Transport and termination of the following types of traffic shall not be subject to the Reciprocal Compensation arrangements set forth in this Section, but instead shall be treated as described or referenced below:
 - 7.3.1 Tandem Transit Traffic shall be treated as specified in Section 11.
 - 7.3.2 For any traffic originating with a third party carrier and delivered by Best to Verizon, Best shall pay Verizon the same amount that such third party carrier would have been obligated to pay Verizon for termination of that traffic at the location the traffic is delivered to Verizon by Best.
 - 7.3.3 Switched Exchange Access Service and InterLATA or IntraLATA Toll Traffic shall continue to be governed by the terms and conditions of the applicable Tariffs and, where applicable, by a Meet-Point Billing arrangement in accordance with Section 9.
 - 7.3.4 No Reciprocal Compensation shall apply to Internet Traffic. If the amount of traffic (excluding intraLATA Toll Traffic) that Verizon delivers to Best exceeds twice the amount of traffic that Best delivers to Verizon

as Local Traffic ("2:1 ratio"), then the amount of traffic that Verizon delivers to Best in excess of such 2:1 ratio shall be presumed to be Internet Traffic and shall not be subject to Reciprocal Compensation. Notwithstanding any other provision in this Agreement, if the Commission, the FCC, or a court of competent jurisdiction, should issue or release an order, or if a federal or state legislative authority should enact a statute, that by its terms (a) expressly supercedes or modifies existing interconnection agreements and (b) specifies a rate or rate structure for reciprocal compensation, intercarrier compensation, or access charges, that is to apply to Internet Traffic, then the Parties shall promptly amend this Agreement to reflect the terms of such order or statute. If such order or statute does not expressly supercede or modify existing interconnection agreements, then Verizon, in its sole discretion, may elect either to continue the provisions set forth herein with regard to Internet Traffic, or to terminate such provisions with thirty (30) days advance written notice. In the event Verizon elects to exercise its termination right, then the Parties shall promptly amend this Agreement to reflect the terms of such order or statute, and any such amendment shall be retroactive to the effective date of the termination.

- 7.3.5 No Reciprocal Compensation shall apply to special access, private line, or any other traffic that is not switched by the terminating Party.
- 7.3.6 IntraLATA intrastate alternate-billed calls (e.g., collect, calling card, and third-party billed calls) originated or authorized by the Parties' respective Customers in Kentucky) shall be treated in accordance with an arrangement mutually agreed to by the Parties.
- 7.3.7 Any other traffic not specifically addressed in this Section shall be treated as provided elsewhere in this Agreement, or if not so provided, as required by the applicable Tariff of the Party transporting and/or terminating the traffic.
- 7.4 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.
- 7.5 Each Party reserves the right to audit all Traffic, up to a maximum of two audits per calendar year, to ensure that 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 in conjunction with any such audit in a timely manner.

8. Transmission and Routing of Exchange Access Traffic

8.1 Scope of Traffic.

Section 8 prescribes parameters for certain trunks to be established over the Interconnections specified in Sections 2 through 5 of this Attachment for the transmission and routing of traffic between Best Telephone Exchange Service Customers and Interexchange Carriers ("Access Toll Connecting Trunks"), in any case where Best elects to have its End Office Switch subtend a Verizon Tandem. This includes casually-dialed (1010XXX and 101XXXX) traffic.

8.2 Access Toll Connecting Trunk Group Architecture.

- 8.2.1 If Best chooses to subtend a Verizon access Tandem, Best's NPA/NXX must be assigned by Best to subtend the same Verizon access Tandem that a Verizon NPA/NXX serving the same Rate Center subtends as identified in the LERG.
- 8.2.2 Best shall establish Access Toll Connecting Trunks pursuant to applicable access Tariffs by which it will provide Switched Exchange Access Services to Interexchange Carriers to enable such Interexchange Carriers to originate and terminate traffic to and from Best's Customers.
- 8.2.3 The Access Toll Connecting Trunks shall be two-way trunks. Such trunks shall connect the End Office Best utilizes to provide Telephone Exchange Service and Switched Exchange Access to its Customers in a given LATA to the Tandem Verizon utilizes to provide Exchange Access in such LATA.
- 8.2.4 Access Toll Connecting Trunks shall be used solely for the transmission and routing of Exchange Access to allow Best's Customers to connect to or be connected to the interexchange trunks of any Interexchange Carrier which is connected to a Verizon access tandem.

9. Meet-Point Billing Arrangements

- 9.1 Best and Verizon will establish Meet-Point Billing ("MPB") arrangements in order to provide a common transport option to Switched Access Services Customers via a Verizon access Tandem Switch in accordance with the Meet Point Billing guidelines contained in the OBF's MECAB and MECOD documents, except as modified herein, and in Verizon's applicable Tariffs. The arrangements described in this Section 9 are intended to be used to provide Switched Exchange Access Service that originates and/or terminates on Telephone Exchange Service that is provided by either Party, where the transport component of the Switched Exchange Access Service is routed through a access Tandem Switch that is provided by Verizon.
- 9.2 In each LATA, the Parties shall establish MPB arrangements between the applicable Routing Point/Verizon Serving Wire Center combinations.
- 9.3 Interconnection for the MPB arrangement shall occur at the Verizon access Tandems in the LATA, unless otherwise agreed to by the Parties.
- 9.4 Best and Verizon 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.
- 9.5 In general, there are four alternative Meet-Point Billing arrangements possible, which are:
 - 9.5.1 "Single Bill/Single Tariff" in which a single bill is presented to the Interexchange Carrier and each Local Exchange Carrier involved applies rates for its portion of the services from the same Tariff.

- 9.5.2 "Multiple Bill/Single Tariff" in which each involved Local Exchange Carrier presents separate bills to the Interexchange Carrier and each Local Exchange Carrier involved applies rates for its portion of the service from the same Tariff.
- 9.5.3 "Multiple Bill/Multiple Tariff" in which each involved Local Exchange Carrier presents separate bill to the Interexchange Carrier and each Local Exchange Carrier involved applies rates for its portion of the service from its own Tariff.
- 9.5.4 "Single Bill/Multiple Tariff" in which a single bill is presented to the Interexchange Carrier and each Local Exchange Carrier involved applies rates for its portion of the service from its own Tariff.

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. Alternatively, in former Bell Atlantic service areas, upon agreement of the Parties, each Party may use the New York State Access Pool on its behalf to implement the Single Bill/Multiple Tariff or Single Bill/Single Tariff option, as appropriate, in order to bill an IXC for the portion of the jointly provided Telecommunications Service provided by each Party.

- 9.6 The rate elements to be billed by each Party shall be as set forth in that Party's applicable Tariffs. The actual rate values for each Party's affected Switched Exchange 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 Routing Point/Verizon Serving Wire Center combination shall be calculated in accordance with the formula set forth in Section 9.15.
- 9.7 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 Verizon Wire Center serving the IXC in order to comply with the MPB notification process as outlined in the MECAB document.
- 9.8 Verizon shall provide Best with the Switched Access Detail Usage Data (EMI 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.
- 9.9 Best shall provide Verizon with the Switched Access Summary Usage Data (EMI 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.
- 9.10 All usage data to be provided pursuant to Sections 9.8 and 9.9 shall be sent to the following addresses:

To Best:

Ms. Alycia Massey
44 North Louisville Avenue

Tulsa, OK 74115

For Verizon:

Verizon Data Services
ATTN: MPB
1 East Telecom Parkway
Dock K
Temple Terrace, FL 33637

Either Party may change its address for receiving usage data by notifying the other Party in writing pursuant to Section 4.23 of the General Terms and Conditions

- 9.11 Best and Verizon 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 arrangements described in this Section 9. 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.
- 9.12 Each Party agrees to provide the other Party with notification of any errors it discovers in MPB data within 30 calendar days of the receipt of the original data. The other party shall attempt to correct the error and resubmit the data within (ten) 10 business days of the notification. In the event the errors cannot be corrected within such (ten) 10 business day period, the erroneous data will be considered lost. In the event of a loss of data, whether due to uncorrectable errors or otherwise, 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.
- 9.13 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 Section 4.4 of the General Terms and Conditions 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.
- 9.14 Except as expressly set forth in this Agreement, nothing contained in this Section 9 shall create any liability for damages, losses, claims, costs, injuries, expenses or other liabilities whatsoever on the part of either Party. MPB will apply for all traffic bearing the 500, 900, toll free service access code (e.g. 800/888/877) (to the extent provided by an IXC) or any other non-geographic NPA which may be designated for such traffic in the future.
- 9.15 In the event Best determines to offer Telephone Exchange Services in another LATA in which Verizon operates an access Tandem Switch, Verizon shall permit and enable Best to subtenant the Verizon access Tandem Switch(es) designated for the Verizon End Offices in the area where the Best Routing Point(s) associated with the NPA NXX(s) to/from which the Switched Exchange Access Services are homed. Except as otherwise mutually agreed by the Parties, the MPB billing percentages for each Routing Point/Verizon Serving Wire Center combination shall be calculated according to the following formula, unless as mutually agreed to by the Parties:

$a / (a + b)$ = Best Billing Percentage

and

$b / (a + b)$ = Verizon Billing Percentage

where:

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

b = the airline mileage between the Verizon serving Wire Center and the actual point of interconnection for the MPB arrangement.

- 9.16 Best shall inform Verizon of each LATA in which it intends to offer Telephone Exchange Services and its calculation of the billing percentages which should apply for such arrangement. Within ten (10) business days of Best's delivery of notice to Verizon, Verizon and Best shall confirm the Routing Point/Verizon Serving Wire Center combination and billing percentages.

10. Toll Free Service Access Code (e.g., 800/888/877) Traffic

The following terms shall apply when either Party delivers toll free service access code (e.g., 800/888/877) ("800") calls to the other Party.

- 10.1 When Best delivers toll free service access code calls that have been queried to an "800" database to Verizon for delivery

10.1.1 to an IXC:

Best shall provide an appropriate EMI record to Verizon for processing and Meet Point Billing in accordance with Section 9 above; and Best shall bill the IXC the Best query charge associated with the call.

10.1.2 to Verizon or another LEC that is a toll free service access code service provider in the LATA:

10.1.2.1 Best shall provide an appropriate EMI record to the toll free service access code service provider; and

- 10.2 Best's Tariffed Feature Group D ("FGD") Switched Exchange Access or Reciprocal Compensation charges, as applicable, and the Best query charge, shall be assessed to the toll free service access code service provider; and

- 10.3 Verizon shall assess applicable Tandem Transit Service charges and associated passthrough charges to When Verizon delivers toll free service access code calls that have been queried to an "800" database, originated by Verizon's or another LEC's Customers, to Best:

10.3.1 where the queried call is an intraLATA call that is handed off to Best in CLEC's capacity as a toll free service access code service provider:

10.3.2 Verizon shall bill Best the Verizon query charge associated with the call as specified in the Pricing Attachment; and

- 10.3.2.1 Verizon shall provide an appropriate EMI record to Best; and
- 10.3.2.2 Verizon's Tariffed FGD Switched Exchange Access or Reciprocal Compensation charges shall be billed to Best as applicable.

10.4 Unqueried Toll Free Service Access Code (e.g., 800/88/8/877) Traffic.

If Best chooses Verizon to handle toll free service access code (e.g.,800/888/877) ("800") database queries from Best's central office switches, all Best originating 800 traffic will be routed over a separate 800 trunk group. The 800 trunk group will be one-way from Best to Verizon. Verizon will perform the query and route the call appropriately.

10.4.1 When the 800 call is routed to an IXC:

10.4.1.1 Verizon will query the call and route the call to the appropriate IXC.

10.4.1.2 Verizon shall provide an appropriate EMI record to Best to facilitate billing to the IXC.

10.4.2 Verizon shall bill the IXC the Verizon query charge associated with the call and any other applicable Verizon charges.

10.4.3 When the 800 call is an IntraLATA call routed to Verizon or another LEC that is a toll free service access code service provider in the LATA:

10.4.3.1 Verizon will query the call and route the call to the appropriate LEC toll free service access code service provider.

10.4.3.2 Verizon shall provide an appropriate EMI record to Best to facilitate billing to the LEC toll free service access code service provider

10.4.3.3 Verizon shall bill the LEC toll free service access code service provider the query charge associated with the call and any other applicable Verizon charges.

10.5 Verizon will not direct unqueried toll free service access code call to Best.

11. Tandem Transit Traffic

11.1 As used in this Section 11, Tandem Transit Traffic is Telephone Exchange Service traffic that originates on Best's network, and is transported through a Verizon Tandem to the Central Office of a CLEC, ILEC other than Verizon, Commercial Mobile Radio Service (CMRS) carrier, or other LEC, that subtends the relevant Verizon Tandem to which Best delivers such traffic. Neither the originating nor terminating customer is a Customer of Verizon. Subtending Central Offices shall be determined in accordance with and as identified in the Local Exchange Routing Guide (LERG). Switched Exchange Access Service traffic is not Tandem Transit Traffic.

11.2 Tandem Transit Traffic Service provides Best with the transport of Tandem Transit Traffic as provided below.

- 11.3 Tandem Transit Traffic may be routed over the Local Interconnection Trunks described in Sections 3 through 6. Best shall deliver each Tandem Transit Traffic call to Verizon with CCS and the appropriate Transactional Capabilities Application Part ("TCAP") message to facilitate full interoperability of CLASS Features and billing functions. The Parties will mutually agree to the types of records to be exchanged until industry standards are established and implemented.
- 11.4 Best shall exercise its best efforts to enter into a reciprocal Telephone Exchange Service traffic arrangement (either via written agreement or mutual Tariffs) with any CLEC, ILEC, CMRS carrier, or other LEC, to which it delivers Telephone Exchange Service traffic that transits Verizon's Tandem Office. If Best does not enter into and provide notice to Verizon of the above referenced arrangement within 180 days of the initial traffic exchange with relevant third party carriers, then Verizon may, at its sole discretion, terminate Tandem Transit Service at anytime upon thirty (30) days written notice to Best.
- 11.5 Best shall pay Verizon for Transit Service that Best originates at the rate specified in the Pricing Attachment, plus any additional charges or costs the receiving CLEC, ILEC, CMRS carrier, or other LEC, imposes or levies on Verizon for the delivery or termination of such traffic, including any Switched Exchange Access Service charges.
- 11.6 Verizon will not provide Tandem Transit Traffic Service for Tandem Transit Traffic to be delivered to a CLEC, ILEC, CMRS carrier, or other LEC, if the volume of Tandem Transit Traffic to be delivered to that carrier exceeds one (1) DS1 level volume of calls.
- 11.7 If or when a third party carrier's Central Office subtends a Best Central Office, then Best shall offer to Verizon a service arrangement equivalent to or the same as Tandem Transit Service provided by Verizon to Best as defined in this Section 11 such that Verizon may terminate calls to a Central Office of a CLEC, ILEC, CMRS carrier, or other LEC, that subtends a Best Central Office ("Reciprocal Tandem Transit Service"). Best shall offer such Reciprocal Transit Service arrangements under terms and conditions no less favorable than those provided in this Section 11.
- 11.8 Neither Party shall take any actions to prevent the other Party from entering into a direct and reciprocal traffic exchange agreement with any carrier to which it originates, or from which it terminates, traffic.

12. Number Resources, Rate Centers and Routing Points

- 12.1 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 Codes ("NXX") pursuant to the Central Office Code Assignment Guidelines and any relevant FCC or Commission orders, as may be amended from time to time, or to establish, by Tariff or otherwise, Rate Centers and Routing Points corresponding to such NXX codes.
- 12.2 It shall be the responsibility of each Party to program and update its own switches and network systems pursuant to information provided on ASRs as well as the LERG in order to recognize and route traffic to the other Party's assigned NXX codes. Except as expressly set forth in this Agreement, neither Party shall impose any fees or charges whatsoever on the other Party for such activities.

- 12.3 Unless otherwise required by Commission order, the Rate Center Areas will be the same for each Party. During the term of this Agreement, Best shall adopt the Rate Center Area and Rate Center Points that the Commission has approved for Verizon within the LATA and Tandem serving area, in all areas where Verizon and Best service areas overlap. Best shall assign whole NPA-NXX codes to each Rate Center Area unless otherwise ordered by the FCC, the Commission or another governmental entity of appropriate jurisdiction, or the LEC industry adopts alternative methods of utilizing NXXs.
- 12.4 Best will also designate a Routing Point for each assigned NXX code. Best shall designate one location for each Rate Center Area in which the Best has established NXX code(s) as the Routing Point for the NPA-NXXs associated with that Rate Center, and such Routing Point shall be within the same LATA as the Rate Center Area but not necessarily within the Rate Center Area itself. Unless specified otherwise, calls to subsequent NXXs of Best will be routed in the same manner as calls to Best's initial NXXs.
- 12.5 Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained herein, nothing in this Agreement is intended, and nothing in this Agreement shall be construed, to in any way constrain Best's choices regarding the size of the local calling area(s) that Best may establish for its Customers, which local calling areas may be larger than, smaller than, or identical to Verizon's local calling areas.

13. Joint Network Implementation and Grooming Process; and Installation, Maintenance, Testing and Repair

13.1 Joint Network Implementation and Grooming Process.

Upon request of either Party, the Parties shall jointly develop an implementation and grooming process (the "Joint Grooming Process" or "Joint Process") which may define and detail, inter alia.

13.1.1 standards to ensure that Local Interconnection Trunks experience a grade of service, availability and quality which is comparable to that achieved on interoffice trunks within Verizon's network and in accord with all appropriate relevant industry-accepted quality, reliability and availability standards. Except as otherwise stated in this Agreement, trunks provided by either Party for Interconnection services will be engineered using a design blocking objective of B.01.

13.1.2 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;

13.1.3 disaster recovery provision escalations;

13.1.4 additional technically feasible and geographically relevant IP(s) in a LATA as provided in Section 8; and

13.1.5 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.

13.2 Installation, Maintenance, Testing and Repair.

Unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Parties, to the extent required by Applicable Law, Interconnection provided by a Party shall be equal in quality to that provided by such Party to itself, any subsidiary, affiliates or third party. If either Party is unable to fulfill its obligations under this Section 13.2, it shall notify the other Party of its inability to do so and will negotiate alternative intervals in good faith. The Parties agree that to the extent required by Applicable Law, the standards to be used by a Party for isolating and clearing any disconnections and/or other outages or troubles shall be at parity with standards used by such Party with respect to itself, any subsidiary, affiliate or third party.

13.3 Forecasting Requirements for Trunk Provisioning.

Within ninety (90) days of executing this Agreement, Best shall provide Verizon a two (2) year traffic forecast. This initial forecast will provide the amount of traffic to be delivered to and from Verizon over each of the Local Interconnection Trunk groups over the next eight (8) quarters. The forecast shall be updated and provided to Verizon on an as-needed basis but no less frequently than semiannually. All forecasts shall comply with the Verizon CLEC Interconnection Trunking Forecast Guide and shall include, at a minimum, Access Carrier Terminal Location ("ACTL"), traffic type (Local Traffic/Toll Traffic, Operator Services, 911, etc.), code (identifies trunk group), A location/Z location (CLLI codes for Best-IPs and Verizon-IPs), interface type (e.g., DS1), and trunks in service each year (cumulative).

13.3.1 Initial Forecasts/Trunking Requirements. Because Verizon's trunking requirements will, at least during an initial period, be dependent on the Customer segments and service segments within Customer segments to whom Best decides to market its services, Verizon will be largely dependent on Best to provide accurate trunk forecasts for both inbound (from Verizon) and outbound (to Verizon) traffic. Verizon will, as an initial matter provide the same number of trunks to terminate Local Traffic to Best as Best provides to terminate Local Traffic to Verizon. At Verizon's discretion, when Best expressly identifies particular situations that are expected to produce traffic that is substantially skewed in either the inbound or outbound direction, Verizon will provide the number of trunks Best suggests; provided, however, that in all cases Verizon's provision of the forecasted number of trunks to Best is conditioned on the following: that such forecast is based on reasonable engineering criteria, there are no capacity constraints, and Best's previous forecasts have proven to be reliable and accurate.

13.3.1.1 Monitoring and Adjusting Forecasts. Verizon will, for ninety (90) days, monitor traffic on each trunk group that it establishes at Best's suggestion or request pursuant to the procedures identified in Section 13.3.1. At the end of such ninety (90) day period, Verizon may disconnect trunks that, based on reasonable engineering criteria and capacity constraints, are not warranted by the actual traffic volume experienced. If, after such initial ninety (90) day period for a trunk group, Verizon determines that any trunks in the trunk group in excess of two (2) DS-1s are not warranted by actual traffic volumes (considering engineering criteria for busy hour CCS and blocking percentages), then Verizon may hold Best financially responsible for the excess facilities.

13.3.1.2 In subsequent periods, Verizon may also monitor traffic for

ninety (90) days on additional trunk groups that Best suggests or requests Verizon to establish. If, after any such (90) day period, Verizon determines that any trunks in the trunk group are not warranted by actual traffic volumes (considering engineering criteria for busy hour CCS and blocking percentages), then Verizon may hold Best financially responsible for the excess facilities. At any time during the relevant ninety (90) day period, Best may request that Verizon disconnect trunks to meet a revised forecast. In such instances, Verizon may hold Best financially responsible for the disconnected trunks retroactive to the start of the ninety (90) day period through the date such trunks are disconnected.

14. Number Portability - Section 251(B)(2)

14.1 Scope.

The Parties shall provide Number Portability ("NP") in accordance with rules and regulations as from time to time prescribed by the FCC.

14.2 Procedures for Providing LNP ("Long-term Number Portability").

The Parties will follow the LNP provisioning process recommended by the North American Numbering Council (NANC) and adopted by the FCC. In addition, the Parties agree to follow the LNP ordering procedures established at the Ordering And Billing Forum (OBF). The Parties shall provide LNP on a reciprocal basis.

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. After Party B has received a letter of agency (LOA) from an end user customer and sends a LSR to Party A, Parties A and B will work together to port the customer's telephone number(s) from Party A's network to Party B's network. It is Party B's responsibility to maintain a file of all LOAs and Party A may request, upon reasonable notice, a copy of the LOA.

14.2.2 When a telephone number is ported out of Party A's network, Party A will remove any non-proprietary line based calling card(s) associated with the ported number(s) from its Line Information Database ("LIDB"). Reactivation of the line-based calling card in another LIDB, if desired, is the responsibility of Party B or Party B's customer.

14.2.3 When a customer of Party A ports their telephone numbers to Party B and the customer has previously secured a reservation of line numbers from Party A for possible activation at a future point, these reserved but inactive numbers may be ported along with the active numbers to be ported provided the numbers have been reserved for the customer. Party B may request that Party A port all reserved numbers assigned to the customer or that Party A port only those numbers listed by Party B. As long as Party B maintains reserved but inactive numbers ported for the customer, Party A shall not reassign those numbers. Party B shall not reassign the reserved numbers to another end user customer.

- 14.2.4 When a customer of Party A ports their telephone numbers to Party B, in the process of porting the customer's telephone numbers, Party A shall implement the ten-digit trigger feature where it is available. When Party A receives the porting request, the unconditional trigger shall be applied to the customer's line before the due date of the porting activity. When the ten-digit unconditional trigger is not available, Party A and Party B must coordinate the disconnect activity.
- 14.2.5 The Parties shall furnish each other with the Jurisdiction Information Parameter (JIP) in the Initial Address Message (IAM), containing a Local Exchange Routing Guide (LERG)-assigned NPA-NXX (6 digits) identifying the originating switch on calls originating from LNP capable switches.
- 14.2.6 Where LNP is commercially available, the NXXs in the office shall be defined as portable, except as noted in 14.2.7, and translations will be changed in the Parties' switches to open those NXXs for database queries in all applicable LNP capable offices within the LATA of the given switch(es). On a prospective basis, all newly deployed switches will be equipped with LNP capability and so noted in the LERG.
- 14.2.7 All NXXs assigned to LNP capable switches are to be designated as portable unless a NXX(s) has otherwise been designated as non-portable. Non-portable NXXs include NXX codes assigned to paging, cellular and wireless services; codes assigned for internal testing and official use and any other NXX codes required to be designated as non-portable by the rules and regulations of the FCC. NXX codes assigned to mass calling on a chocked network may not be ported using LNP technology but are portable using methods established by the NANC and adopted by the FCC. On a prospective basis, newly assigned codes in switches capable of porting shall become commercially available for porting with the effective date in the network.
- 14.2.8 Both Parties' use of LNP shall meet the performance criteria specified by the FCC. Both Parties will act as the default carrier for the other Party in the event that either Party is unable to perform the routing necessary for LNP.

14.3 Procedures for Providing NP Through Full NXX Code Migration.

Where a Party has activated an entire NXX for a single Customer, or activated at least eighty percent (80%) 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.

14.4 Procedures for Providing INP (Interim Number Portability).

The Parties shall provide Interim Number Portability ("INP") in accordance with rules and regulations prescribed from time to time by the FCC and state

regulatory bodies, the Parties respective company procedures, and as set forth in this Section 14.4. The Parties shall provide INP on a reciprocal basis.

- 14.4.1 In the event that either Party, Party B, wishes to serve a Customer currently served at an End Office of the other Party, Party A, and that End Office is not LNP-capable, Party A shall make INP available. INP will be provided by remote call forwarding (RCF) and/or direct inward dialing (DID) technology, which will forward terminating calls to Party B's End Office. Party B shall provide Party A with an appropriate "forward-to" number.
- 14.4.2 Prices for INP and formulas for sharing Terminating access revenues associated with INP shall be provided where applicable, upon request by Best.
- 14.4.3 Either Party wishing to use DID to provide for INP must request a dedicated trunk group from the End Office where the DID numbers are currently served to the new serving-End Office. If there are no existing facilities between the respective End Offices, the dedicated facilities and transport trunks will be provisioned as unbundled service through the ASR provisioning process. The requesting party will reroute the DID numbers to the pre-positioned trunk group using the LSR provisioning process. DID trunk rates are contained in the Parties' respective tariffs.
- 14.4.4 The Parties Agree that, per FCC 98-275, Paragraph 16, effective upon the date LNP is available at any End Office of one Party, Party A, providing INP for Customers of the other Party, Party B, no further orders will be accepted for new INP at that End Office. Orders for new INP received prior to that date, and change orders for existing INP, shall be worked by Party A. Orders for new INP received by Party A on or after that date shall be rejected. Existing INP will be grand-fathered, subject to Section 14.4.5, below.
- 14.4.5 In offices equipped with LNP prior to September 1, 1999 for former Bell Atlantic offices and October 1, 2000 for former GTE offices, the Parties agree to work together to convert all existing INP-served Customers to LNP by December 31, 2000 in accordance with a mutually agreed to conversion process and schedule. If mutually agreed to by the Parties, the conversion period may be extended one time by no more than 90 days from December 31, 2000.
- 14.4.6 Upon availability of LNP after October 1, 2000 at an End Office of either Party, both Parties agree to work together to convert the existing INP-served Customers to LNP by no later than 90 days from the date of LNP availability unless otherwise agreed to by the Parties.
- 14.4.7 When, through no fault of Verizon's, all INP have not been converted to LNP at the end of the agreed to conversion period, then the remaining INPs will be changed to a functionally equivalent tariff service and billed to the CLEC at the tariff rate(s) for the subject jurisdiction.

14.5 Procedures for LNP Request.

The Parties shall provide for the requesting of End Office LNP capability on a reciprocal basis through a written request. The Parties acknowledge that Verizon

has deployed LNP throughout its network in compliance with FCC 96-286 and other applicable FCC rules.

14.5.1 If Party B desires to have LNP capability deployed in an End Office of Party A, which is not currently capable, Party B shall issue a BFR to the Party A. Party A respond to the Party B, within ten (10) days of receipt of the BFR, with a date for which LNP will be available in the requested End Office. Party A shall proceed to provide for LNP in compliance with the procedures and timelines set forth in FCC 96-286, Paragraph 80, and FCC 97-74, Paragraphs 65 through 67.

14.5.2 The Parties acknowledge that each can determine the LNP-capable End Offices of the other through the Local Exchange Routing Guide (LERG). In addition the Parties shall make information available upon request showing their respective LNP-capable End Offices, as set forth in this Section 14.5.

RESALE ATTACHMENT

1. General

Verizon shall provide to Best, in accordance with this Agreement (including, but not limited to, Verizon's applicable Tariffs) and the requirements of Applicable Law (including, but not limited to, Sections 251(b)(1), 251(c)(4) and 271(c)(2)(B)(xiv) of the Act), Verizon's Telecommunications Services for resale by Best; provided, that notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement, Verizon shall be obligated to provide Telecommunications Services to Best only to the extent required by Applicable Law and may decline to provide a Telecommunications Service to Best to the extent that provision of such Telecommunications Service is not required by Applicable Law.

2. Use of Verizon Telecommunications Services

- 2.1 Verizon Telecommunications Services may be purchased by Best under this Resale Attachment only for the purpose of resale by Best as a Telecommunications Carrier. Verizon Telecommunications Services to be purchased by Best for other purposes (including, but not limited to, Best's own use) must be purchased by Best pursuant to other applicable Attachments to this Agreement (if any), or separate written agreements, including, but not limited to, applicable Verizon Tariffs.
- 2.2 Best shall not resell:
- 2.2.1 Residential service to persons not eligible to subscribe to such service from Verizon (including, but not limited to, business or other nonresidential Customers);
 - 2.2.2 Lifeline, Link Up America, or other means-tested service offerings, to persons not eligible to subscribe to such service offerings from Verizon;
 - 2.2.3 Grandfathered or discontinued service offerings to persons not eligible to subscribe to such service offerings from Verizon; or
 - 2.2.4 Any other Verizon service in violation of a restriction stated in this Agreement (including, but not limited to, a Verizon Tariff) that is not prohibited by Applicable Law.
 - 2.2.5 In addition to any other actions taken by Best to comply with this Section 2.2, Best shall take those actions required by Applicable Law to determine the eligibility of Best Customers to purchase a service, including, but not limited to, obtaining any proof or certification of eligibility to purchase Lifeline, Link Up America, or other means-tested services, required by Applicable Law. Best shall indemnify Verizon from any Claims resulting from Best's failure to take such actions required by Applicable Law.
 - 2.2.6 Verizon may perform audits to confirm Best's conformity to the provisions of this Section 2.2. Such audits may be performed twice per calendar year and shall be performed in accordance with Sections 4.4.2 through 4.4.4 of the General Terms and Conditions.

- 2.3 Best shall be subject to the same limitations that Verizon's Customers are subject to with respect to any Telecommunications Service that Verizon grandfathers or discontinues offering. Without limiting the foregoing, except to the extent that Verizon follows a different practice for Verizon Customers in regard to a grandfathered Telecommunications Service, such grandfathered Telecommunications Service: (a) shall be available only to a Customer that already has such Telecommunications Service; (b) may not be moved to a new service location; and, (c) will be furnished only to the extent that facilities continue to be available to provide such Telecommunications Service.
- 2.4 Best shall not be eligible to participate in any Verizon plan or program under which Verizon Customers may obtain products or services which are not Verizon Telecommunications Services, in return for trying, agreeing to purchase, purchasing, or using, Verizon Telecommunications Services.
- 2.5 In accordance with 47 CFR § 51.617(b), Verizon shall be entitled to all charges for Verizon Exchange Access services used by interexchange carriers to provide service to Best Customers.

3. Availability of Verizon Telecommunications Services

- 3.1 Verizon will provide a Verizon Telecommunications Service to Best for resale pursuant to this Attachment where and to the same extent, but only where and to the same extent, that such Verizon Telecommunications Service is provided to Verizon's Customers.
- 3.2 Except as otherwise required by Applicable Law, subject to Section 3.1, Verizon shall have the right to add, modify, grandfather, discontinue or withdraw, Verizon Telecommunications Services at any time, without the consent of Best.
- 3.3 To the extent required by Applicable Law, the Verizon Telecommunications Services to be provided to Best for resale pursuant to this Attachment will include a Verizon Telecommunications Service customer-specific contract service arrangement ("CSA") (such as a customer specific pricing arrangement or individual case based pricing arrangement) that Verizon is providing to a Verizon Customer at the time the CSA is requested by Best.

4. Responsibility for Charges

Best shall be responsible for and pay all charges for any Verizon Telecommunications Services provided by Verizon pursuant to this Resale Attachment.

5. Operations Matters

- 5.1 Facilities.
 - 5.1.1 Verizon and its suppliers shall retain all of their right, title and interest in all facilities, equipment, software, information, and wiring, used to provide Verizon Telecommunications Services.
 - 5.1.2 Verizon shall have access at all reasonable times to Best Customer locations for the purpose of installing, inspecting, maintaining, repairing, and removing, facilities, equipment, software, and wiring, used to provide the Verizon Telecommunications Services. Best shall, at Best's expense, obtain any rights and authorizations necessary for such

access.

- 5.1.3 Except as otherwise agreed to in writing by Verizon, Verizon shall not be responsible for the installation, inspection, repair, maintenance, or removal, of facilities, equipment, software, or wiring, provided by Best or Best Customers for use with Verizon Telecommunications Services.

5.2 Branding.

- 5.2.1 Except as stated in Section 5.2.2, in providing Verizon Telecommunications Services to Best, Bell Atlantic shall have the right (but not the obligation) to identify the Verizon Telecommunications Services with Verizon's trade names, trademarks and service marks ("Verizon Marks"), to the same extent that these Services are identified with Verizon's Marks when they are provided to Verizon's Customers. Any such identification of Verizon's Telecommunications Services shall not constitute the grant of a license or other right to Best to use Verizon's Marks.
- 5.2.2 To the extent required by Applicable Law, upon request by Best and at prices, terms and conditions to be negotiated by Best and Verizon, Verizon shall provide Verizon Telecommunications Services for resale that are identified by Best's trade name, or that are not identified by trade name, trademark or service mark.
- 5.2.3 If Verizon uses a third-party contractor to provide Verizon Operator Services or Verizon Directory Assistance Services, Best will be responsible for entering into a direct contractual arrangement with the third-party contractor at Best's expense (a) to obtain identification of Verizon Operator Services or Verizon Directory Assistance Services purchased by Best for resale with Best's trade name, or (b) to obtain removal of trade name, trademark or service mark identification from Verizon Operator Services or Verizon Directory Assistance Services purchased by Best for resale.

UNBUNDLED NETWORK ELEMENTS (UNEs) ATTACHMENT

1. General

- 1.1 Verizon shall provide to Best, in accordance with this Agreement (including, but not limited to, Verizon's applicable Tariffs) and the requirements of Applicable Law, access to Verizon's Network Elements on an unbundled basis and in combinations (Combinations); provided, however, that notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement, Verizon shall be obligated to provide unbundled Network Elements (UNEs) and Combinations to Best only to the extent required by Applicable Law and may decline to provide UNEs or Combination to Best to the extent that provision of such UNEs or Combination are not required by Applicable Law.
- 1.2 Except as otherwise required by Applicable Law: (a) Verizon shall be obligated to provide a UNE or Combination pursuant to this Agreement only to the extent such UNE or Combination, and the equipment and facilities necessary to provide such UNE or Combination, are available in Verizon's network; (b) Verizon shall have no obligation to construct or deploy new facilities or equipment to offer any UNE or Combination; and, (c) Verizon shall not be obligated to combine UNEs that are not already combined in Verizon's network. Best shall not directly or through a third party (e.g., Best's Customer) order Telecommunications Services from Verizon in order to impose on Verizon an obligation to provide a UNE or a Combination that Verizon would not otherwise have an obligation to provide. For example, Best shall not order Telecommunications Services or advise its Customer to order Telecommunications Services where existing UNEs or Combination desired by Best are not available in order to permit Best to subsequently convert the Telecommunications Services to the UNEs or Combinations desired by Best.
- 1.3 Best may use a UNE or Combination only for those purposes for which Verizon is required by Applicable Law to provide such UNE or Combination to Best. Without limiting the foregoing, Best may use a UNE or Combination (a) only to provide a Telecommunications Service and (b) to provide Exchange Access services only to the extent that Verizon is required by Applicable Law to provide such UNE or Combination to Best in order to allow Best to provide such Exchange Access services.
- 1.4 Notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement:
- 1.4.1 To the extent that Verizon is required by a change in Applicable Law to provide a UNE or Combination not offered under this Agreement to Best as of the Effective Date, the terms, conditions and prices for such UNE or Combination (including, but not limited to, the terms and conditions defining the UNE or Combination and stating when and where the UNE or Combination will be available and how it will be used, and terms, conditions and prices for pre-ordering, ordering, provisioning, repair, maintenance and billing) shall be as provided in an applicable Tariff of Verizon, or, in the absence of an applicable Verizon Tariff, as mutually agreed by the Parties.
- 1.4.2 Verizon shall not be obligated to provide to Best, and Best shall not request from Verizon, access to a proprietary advanced intelligent network service.

- 1.5 Without limiting Verizon's rights pursuant to Applicable Law or any other section of this Agreement to terminate its provision of a UNE or a Combination, if Verizon provides a UNE or Combination to Best, and the Commission, the FCC, a court or other governmental body of appropriate jurisdiction determines or has determined that Verizon is not required by Applicable Law to provide such UNEs or Combination, Verizon may terminate its provision of such UNE or Combination to Best. If Verizon terminates its provision of a UNE or a Combination to Best pursuant to this Section 1.5 and Best elects to purchase other Services offered by Verizon in place of such UNE or Combination, then: (a) Verizon shall reasonably cooperate with Best to coordinate the termination of such UNE or Combination and the installation of such Services to minimize the interruption of service to Customers of Best; and, (b) Best shall pay all applicable charges for such Services, including, but not limited to, all applicable installation charges.
- 1.6 Nothing contained in this Agreement shall be deemed to constitute an agreement by Verizon that any item identified in this Agreement as a UNE is (i) a Network Element under Applicable Law, or (ii) a Network Element Verizon is required by Applicable Law to provide to Best on an unbundled basis.
- 1.7 Except as otherwise expressly stated in this Agreement, Best shall access Verizon's UNEs specifically identified in this Agreement via Collocation in accordance with the Collocation Attachment at the Verizon Wire Center where those elements exist, and each Loop or Port shall, in the case of Collocation, be delivered to Best's Collocation node by means of a Cross Connection.
- 1.8 If as the result of Best Customer actions (i.e., Customer Not Ready ("CNR")), Verizon cannot complete requested work activity when a technician has been dispatched to the Best Customer premises, Best will be assessed a non-recurring charge associated with this visit. This charge will be the sum of the applicable Service Order charge specified in the Pricing Attachment and the Premises Visit Charge as specified in Verizon's applicable retail or Wholesale Tariff.

2. Verizon's Provision of UNEs

Subject to the conditions set forth in Section 1, in accordance with, but only to the extent required by, Applicable Law, Verizon shall provide Best access to the following:

- 2.1 Loops, as set forth in Section 3;
- 2.2 Line Sharing, as set forth in Section 4;
- 2.3 Sub-Loops, as set forth in Section 5;
- 2.4 Inside Wire, as set forth in Section 6;
- 2.5 Dark Fiber, as set forth in Section 7;
- 2.6 Network Interface Device, as set forth in Section 8;
- 2.7 Switching Elements, as set forth in Section 9;
- 2.8 Interoffice Transmission Facilities, as set forth in Section 10;
- 2.9 Signaling Networks and Call-Related Databases, as set forth in Section 11;

- 2.10 Operations Support Systems, as set forth in Section 12; and
- 2.11 Other UNEs in accordance with Section 13.

3. Loop Transmission Types

Subject to the conditions set forth in Section 1, Verizon shall allow Best to access Loops unbundled from local switching and local transport, in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in this Section 3. Verizon shall allow Best access to Loops in accordance with, but only to extent required by, Applicable Law. The available Loop types are as set forth below:

- 3.1 “2 Wire Analog Voice Grade Loop” 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. This Loop type is more fully described in Bell Atlantic TR-72565, as revised from time-to-time. If “Customer-Specified Signaling” is requested, the Loop will operate with one of the following signaling types that may be specified when the Loop is ordered: loop-start, ground-start, loop-reverse-battery, and no signaling. Customer specified signaling is more fully described in Verizon TR-72570, as revised from time-to-time.
- 3.2 “4-Wire Analog Voice Grade Loop” 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. This Loop type 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. This Loop type is more fully described in Bell Atlantic TR-72570, as revised from time-to-time.
- 3.3 “2-Wire ISDN Digital Grade Loop” 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 as described in ANSI T1.601-1998 and Verizon TR 72575 (, as TR 72575 is revised from time-to-time). In some cases loop extension equipment may be necessary to bring the line loss within acceptable levels. Verizon will provide loop extension equipment only upon request. A separate charge will apply for loop extension equipment.
- 3.4 “2-Wire ADSL-Compatible Loop” or “ADSL 2W” provides a channel with 2-wire interfaces at each end that is suitable for the transport of digital signals up to 8 Mbps toward the Customer and up to 1 Mbps from the Customer. ADSL-Compatible Loops will be available only where existing copper facilities are available and meet applicable specifications. Verizon will not build new copper facilities. The upstream and downstream ADSL power spectral density masks and dc line power limits in Verizon TR 72575, Issue 2, as revised from time-to-time, must be met.
- 3.5 “2-Wire HDSL-Compatible Loop” or “HDSL 2W” consists of a single 2-wire non-loaded, twisted copper pair that meets the carrier serving area design criteria. The HDSL power spectral density mask and dc line power limits referenced in Verizon TR 72575, Issue 2, as revised from time-to-time, must be met. 2-wire HDSL-compatible local loops will be provided only where existing facilities are available and can meet applicable specifications. Verizon will not build new copper facilities. The 2-wire HDSL-compatible loop is only available in Bell Atlantic service areas. Best may order a GTE Designed Digital Loop to provide similar capability in the GTE service area.

- 3.6 “4-Wire HDSL-Compatible Loop” or “HDSL 4W” consists of two 2-wire non-loaded, twisted copper pairs that meet the carrier serving area design criteria. The HDSL power spectral density mask and dc line power limits referenced in Verizon TR 72575, Issue 2, as revised from time-to-time, must be met. 4-Wire HDSL-compatible local loops will be provided only where existing facilities are available and can meet applicable specifications. Verizon will not build new copper facilities.
- 3.7 “4-Wire DS1-compatible Loop” 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 Loops will be available only where existing facilities can meet the specifications in ANSI T1.403 and Verizon TR 72575 (as TR 72575 is revised from time-to-time).
- 3.8 “2-Wire IDSL-Compatible Metallic Loop” consists of a single 2-wire non-loaded, twisted copper pair that meets revised resistance design criteria. This UNE loop, is intended to be used with very-low band symmetric DSL systems that meet the Class 1 signal power limits and other criteria in the draft T1E1.4 loop spectrum management standard (T1E1.4/2000-002R3) and are not compatible with 2B1Q 160 kbps ISDN transport systems. The actual data rate achieved depends upon the performance of CLEC-provided modems with the electrical characteristics associated with the loop. This loop cannot be provided via UDLC. IDLC-compatible local loops will be provided only where facilities are available and can meet applicable specifications. Verizon will not build new copper facilities.
- 3.9 “2-Wire SDSL-Compatible Loop”, is intended to be used with low band symmetric DSL systems that meet the Class 2 signal power limits and other criteria in the draft T1E1.4 loop spectrum management standard (T1E1.4/2000-002R3). This UNE loop consists of a single 2-wire non-loaded, twisted copper pair that meets Class 2 length limit in T1E1.4/2000-002R3. The data rate achieved depends on the performance of the CLEC-provided modems with the electrical characteristics associated with the loop. SDSL-compatible local loops will be provided only where facilities are available and can meet applicable specifications. Verizon will not build new copper facilities.
- 3.10 “4-Wire 56 kbps Loop” is a 4-wire Loop that provides a transmission path that is suitable for the transport of digital data at a synchronous rate of 56 kbps in opposite directions on such Loop simultaneously. A 4-Wire 56 kbps Loop consists of two pairs of non-loaded copper wires with no intermediate electronics or it consists of universal digital loop carrier with 56 kbps DDS dataport transport capability. Verizon shall provide 4-Wire 56 kbps Loops to Best in accordance with, and subject to, the technical specifications set forth in Verizon Technical Reference TR72575, Issue 2, as revised from time-to-time
- 3.11 “DS-3 Loops” will support the transmission of isochronous bipolar serial data at a rate of 44.736 Mbps or the equivalent of 28 DS-1 channels. The DS-3 Loop includes the electronics necessary to provide the DS-3 transmission rate. A DS-3 Loop will only be provided where the electronics are at the requested installation date currently available for the requested loop. Verizon will not install new electronics. DS-3 specifications are referenced in Verizon’s TR72575 as revised from time to time).
- 3.12 “Digital Designed Loops” are comprised of designed loops that meet specific Best requirements for metallic loops over 18k ft. or for conditioning of ADSL,

HDSL, SDSL, IDSL, or BRI ISDN Loops. "Digital Designed Loops" may include requests for:

- 3.12.1 a 2W Digital Designed Metallic Loop with a total loop length of 18k to 30k ft., unloaded, with the option to remove bridged tap;
 - 3.12.2 a 2W ADSL Loop of 12k to 18k ft. with an option to remove bridged tap;
 - 3.12.3 a 2W ADSL Loop of less than 12k ft. with an option to remove bridged tap;
 - 3.12.4 a 2W HDSL Loop of less than 12k ft. with an option to remove bridged tap;
 - 3.12.5 a 4W HDSL Loop of less than 12k ft with an option to remove bridged tap;
 - 3.12.6 a 2 W Digital Designed Metallic Loop with Verizon-placed ISDN loop extension electronics;
 - 3.12.7 a 2W SDSL Loop with an option to remove bridged tap;
 - 3.12.8 a 2W IDSL Loop of less than 18k ft. with an option to remove bridged tap; and
- 3.13 Verizon shall make Digital Designed Loops available to Best at the rates as set forth in the Pricing Attachment.
- 3.14 The following ordering procedures shall apply to the xDSL and Digital Designed Loops:
- 3.14.1 Best shall place orders for Digital Designed Loops by delivering to Verizon a valid electronic transmittal service order or other mutually agreed upon type of service order. 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.
 - 3.14.2 Verizon is conducting a mechanized survey of existing Loop facilities, on a Central Office by Central Office basis, to identify those Loops that meet the applicable technical characteristics established by Verizon for compatibility with ADSL, HDSL, IDSL and SDSL signals. The results of this survey will be stored in a mechanized database and made available to Best as the process is completed in each Central Office. Best must utilize this mechanized loop qualification database, where available, in advance of submitting a valid electronic transmittal service order for an ADSL, HDSL, IDSL or SDSL Loop. Charges for mechanized loop qualification information are set forth in the Pricing Attachment.
 - 3.14.3 If the Loop is not listed in the mechanized database described in Section 3.14.3, Best must request a manual loop qualification prior to submitting a valid electronic service order for an ADSL, HDSL, SDSL, IDSL, or BRI ISDN Loop. The rates for manual loop qualification are set forth in the Pricing Attachment. In general, Verizon will complete a manual loop qualification request within three business days, although Verizon may require additional time due to poor record conditions, spikes in demand,

or other unforeseen events.

- 3.14.4 If a query to the mechanized loop qualification database or manual loop qualification indicates that a Loop does not qualify (e.g., because it does not meet the applicable technical parameters set forth in the Loop descriptions above), Best may request an Engineering Query, as described in Section 3.14.6, to determine whether the result is due to characteristics of the loop itself.
 - 3.14.5 If Best submits a service order for an ADSL, HDSL, SDSL, IDSL, or BRI ISDN Loop that has not been prequalified, Verizon will query the service order back to the CLEC for qualification and will not accept such service order until the Loop has been prequalified on a mechanized or manual basis. If Best submits a service order for an ADSL, HDSL, SDSL, IDSL, or BRI ISDN Loop that is, in fact, not compatible with such services in its existing condition, Verizon will respond back to Best with a "Nonqualified" indicator and the with information showing whether the non-qualified result is due to the presence of load coils, presence of digital loop carrier, or loop length (including bridged tap).
 - 3.14.6 Where Best has followed the prequalification procedure described above and has determined that a Loop is not compatible with ADSL, HDSL, SDSL, IDSL, or BRI ISDN service in its existing condition, it may either request an Engineering Query to determine whether conditioning may make the Loop compatible with the applicable service; or if Best is already aware of the conditioning required (e.g., where Best has previously requested a qualification and has obtained loop characteristics), Best may submit a service order for a Digital Designed Loop. Verizon will undertake to condition or extend the Loop in accordance with this Section 3.14 upon receipt of Best's valid, accurate and pre-qualified service order for a Digital Designed Loop.
- 3.15 The Parties will make reasonable efforts to coordinate their respective roles in order to minimize provisioning problems. In general, where conditioning or loop extensions are requested by Best, an interval of eighteen (18) business days will be required by Verizon to complete the loop analysis and the necessary construction work involved in conditioning and/or extending the loop as follows:
- 3.15.1 Three (3) business days will be required following receipt of Best's valid, accurate and pre-qualified service order for a Digital Designed Loop to analyze the loop and related plant records and to create an Engineering Work Order.
 - 3.15.2 Upon completion of an Engineering Query, Verizon will initiate the construction order to perform the changes/modifications to the Loop requested by Best. Conditioning activities are, in most cases, able to be accomplished within fifteen (15) business days. Unforeseen conditions may add to this interval.
- After the engineering and conditioning tasks have been completed, the standard Loop provisioning and installation process will be initiated, subject to Verizon's standard provisioning intervals.
- 3.16 If Best requires a change in scheduling, it must contact Verizon to issue a supplement to the original service order. If Best cancels the request for conditioning after a loop analysis has been completed but prior to the

commencement of construction work, Best shall compensate Verizon for an Engineering Work Order charge as set forth in the Pricing Attachment. If Best cancels the request for conditioning after the loop analysis has been completed and after construction work has started or is complete, Best shall compensate Verizon for an Engineering Work Order charge as well as the charges associated with the conditioning tasks performed as set forth in the Pricing Attachment.

3.17 Conversion of Live Telephone Exchange Service to Analog 2W Loops.

3.17.1 The following coordination procedures shall apply to “live” cutovers of Verizon Customers who are converting their Telephone Exchange Services to Best Telephone Exchange Services provisioned over Analog 2W unbundled Local Loops (“Analog 2W Loops) to be provided by Verizon to Best:

3.17.1.1 Coordinated cutover charges shall apply to conversions of live Telephone Exchange Services to Analog 2W Loops. When an outside dispatch is required to perform a conversion, additional charges may apply. If Best does not request a coordinated cutover, Verizon will process Best’s order as a new installation subject to applicable standard provisioning intervals.

3.17.1.2 Best shall request Analog 2W Loops for coordinated cutover from Verizon by delivering to Verizon a valid electronic Local Service Request (“LSR”). Verizon agrees to accept from Best the date and time for the conversion designated on the LSR (“Scheduled Conversion Time”), provided that such designation is within the regularly scheduled operating hours of the Verizon Regional CLEC Control Center (“RCCC”) and subject to the availability of Verizon’s work force. In the event that Verizon’s work force is not available, Best and Verizon shall mutually agree on a New Conversion Time, as defined below. Best shall designate the Scheduled Conversion Time subject to Verizon standard provisioning intervals as stated in the Verizon CLEC Handbook, as may be revised from time to time. Within three (3) business days of Verizon’s receipt of such valid LSR, or as otherwise required by Applicable Law, Verizon shall provide Best the scheduled due date for conversion of the Analog 2W Loops covered by such LSR.

3.17.1.3 Best shall provide dial tone at the Best Collocation site at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to the Scheduled Conversion Time.

3.17.1.4 Either Party may contact the other Party to negotiate a new Scheduled Conversion Time (the “New Conversion Time”); provided, however, that each Party shall use commercially reasonable efforts to provide four (4) business hours’ advance notice to the other Party of its request for a New Conversion Time. Any Scheduled Conversion Time or New Conversion Time may not be rescheduled more than one (1) time in a business day, and any two New Conversion Times for a particular Analog 2W Loops shall differ by at least eight (8) hours, unless otherwise agreed to by the Parties.

3.17.1.5 If the New Conversion Time is more than one (1) business

hour from the original Scheduled Conversion Time or from the previous New Conversion Time, the Party requesting such New Conversion Time shall be subject to the following:

3.17.1.5.1 If Verizon requests to reschedule outside of the one (1) hour time frame above, the Analog 2W Loops Service Order Charge for the original Scheduled Conversion Time or the previous New Conversion Time shall be waived upon request from Best; and

3.17.1.5.2 If Best requests to reschedule outside the one (1) hour time frame above, Best shall be charged an additional Analog 2W Loops Service Order Charge for rescheduling the conversion to the New Conversion Time.

3.17.1.6 If Best is not ready to accept service at the Scheduled Conversion Time or at a New Conversion Time, as applicable, an additional Service Order Charge shall apply. If Verizon is not available or ready to perform the conversion within thirty (30) minutes of the Scheduled Conversion Time or New Conversion Time, as applicable, Verizon and Best will reschedule and, upon request from Best, Verizon will waive the Analog 2W Loop Service Order Charge for the original Scheduled Conversion Time.

3.17.1.7 The standard time interval expected from disconnection of a live Telephone Exchange Service to the connection of the Analog 2W Loops to Best is fifteen (15) minutes per Analog 2W Loop for all orders consisting of twenty (20) Analog 2W Loops or less. Orders involving more than twenty (20) Loops will require a negotiated interval.

3.17.1.8 Conversions involving LNP will be completed according to North American Numbering Council ("NANC") standards, via the regional Number Portability Administration Center ("NPAC").

3.17.1.9 If Best requires Analog 2W Loop conversions outside of the regularly scheduled Verizon RCCC operating hours, such conversions shall be separately negotiated. Additional charges (e.g. overtime labor charges) may apply for desired dates and times outside of regularly scheduled RCCC operating hours.

3.18 Verizon shall provide Best access to its Loops at each of Verizon's Wire Centers for Loops terminating in that Wire Center. In addition, if Best orders one or more Loops provisioned via Integrated Digital Loop Carrier or Remote Switching technology deployed as a Loop concentrator, Verizon shall, where available, move the requested Loop(s) to a spare physical Loop, if one is existing and available, at no additional charge to Best. If, however, no spare physical Loop is available, Verizon shall within three (3) Business Days of Best's request notify Best of the lack of available facilities. Best may then at its discretion make a Network Element Bona Fide Request pursuant to Section 13.3 to Verizon to provide the unbundled Local Loop through the demultiplexing of the integrated

digitized Loop(s). Best may also make a Network Element Bona Fide Request pursuant to Section 13.3 for access to Unbundled Local Loops at the Loop concentration site point. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Agreement, standard provisioning intervals shall not apply to Loops provided under this Section 3.18.

4. Line Sharing

- 4.1 'Line Sharing' is an arrangement by which Verizon facilitates Best's provision of ADSL (in accordance with T1.413), Splitterless ADSL (in accordance with T1.419), RADSL (in accordance with TR # 59), Multiple Virtual Line (MVL (a proprietary technology)), or any other xDSL technology that is presumed to be acceptable for shared line deployment in accordance with FCC rules, to a particular Customer location over an existing copper Loop that is being used simultaneously by Verizon to provide analog circuit-switched voice grade service to that Customer by making available to Best, solely for Best's own use, the frequency range above the voice band on the same copper Loop required by Best to provide such services. This Section 4 addresses Line Sharing over loops that are entirely copper loops.
- 4.2 In accordance with, but only to the extent required by Applicable Law, Verizon shall provide Line Sharing to Best for Best's provision of ADSL (in accordance with T1.413), Splitterless ADSL (in accordance with T1.419), RADSL (in accordance with TR # 59), MVL (a proprietary technology), or any other xDSL technology that is presumed to be acceptable for shared line deployment in accordance with FCC rules, on the terms and conditions set forth herein. In order for a Loop to be eligible for Line Sharing, the following conditions must be satisfied for the duration of the Line Sharing arrangement: (i) the Loop must consist of a copper loop compatible with an xDSL service that is presumed to be acceptable for shared-line deployment in accordance with FCC rules; (ii) Verizon must be providing simultaneous circuit-switched analog voice grade service to the Customer served by the Loop in question; (iii) the Verizon Customer's dial tone must originate from a Verizon End Office Switch in the Wire Center where the Line Sharing arrangement is being requested; and (iv) the xDSL technology to be deployed by Best on that Loop must not significantly degrade the performance of other services provided on that Loop.
- 4.3 Verizon shall make Line Sharing available to Best at the rates set forth in the Pricing Attachment. In addition to the recurring and nonrecurring charges shown in the Pricing Attachment for Line Sharing itself, the following rates shown in the Pricing Attachment and in Verizon's applicable Tariffs are among those that may apply to a Line Sharing arrangement: (i) prequalification charges to determine whether a Loop is xDSL compatible (i.e., compatible with an xDSL service that is presumed to be acceptable for shared-line deployment in accordance with FCC rules); (ii) engineering query charges, engineering work order charges, or Loop conditioning (Digital Designed Loop) charges; (iii) charges associated with Collocation activities requested by Best; and (iv) misdirected dispatch charges, charges for installation or repair, manual intervention surcharges, trouble isolation charges, and pair swap/line and station transfer charges.
- 4.4 The following ordering procedures shall apply to Line Sharing:
- 4.4.1 To determine whether a Loop qualifies for Line Sharing, the Loop must first be prequalified to determine if it is xDSL compatible. Best must utilize the mechanized or manual Loop qualification processes described in the terms applicable to Digital Designed Loops, as referenced in

Section 4.4.5 below, to make this determination.

- 4.4.2 Best shall place orders for Line Sharing by delivering to Verizon a valid electronic transmittal service order or other mutually agreed upon type of service order. 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.
- 4.4.3 If the Loop is prequalified by Best through the Loop prequalification database, and if a positive response is received and followed by receipt of Best's valid, accurate and pre-qualified service order for Line Sharing, Verizon will return an LSR confirmation within twenty-four (24) hours (weekends and holidays excluded) for LSRs with less than six (6) loops and within 72 hours (weekends and holidays excluded) for LSRs with six (6) or more loops.
- 4.4.4 If the Loop requires qualification manually or through an Engineering Query, three (3) additional Business Days will be generally be required to obtain Loop qualification results before an order confirmation can be returned following receipt of Best's valid, accurate request. Verizon may require additional time to complete the Engineering Query where there are poor record conditions, spikes in demand, or other unforeseen events.
- 4.4.5 If conditioning is required to make a Loop capable of supporting Line Sharing and Best orders such conditioning, then Verizon shall provide such conditioning in accordance with the terms of this Agreement pertaining to Digital Designed Loops; or if this Agreement does not contain provisions pertaining to Digital Designed Loops, then in accordance with Verizon's generally available rates, terms and conditions applicable to Digital Design Loops; provided, however, that Verizon shall not be obligated to provide Loop conditioning if Verizon establishes that such conditioning is likely to degrade significantly the voice-grade service being provided to Verizon's Customers over such Loops.
- 4.4.6 The standard Loop provisioning and installation process will be initiated for the Line Sharing arrangement only once the requested engineering and conditioning tasks have been completed on the Loop. Scheduling changes and charges associated with order cancellations after conditioning work has been initiated are addressed in the terms pertaining to Digital Designed Loops, as referenced in Section 4.4.5 above. Except as otherwise required by Applicable Law, provisioning intervals for the Line Sharing arrangement initially shall be the standard interval of six (6) Business Days applicable to 2W ADSL Loops. Where Applicable Law has ordered shorter intervals, the shortened intervals will apply in the event that a dispatch is not required, where conditioning work is not necessary and where facility modifications are not required. In no event shall the Line Sharing interval applied to Best be longer than the interval applied to any Affiliate of Verizon. Line Sharing arrangements that require pair swaps or line and station transfers in order to free up facilities will have a provisioning interval of no less than six (6) Business Days.
- 4.4.7 Best must provide all required Collocation, CFA, Special Bill Number ("SBN") and NC/NCI information when a Line Sharing arrangement is

ordered. Collocation augments required, either at the Point of Termination Bay (POT), Collocation node, or for splitter placement, must be ordered using standard collocation applications and procedures, unless otherwise agreed to by the Parties or specified in this Agreement.

- 4.4.8 The Parties recognize that Line Sharing is an offering that requires both Parties to make reasonable efforts to coordinate their respective roles in the roll out of Line Sharing in order to minimize provisioning problems and facility issues. Best will provide reasonable, timely, and accurate forecasts of its Line Sharing requirements, including splitter placement elections and ordering preferences. These forecasts are in addition to projections provided for other stand-alone unbundled Loop types.
- 4.5 To the extent required by Applicable Law, Best shall provide Verizon with information regarding the type of xDSL technology that it deploys on each shared Loop. Where any proposed change in technology is planned on a shared Loop, Best must provide this information to Verizon in order for Verizon to update Loop records and anticipate effects that the change may have on the voice grade service and other Loops in the same or adjacent binder groups.
- 4.6 As described more fully in Verizon Technical Reference 72575, the xDSL technology used by Best for Line Share Arrangements shall operate within the Power Spectral Density (PSD) limits set forth in T1.413-1998 (ADSL), T1.419-2000 (Splitterless ADSL), or TR59-1999 (RADSL), and MVL (a proprietary technology) shall operate within the 0 to 4 kHz PSD limits of T1.413-1998 and within the transmit PSD limits of T1.601-1998 for frequencies above 4 kHz, provided that the MVL PSD associated with audible frequencies above 4 kHz shall be sufficiently attenuated to preclude significantly degrading voice services. Best's deployment of additional Advanced Services shall be subject to the applicable FCC Rules.
- 4.7 Best may only access the high frequency portion of a Loop in a Line Sharing arrangement through an established Collocation arrangement at the Verizon Serving Wire Center that contains the End Office Switch through which voice grade service is provided to Verizon's Customer. Best is responsible for providing a splitter at that Wire Center that complies with ANSI specification T1.413 which employs Direct Current ("DC") blocking capacitors or equivalent technology to assist in isolating high bandwidth trouble resolution and maintenance to the high frequency portion of the frequency spectrum, and is designed so that the analog voice "dial tone" stays active when the splitter card is removed for testing or maintenance through one of the splitter options described below. Best is also responsible for providing its own Digital Subscriber Line Access Multiplexer ("DSLAM") equipment in the Collocation arrangement and any necessary Customer Provided Equipment ("CPE") for the xDSL service it intends to provide (including CPE splitters, filters and/or other equipment necessary for the end user to receive separate voice and data services across the shared Loop). Two splitter configurations are available. In both configurations, the splitter must be provided by Best and must satisfy the same NEBS requirements that Verizon imposes on its own splitter equipment or the splitter equipment of any Verizon Affiliate. Best must designate which splitter option it is choosing on the Collocation application or augment. Regardless of the option selected, the splitter arrangements must be installed before Best submits an order for Line Sharing.

Splitter Option 1: Splitter in Best Collocation Area

In this configuration, the Best-provided splitter (ANSI T1.413 or MVL compliant) is provided, installed and maintained by Best in its own Collocation space within the Customer's serving End Office. The Verizon -provided dial tone is routed through the splitter in the Best Collocation area. Any rearrangements will be the responsibility of Best.

Splitter Option 2: Splitter in Verizon Area

In this configuration, Verizon inventories and maintains a Best-provided splitter (ANSI T1.413 or MVL compliant) in Verizon space within the Customer's serving End Office. The splitters will be installed shelf-at-a-time.

In those serving End Offices where Verizon has employed the use of a POT Bay, the splitter will be installed (mounted) in a relay rack between the POT Bay and the MDF. The demarcation point is at the splitter end of the cable connecting Best Collocation and the splitter. At Best's option, installation of the splitter shelf may be performed by Verizon or by a Verizon -approved vendor designated by Best.

In those serving End Offices where Verizon does not employ the use of a POT Bay, Best provided splitter will be located via a virtual-LIKE collocation arrangement, to which Best does not have access. Best shall receive its DSL traffic via tie cables running from the MDF to the splitter and from the splitter to Best's collocation arrangement. The demarcation point is the connection to the DSLAM from the splitter. The installation of the splitter shelf will be performed by Verizon or by a Verizon -approved vendor.

In either scenario, Verizon will control the splitter and will direct any required activity. Where a POT Bay is employed, Verizon will also perform all POT Bay work required in this configuration. Verizon will provide a splitter inventory to Best upon completion of the required augment.

- 4.7.1 Where a new splitter is to be installed as part of an initial Collocation implementation, the splitter installation may be ordered as part of the initial Collocation application. Associated Collocation charges (application and engineering fees) apply. Best must submit a new Collocation application, with the application fee, to Verizon detailing its request. Standard Collocation intervals will apply (unless Applicable Law requires otherwise).
- 4.7.2 Where a new splitter is to be installed as part of an existing Collocation arrangement, or where the existing Collocation arrangement is to be augmented (e.g., with additional terminations at the POT Bay or CLEC's collocation arrangement to support Line Sharing), the splitter installation or augment may be ordered via an application for Collocation augment. Associated Collocation charges (application and engineering fees) apply. Best must submit the application for Collocation augment, with the application fee, to Verizon. Unless a longer interval is stated in Verizon's applicable Tariff, an interval of seventy-six (76) business days shall apply.

4.8 Best will have the following options for testing shared Loops:

- 4.8.1 In serving End Offices where a POT Bay has been employed for use the following options shall be available to Best.

- 4.8.1.1 Under Splitter Option 1, Best may conduct its own physical tests of the shared Loop from Best's collocation area. If it chooses to do so, Best may supply a test head to facilitate such physical tests, provided that: (a) the test head satisfies the same NEBS requirements that Verizon imposes on its own test head equipment or the test head equipment of any Verizon Affiliate; and (b) the test head does not interrupt the voice circuit to any greater degree than a conventional Mechanized Loop Test (MLT). Specifically, the Best-provided test equipment may not interrupt an in-progress voice connection and must automatically restore any circuits tested in intervals comparable to MLT. This optional Best-provided test head would be installed between the "line" port of the splitter and the POT Bay in order to conduct remote physical tests of the shared Loop.
- 4.8.1.2 Under Splitter Option 2, either Verizon or a Verizon -approved vendor selected by Best may install a Best-provided test head to enable Best to conduct remote physical tests of the shared Loop. This optional Best-provided test head may be installed at a point between the "line" port of the splitter and the Verizon -provided test head that is used by Verizon to conduct its own Loop testing. The Best-provided test head must satisfy the same NEBS requirements that Verizon imposes on its own test head equipment or the test head equipment of any Verizon Affiliate, and may not interrupt the voice circuit to any greater degree than a conventional MLT test. Specifically, the Best-provided test equipment may not interrupt an in-progress voice connection and must automatically restore any circuits tested in intervals comparable to MLT. Verizon will inventory, control and maintain the Best-provided test head, and will direct all required activity.
- 4.8.1.3 Under either Splitter Option, if Verizon has installed its own test head, Verizon will conduct tests of the shared Loop using a Verizon -provided test head, and, upon request, will provide these test results to Best during normal trouble isolation procedures in accordance with reasonable procedures.
- 4.8.1.4 Under either Splitter Option, Verizon will make MLT access available to Best via RETAS after the service order has been completed. Best will utilize the circuit number to initiate a test. This functionality will be available on October 31, 2000.
- 4.8.2 In those serving End Offices where Verizon has not employed a POT Bay for use, Best will not be permitted to supply its own test head; Verizon will make its testing system available to Best through use of the on-line computer interface test system at www.gte.com/wise. This system is available 24 hours, 7 days a week.
- 4.8.3 The Parties will continue to work cooperatively on testing procedures. To this end, in situations where Best has attempted to use one or more of the foregoing testing options but is still unable to resolve the error or trouble on the shared Loop, Verizon and Best will each dispatch a technician to an agreed-upon point to conduct a joint meet test to identify and resolve the error or trouble. Verizon may assess a charge for a

misdirected dispatch only if the error or trouble is determined to be one that Best should reasonably have been able to isolate and diagnose through one of the testing options available to Best above. The Parties will mutually agree upon the specific procedures for conducting joint meet tests.

- 4.8.4 Verizon and Best each have a joint responsibility to educate its Customer regarding which service provider should be called for problems with their respective voice or Advanced Service offerings. Verizon will retain primary responsibility for voice band trouble tickets, including repairing analog voice grade services and the physical line between the NID at the Customer premise and the point of demarcation in the Central Office. Best will be responsible for repairing advanced data services it offers over the Line Sharing arrangement. Each Party will be responsible for maintaining its own equipment. Before either Party initiates any activity on a new shared Loop that may cause a disruption of the voice or data service of the other Party, that Party shall first make a good faith effort to notify the other Party of the possibility of a service disruption. Verizon and Best will work together to address Customer initiated repair requests and to prevent adverse impacts to the Customer.
- 4.8.5 When Verizon provides Inside Wire maintenance services to the Customer, Verizon will only be responsible for testing and repairing the Inside Wire for voice-grade services. Verizon will not test, dispatch a technician, repair, or upgrade Inside Wire to clear trouble calls associated with Best's Advanced Services. Verizon will not repair any CPE equipment provided by Best. Before a trouble ticket is issued to Verizon, Best shall validate whether the Customer is experiencing a trouble that arises from Best's Advanced Service. If the problem reported is isolated to the analog voice-grade service provided by Verizon, a trouble ticket may be issued to Verizon.
- 4.8.6 In the case of a trouble reported by the Customer on its voice-grade service, if Verizon determines the reported trouble arises from Best's Advanced Services equipment, splitter problems, or Best's activities, Verizon will:
 - 4.8.6.1 Notify Best and request that Best immediately test the trouble on Best's Advanced Service.
 - 4.8.6.2 If the Customer's voice grade service is so degraded that the Customer cannot originate or receive voice grade calls, and Best has not cleared its trouble within a reasonable time frame, Verizon may take unilateral steps to temporarily restore the Customer's voice grade service if Verizon determines in good faith that the cause of the voice interruption is Best's data service.
 - 4.8.6.3 Upon completion of Sections 4.8.6.1 and 4.8.6.2 above, Verizon may temporarily remove the Best-provided splitter from the Customer's Loop and switch port if Verizon determines in good faith that the cause of the voice interruption is Best's data service.
 - 4.8.6.4 Upon notification from Best that the malfunction in Best's advanced service has been cleared, Verizon will restore

Best's advanced service by restoring the splitter on the Customer's Loop.

- 4.8.6.5 Upon completion of the above steps, Best will be charged a Trouble Isolation Charge (TIC) to recover Verizon's costs of isolating and temporarily removing the malfunctioning Advanced Service from the Customer's line if the cause of the voice interruption was Best's data service.
- 4.8.6.6 Verizon shall not be liable for damages of any kind for temporary disruptions to Best's data service that are the result of the above steps taken in good faith to restore the end user's voice-grade POTS service, and Best shall indemnify Verizon from any claims that result from such steps.

5. Sub-Loop

- 5.1 Sub-Loop. Subject to the conditions set forth in Section 1 of this Attachment and upon request, Verizon shall provide Best with access to a Sub-Loop (as such term is hereinafter defined) in accordance with, and subject to, the terms and provisions of this Section 5 and the rates set forth in the Pricing Attachment. A "Sub-Loop" means a two-wire or four-wire metallic distribution facility in Verizon's network between a Verizon feeder distribution interface (an "FDI") and the rate demarcation point for such facility (or network interface device ("NID") if the NID is located at such rate demarcation point). Verizon shall provide Best with access to a Sub-Loop in accordance with, but only to the extent required by, Applicable Law.
- 5.2 Best may request that Verizon reactivate (if available) an unused drop and NID, install a new drop and NID if no drop and NID are available or provide Best with access to a drop and NID that, at the time of Best's request, Verizon is using to provide service to the Customer (as such term is hereinafter defined). New drops will be installed in accordance with Verizon's standard procedures. In some cases this may result in Best being responsible for the cost of installing the drop.
- 5.3 Best may obtain access to a Sub-Loop only at an FDI and only from a CLEC outside plant interconnection cabinet (a "COPIC") or, if Best is collocated at a remote terminal equipment enclosure and the FDI for such Sub-Loop is located in such enclosure, from the collocation arrangement of Best at such enclosure. To obtain access to a Sub-Loop, Best shall install a COPIC on an easement or Right of Way obtained by Best within 100 feet of the Verizon FDI to which such Sub-Loop is connected. A COPIC must comply with applicable industry standards. Subject to the terms of applicable Verizon easements, Verizon shall furnish and place an interconnecting cable between a Verizon FDI and a Best COPIC and Verizon shall install a termination block within such COPIC. Verizon shall retain title to and maintain the interconnecting cable. Verizon shall not be responsible for building, maintaining or servicing the COPIC and shall not provide any power that might be required by the CLEC for any electronics in the COPIC. Best shall provide any easement, Right of Way or trenching or supporting structure required for any portion of an interconnecting cable that runs beyond a Verizon easement.
- 5.4 Best may request from Verizon by submitting a loop make-up engineering query to Verizon, and Verizon shall provide to Best, the following information regarding a Sub-Loop that serves an identified Customer: the Sub-Loop's length and gauge, whether the Sub-Loop has loading and bridged tap, the amount of

bridged tap (if any) on the Sub-Loop and the location of the FDI to which the Sub-Loop is connected.

- 5.5 To order access to a Sub-Loop, Best must first request that Verizon connect the Verizon FDI to which the Sub-Loop is connected to a Best COPIC. To make such a request, Best must submit to Verizon an application (a "Sub-Loop Interconnection Application") that identifies the FDI at which Best wishes to access the Sub-Loop. A Sub-Loop Interconnection Application shall state the location of the COPIC, the size of the interconnecting cable and a description of the cable's supporting structure. A Sub-Loop Interconnection Application shall also include a five-year forecast of Best's demand for access to Sub-Loops at the requested FDI. Best must submit the application fee set forth in the Pricing Attachment (a "Sub-Loop Application Fee") with a Sub-Loop Interconnection Application. Best must submit Sub-Loop Interconnection Applications to:

Best's Account Manager

- 5.6 Within sixty (60) days after it receives a complete Sub-Loop Interconnection Application for access to a Sub-Loop and the Sub-Loop Application Fee for such application, Verizon shall provide to Best a work order that describes the work that Verizon must perform to provide such access (a "Sub-Loop Work Order") and a statements of the cost of such work (a "Sub-Loop Interconnection Cost Statement").
- 5.7 Best shall pay to Verizon fifty percent (50%) of the cost set forth in a Sub-Loop Interconnection Cost Statement within sixty (60) days of Best's receipt of such statement and the associated Sub-Loop Work Order, and Verizon shall not be obligated to perform any of the work set forth in such order until Verizon has received such payment. A Sub-Loop Interconnection Application shall be deemed to have been withdrawn if Best breaches its payment obligation under this Section 5.7. Upon Verizon's completion of the work that Verizon must perform to provide Best with access to a Sub-Loop, Verizon shall bill Best, and Best shall pay to Verizon, the balance of the cost set forth in the Sub-Loop Interconnection Cost Statement for such access.
- 5.8 After Verizon has completed the installation of the interconnecting cable to a Best COPIC and Best has paid the full cost of such installation, Best can request the cross connection of Verizon Sub-Loops to the Best COPIC. At the same time, Best shall advise Verizon of the services that Best plans to provide over the Sub-Loop, request any conditioning of the Sub-Loop and assign the pairs in the interconnecting cable. Best shall run any crosswires within the COPIC.
- 5.9 If Best requests that Verizon reactivate an unused drop and NID, then Best shall provide dial tone (or its DSL equivalent) on the Best side of the applicable Verizon FDI at least twenty-four (24) hours before the due date. On the due date, a Verizon technician will run the appropriate cross connection to connect the Verizon Sub-Loop to the Best dial tone or equivalent from the COPIC. If Best requests that Verizon install a new drop and NID, then Best shall provide dial tone (or its DSL equivalent) on the Best side of the applicable Verizon FDI at least twenty-four (24) hours before the due date. On the due date, a Verizon technician shall run the appropriate cross connection of the facilities being reused at the Verizon FDI and shall install a new drop and NID. If Best requests that Verizon provide Best with access to a Sub-Loop that, at the time of Best's request, Verizon is using to provide service to a Customer, then, after Best has looped two interconnecting pairs through the COPIC and at least twenty four (24) hours before the due date, a Verizon technician shall crosswire the dial tone from

the Verizon central office through the Verizon side of the COPIC and back out again to the Verizon FDI and Verizon Sub-Loop using the "loop through" approach. On the due date, Best shall disconnect Verizon's dial tone, crosswire its dial tone to the Sub-Loop and submit the Best's long-term number portability request.

- 5.10 Verizon will not provide access to a Sub-Loop if Verizon is using the loop of which the Sub-Loop is a part to provide Line Sharing service to another CLEC or a service that uses derived channel technology to a Customer unless such other CLEC first terminates the Verizon-provided Line Sharing or such Customer first disconnects the service that utilizes derived channel technology.
- 5.11 Verizon shall provide Best with access to a Sub-Loop in accordance with negotiated intervals
- 5.12 Verizon shall repair and maintain a Sub-Loop at the request of Best and subject to the time and material rates set forth in the Pricing Attachment. Best accepts responsibility for initial trouble isolation for Sub-Loops and providing Verizon with appropriate dispatch information based on its test results. If (a) Best reports to Verizon a Customer trouble, (b) Best requests a dispatch, (c) Verizon dispatches a technician, and (d) such trouble was not caused by Verizon Sub-Loop facilities or equipment in whole or in part, then Best shall pay Verizon the charge set forth in the Pricing Attachment for time associated with said dispatch. In addition, this charge also applies when the Customer contact as designated by Best is not available at the appointed time. If as the result of Best instructions, Verizon is erroneously requested to dispatch to a site on Verizon company premises ("dispatch in"), a charge set forth in the Pricing Attachment will be assessed per occurrence to Best by Verizon. If as the result of Best instructions, Verizon is erroneously requested to dispatch to a site outside of Verizon company premises ("dispatch out"), a charge set forth in the Pricing Attachment will be assessed per occurrence to Best by Verizon.
- 5.13 Collocation in Remote Terminals.

To the extent required by Applicable Law, Verizon shall allow Best to collocate equipment in a Verizon remote terminal equipment enclosure in accordance with, and subject to, the rates, terms and conditions set forth in the Collocation Attachment.

6. Inside Wire

6.1 House and Riser.

Subject to the conditions set forth in Section 1 of this Attachment and upon request, Verizon shall provide to Best access to a House and Riser Cable (as such term is hereinafter defined) in accordance with, and subject to, the terms and provisions of this Section 6 and the rates set forth in the Pricing Attachment. A "House and Riser Cable" means a two-wire or four-wire metallic distribution facility in Verizon's network between the minimum point of entry for a building where a premises of a Customer is located (such a point, an "MPOE") and the rate demarcation point for such facility (or network interface device ("NID") if the NID is located at such rate demarcation point). Verizon will provide access to a House and Riser Cable only if Verizon owns, operates, maintains and controls such facility and only where such facility is available. Verizon shall not reserve a House and Riser Cable for Best. Best may access a House and Riser Cable only at the MPOE for such cable. Verizon shall provide Best with access to

House and Riser Cables in accordance with, but only to the extent required by, Applicable Law.

Best must satisfy the following conditions before ordering access to a House and Riser Cable from Verizon:

- 6.1.1 Best shall locate its compatible terminal block within cross connect distance of the MPOE for such cable. A terminal block is within cross connect distance of an MPOE if it is located in the same room (not including a hallway) or within twelve (12) feet of such MPOE.
- 6.1.2 If suitable space is available, Best shall install its terminal block no closer than within fourteen (14) inches of the MPOE for such cable, unless otherwise agreed by the Parties.
- 6.1.3 Best's terminal block or equipment cannot be attached, otherwise affixed or adjacent to Verizon's facilities or equipment, cannot pass through or otherwise penetrate Verizon's facilities or equipment and cannot be installed so that Best's terminal block or equipment is located in a space where Verizon plans to locate its facilities or equipment.
- 6.1.4 Best shall identify its terminal block and equipment as a Best facility.
- 6.2 To provide Best with access to a House and Riser Cable, Verizon shall not be obligated to (a) move any Verizon equipment, (b) secure any Right of Way for Best, (c) secure space for Best in any building, (d) secure access to any portion of a building for Best or (e) reserve space in any building for Best.
- 6.3 Best must ensure that its terminal block has been tested for proper installation, numbering and operation before ordering from Verizon access to a House and Riser Cable. Verizon shall perform cutover of a Customer to Best service by means of a House and Riser Cable subject to a negotiated interval. Verizon shall install a jumper cable to connect the appropriate Verizon House and Riser Cable pair to Best's termination block, and Verizon shall determine how to perform such installation. Best shall coordinate with Verizon to ensure that House and Riser Cable facilities are converted to Best in accordance with Best's order for such services.
- 6.4 If a Best compatible connecting block or spare termination on Best's connecting block is not available at the time of installation, Verizon shall bill Best, and Best shall pay to Verizon, the Not Ready Charge set forth in the Pricing Attachment and the Parties shall establish a new cutover date. Verizon may install a new House and Riser Cable subject to the time and material charges set forth in the Pricing Attachment.
- 6.5 Verizon shall perform all installation work on Verizon equipment. All Best equipment connected to a House and Riser Cable shall comply with applicable industry standards.
- 6.6 Verizon shall repair and maintain a House and Riser Cable at the request of Best and subject to the time and material rates set forth in the Pricing Attachment. Best shall be solely responsible for investigating and determining the source of all troubles and for providing Verizon with appropriate dispatch information based on its test results. Verizon shall repair a trouble only when the cause of the trouble is a Verizon House and Riser Cable. If (a) Best reports to Verizon a

Customer trouble, (b) Best requests a dispatch, (c) Verizon dispatches a technician, and (d) such trouble was not caused by a Verizon House and Riser Cable in whole or in part, then Best shall pay Verizon the charge set forth in the Pricing Attachment for time associated with said dispatch. In addition, this charge also applies when the Customer contact as designated by Best is not available at the appointed time. If as the result of Best instructions, Verizon is erroneously requested to dispatch to a site on Verizon company premises ("dispatch in"), a charge set forth in the Pricing Attachment will be assessed per occurrence to Best by Verizon. If as the result of Best instructions, Verizon is erroneously requested to dispatch to a site outside of Verizon company premises ("dispatch out"), a charge set forth in the Pricing Attachment will be assessed per occurrence to Best by Verizon.

7. Dark Fiber

- 7.1 Access to unbundled Dark Fiber will be provided by Verizon, where existing facilities are available at the requested availability date, in the loop, subloop and interoffice facilities (IOF) portions of the Company's network. Access to Dark Fiber will be provided in accordance with, but only to the extent required by, Applicable Law. Except as otherwise required by Applicable Law, the following terms and conditions apply to Verizon's Dark Fiber offering.
- 7.2 A "Dark Fiber Loop" consists of continuous fiber optic strand(s) in a Verizon fiber optic cable between the fiber distribution frame, or its functional equivalent, located within a Verizon Wire Center, and Verizon's main termination point, such as the fiber patch panel located within a Customer premise, and that has not been activated through connection to the electronics that "light" it, and thereby render it capable of carrying Telecommunications Services. In addition to the other terms and conditions of this Agreement, the following terms and conditions also shall apply to Dark Fiber Loops:
- 7.2.1 Verizon shall be required to provide a Dark Fiber Loop only where (1) one end of the Dark Fiber Loop terminates at Best's collocation arrangement and (2) the other end terminates at the Customer premise. A CLEC demarcation point shall be established either in the main telco room of a building where a Customer is located or, if the building does not have a main telco room, then at a location to be determined by Verizon. Verizon shall connect a Dark Fiber Loop to the demarcation point by installing a fiber jumper.
- 7.2.2 Best may access a Dark Fiber Loop only at a pre-existing hard termination point of such Dark Fiber Loop, and Best may not access a Dark Fiber Loop at any other point, including, but not limited to, a splice point. Verizon will not introduce additional splice points or open existing splice points to accommodate a CLEC's request. Unused fibers located in a cable vault or a controlled environment vault, manhole or other location outside the Verizon Wire Center, and not terminated to a fiber patch, are not available to Best.
- 7.2.3 A strand shall not be deemed to be continuous if splicing is required to provide fiber continuity between two locations. Dark Fiber will only be offered on a route-direct basis where facilities exist (i.e., no intermediate offices).
- 7.2.4 Verizon shall perform all work necessary to install a cross connection or a fiber jumper, including, but not limited to, the work necessary to

connect a dark fiber to a demarcation point, a fiber distribution frame or a POT bay.

- 7.2.5 At the Customer premise, unused fibers are not available to Best pursuant to this Attachment unless such fibers terminate on a fiber patch panel. Unused fibers in a fiber splice point located outside the Customer premise are not available to Best.
- 7.2.6 Dark Fiber will be offered to Best in the condition that it is available in Verizon's network at the time that Best submits its request (i.e., "as is"). In addition, Verizon shall not be required to convert lit fiber to Dark Fiber for Best's use.
- 7.2.7 Spare wavelengths on fiber strands, where Wave Division Multiplexing (WDM) or Dense Wave Division Multiplexing (DWDM) equipment is deployed, are not considered to be spare Dark Fiber Loops and, therefore, will not be offered to Best as Dark Fiber.
- 7.2.8 Best shall be responsible for providing all transmission, terminating and regeneration equipment necessary to light and use Dark Fiber.
- 7.2.9 Best may not resell Dark Fiber purchased pursuant to this Attachment to third parties.
- 7.2.10 In order for Verizon to continue to satisfy its carrier of last resort (COLR) obligations under Applicable Law and/or to preserve the efficiency of its network, Verizon will limit Best to leasing a maximum of twenty-five percent (25%) of the Dark Fiber in any given segment of Verizon's network during any two-year period. In addition, except as otherwise required by Applicable Law, Verizon may take any of the following actions, notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Agreement:
 - 7.2.10.1 Revoke Dark Fiber leased to Best upon a showing of need to the Commission and twelve (12) months' advance written notice to Best; and
 - 7.2.10.2 Revoke Dark Fiber leased to Best upon a showing to the Commission that Best underutilized fiber (less than OC-12) within any twelve (12) month period.
 - 7.2.10.3 Verizon may reserve Dark Fiber for maintenance purposes, or to satisfy Customer orders for fiber related services or for future growth. Verizon reserves and shall not waive, Verizon's right to claim before the Commission that Verizon should not have to fulfill a Best order for Dark Fiber because that request would strand an unreasonable amount of fiber capacity, disrupt or degrade service to Customers or carriers other than Best, or impair a Verizon obligation to serve as a carrier of last resort.
- 7.2.11 Best may not reserve Dark Fiber.
- 7.2.12 Best shall be solely responsible for: (a) determining whether or not the transmission characteristics of the Dark Fiber accommodate the requirements of Best; (b) obtaining any Rights of Way, governmental or

private property permit, easement or other authorization or approval required for access to the Dark Fiber; (c) installation of fiber optic transmission equipment needed to power the Dark Fiber to transmit Telecommunications Services traffic; (d) installation of a demarcation point in a building where a Customer is located; and (e) augmenting Best's collocation arrangements with any proper optical cross connects or other equipment that Best needs to access Dark Fiber before it submits an order for such access.

7.3 Dark Fiber Interoffice Facilities (IOF).

The Dark Fiber IOF UNE is defined as continuous fiber strand(s) that are located within a fiber optic cable sheath between either (a) two Verizon central offices or (b) a Verizon central office and a Best central office but, in either case, without attached multiplexing, aggregation or other electronics. Dark Fiber IOF is available between the CLEC's collocation arrangements within two Verizon Central Offices, or between the CLEC's collocation arrangement in a Verizon Central Office and a CLEC CO/POP. To the extent applicable, the same terms and conditions regarding Dark Fiber Loop UNEs shall govern the Dark Fiber IOF UNE.

- 7.4 A Dark Fiber Inquiry Form must be submitted prior to submitting an ASR. Upon receipt of the CLEC's completed Inquiry Form, Verizon will initiate a review of its cable records to determine whether dark fiber may be available between the locations and in the quantities specified, Verizon will respond within fifteen (15) business days from receipt of the CLEC's request, indicating whether Unbundled Dark Fiber may be available based on the records search except that for voluminous requests or large, complex projects, Verizon reserves the right to negotiate a different interval.
- 7.5 Best shall order Dark Fiber IOF and Dark Fiber Loop UNEs by sending to Verizon a separate ASR for each A to Z route.
- 7.6 Direct access to dark fiber loops, subloops, or IOF that terminates in a Verizon premise, must be accomplished via a collocation arrangement in that premise. In circumstances where collocation cannot be accomplished in the premises, the Parties agree to negotiate for possible alternative arrangements.

8. Network Interface Device

- 8.1 Subject to the conditions set forth in Section 1 and at Best's request, Verizon shall permit Best to connect a Best Loop to the Inside Wiring of a Customer through the use of a Verizon NID in the manner set forth in this Section 8. Verizon shall provide Best with access to NIDs in accordance with, but only to the extent required by, Applicable Law. Best may access a Verizon NID either by means of a Cross Connection (but only if the use of such Cross Connection is technically feasible) from an adjoining Best NID deployed by Best or, if an entrance module is available in the Verizon NID, by connecting a Best Loop to the Verizon NID. In all cases, Verizon shall perform this Cross Connection. When necessary, Verizon will rearrange its facilities to provide access to an existing Customer's Inside Wire. An entrance module is available only if facilities are not connected to it.
- 8.2 In no case shall Best access, remove, disconnect or in any other way rearrange, Verizon's Loop facilities from Verizon's NIDs, enclosures, or protectors.

- 8.3 In no case shall Best access, remove, disconnect or in any other way rearrange, a Customer's Inside Wire from Verizon's NIDs, enclosures, or protectors where such Customer Inside Wire is used in the provision of ongoing Telecommunications Service to that Customer.
- 8.4 In no case shall Best remove or disconnect ground wires from Verizon's NIDs, enclosures, or protectors.
- 8.5 In no case shall Best remove or disconnect NID modules, protectors, or terminals from Verizon's NID enclosures.
- 8.6 Maintenance and control of premises Inside Wiring is the responsibility of the Customer. Any conflicts between service providers for access to the Customer's Inside Wire must be resolved by the person who controls use of the wire (e.g., the Customer).

When Best is connecting a Best-provided Loop to the Inside Wiring of a Customer's premises through the Customer's side of the Verizon NID, Best does not need to submit a request to Verizon and Verizon shall not charge Best for access to the Verizon NID. In such instances, Best shall comply with the provisions of Sections 8.2 through 8.7 of this Agreement and shall access the Customer's Inside Wire in the manner set forth in Section 6 of this Agreement.

- 8.7 Due to the wide variety of NIDs utilized by Verizon (based on Customer size and environmental considerations), Best may access the Customer's Inside Wire, acting as the agent of the Customer by any of the following means:
 - 8.7.1 Where an adequate length of Inside Wire is not present or environmental conditions do not permit, Best may enter the Customer side of the Verizon NID enclosure for the purpose of removing the Inside Wire from the terminals of Verizon's NID and connecting a connectorized or spliced jumper wire from a suitable "punch out" hole of such NID enclosure to the Inside Wire within the space of the Customer side of the Verizon NID. Such connection shall be electrically insulated and shall not make any contact with the connection points or terminals within the Customer side of the Verizon NID.
 - 8.7.2 Best may request Verizon 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. Best, its agent, the building owner or the Customer). If Best accesses the Customer's Inside Wire as described in this Section 8.7.2, time and materials charges will be billed to the requesting party (i.e. Best, its agent, the building owner or the Customer).

9. Unbundled Switching Elements

Subject to the conditions set forth in Section 1, Verizon shall make available to Best the Local Switching Element and Tandem Switching Element unbundled from transport, local Loop transmission, or other services, in accordance with this Agreement. Verizon shall provide Best with access to the Local Switching Element and the Tandem Switching Element in accordance with, but only to the extent required by, Applicable Law.

9.1 Local Switching.

9.1.1 The unbundled Local Switching Element includes 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 Verizon'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).

9.1.2 Verizon shall offer, as an optional chargeable feature, usage tapes.

9.1.3 Best may request activation or deactivation of features on a per-port basis at any time, and shall compensate Verizon for the non-recurring charges associated with processing the order. Best may submit a Bona Fide Request in accordance with Section 13.3 for other switch features and functions that the switch is capable of providing, but which Verizon does not currently provide, or for customized routing of traffic other than operator services and/or directory assistance traffic. Verizon shall develop and provide these requested services where technically feasible with the agreement of Best to pay the recurring and non-recurring costs of developing, installing, updating, providing and maintaining these services.

9.2 Network Design Request (NDR).

Prior to submitting any order for unbundled Local Switching (as an UNE or in combination with other UNEs), Best shall complete the NDR process. As part of the NDR process, Best shall request standardized or customized routing of its Customer traffic in conjunction with the provision of unbundled Local Switching.

If Best selects customized routing, Best shall define the routing plan and Verizon shall implement such plan, subject to technical feasibility constraints. Time and Material Charges may apply.

9.3 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 Verizon access Tandem for the purpose of routing a call or calls.

10. **Unbundled Interoffice Facilities**

Subject to the conditions of Section 1, where facilities are available, at Best's request, Verizon shall provide Best with interoffice transmission facilities ("IOF") unbundled from other Network Elements in accordance with, but only to the extent required by Applicable Law, at the rates set forth in the Pricing Attachment; provided, however, that Verizon shall offer unbundled shared IOF only to the extent that Best also purchases unbundled

Local Switching capability from Verizon in accordance with Section 9 of this Attachment.

11. Signaling Networks and Call-Related Databases

- 11.1 In accordance with, but only to the extent required by, Applicable Law, Verizon shall provide Best with access to databases and associated signaling necessary for call routing and completion by providing SS7 Common Channel Signaling ("CCS") Interconnection, and Interconnection and access to toll free service access code (e.g., 800/888/877) databases, LIDB, and any other necessary databases.
- 11.2 Best shall provide Verizon with CCS Interconnection required for call routing and completion, and the billing of calls which involve Best's Customers, at non-discriminatory rates, terms and conditions as provided in the Pricing Attachment, provided further that if the Best information Verizon requires to provide such call-related functionality is resident in a database, Best will provide Verizon with the access and authorization to query Best's information in the databases within which it is stored.
- 11.3 Alternatively, either Party ("Purchasing Party") may secure CCS Interconnection from a commercial SS7 hub provider (third party signaling provider) to transport messages to and from the Verizon CCS network, 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. If a third party signaling provider is selected by Best to transport signaling messages, that third party provider must present a letter of agency to Verizon, prior to the testing of the interconnection, authorizing the third party to act on behalf of Best.
- 11.4 Regardless of the manner in which Best obtains CCS Interconnection, Best shall comply with Verizon's SS7 certification process prior to establishing CCS Interconnection with Verizon.
- 11.5 The Parties will provide CCS Signaling to each other, 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 as required under applicable law.
- 11.6 The Parties will follow all Ordering and Billing Forum-adopted standards pertaining to CIC/OZZ codes.
- 11.7 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 out pulse the full ten-digit telephone number of the called party to the other Party.

- 11.8 The Parties acknowledge that there is a network security risk associated with interconnection with the public Internet Protocol network, including, but not limited to, the risk that interconnection of Best signaling systems to the public Internet Protocol network may expose Best and Verizon signaling systems and information to interference by third parties. Best shall notify Verizon in writing sixty (60) days in advance of installation of any network arrangement that may expose signaling systems or information to access through the public Internet Protocol network. Best shall take commercially reasonable efforts to protect its signaling systems and Verizon's signaling systems from interference by unauthorized persons.
- 11.9 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.
- 11.10 The following publications describe the practices, procedures and specifications generally utilized by Verizon for signaling purposes and are listed herein to assist the Parties in meeting their respective Interconnection responsibilities related to Signaling:
- 11.10.1 Telcordia Generic Requirements, GR-905-CORE, Issue 1, March, 1995, and subsequent issues and amendments; and
- 11.10.2 Where applicable, Verizon Supplement Common Channel Signaling Network Interface Specification (Verizon-905).
- 11.11 Each Party shall charge the other Party mutual and reciprocal rates for any usage-based charges for CCS Signaling, toll free service access code (e.g., 800/888/877) database access, LIDB access, and access to other necessary databases, as follows: Verizon shall charge Best in accordance with the Pricing Attachment and the terms and conditions in applicable Tariffs. Best shall charge Verizon rates equal to the rates Verizon charges Best, unless Best's Tariffs for CCS signaling provide for lower generally available rates, in which case Best shall charge Verizon such lower rates. Notwithstanding the foregoing, to the extent a Party uses a third party vendor for the provision of CCS Signaling, such charges shall apply only to the third party vendor.

12. Operations Support Systems

Subject to the conditions set forth in the Additional Services Attachment, Verizon shall provide Best with access via electronic interfaces to databases required for pre-ordering, ordering, provisioning, maintenance and repair, and billing. All such transactions shall be submitted by Best through such electronic interfaces.

13. Availability of Other UNEs on an Unbundled Basis

- 13.1 Any request by Best for access to a Verizon Network Element that is not already available and that Verizon is required by Applicable Law to provide on an unbundled basis shall be treated as a Network Element Bona Fide Request pursuant to Section 13.4, below. Best shall provide Verizon access to its Network Elements as mutually agreed by the Parties or as required by Applicable Law.

- 13.2 Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Section 13, a Party shall not be required to provide a proprietary Network Element to the other Party under this Section 13 except as required by Applicable Law.
- 13.3 Network Element Bona Fide Request (BFR).
- 13.3.1 Each Party shall promptly consider and analyze access to a new unbundled Network Element in response to the submission of a Network Element Bona Fide Request by the other Party 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. Oct. 19, 1992) ¶ 259 and n.603 or subsequent orders.
- 13.3.2 A Network Element Bona Fide Request shall be submitted in writing and shall include a technical description of each requested Network Element.
- 13.3.3 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.
- 13.3.4 Within ten (10) business days of its receipt, the receiving Party shall acknowledge receipt of the Network Element Bona Fide Request.
- 13.3.5 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 by Applicable Law.
- 13.3.6 If the receiving Party determines that the Network Element Bona Fide Request is technically feasible and access to the Network Element is required to be provided by Applicable Law, it shall promptly proceed with developing the Network Element Bona Fide Request 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. Unless the Parties otherwise agree, the Network Element requested must be priced in accordance with Section 252(d)(1) of the Act.
- 13.3.7 As soon as feasible, but not more than ninety (90) days after its receipt of authorization to proceed with developing the Network Element Bona Fide Request, 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.
- 13.3.8 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 Network Element Bona Fide Request pursuant to the Network Element

Bona Fide Request quote or seek arbitration by the Commission pursuant to Section 252 of the Act.

13.3.9 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.

14. Maintenance of UNEs

If (a) Best reports to Verizon a Customer trouble, (b) Best requests a dispatch, (c) Verizon dispatches a technician, and (d) such trouble was not caused by Verizon's facilities or equipment in whole or in part, then Best shall pay Verizon a charge set forth in the Pricing Attachment for time associated with said dispatch. In addition, this charge also applies when the Customer contact as designated by Best is not available at the appointed time. Best accepts responsibility for initial trouble isolation and providing Verizon with appropriate dispatch information based on its test results. If, as the result of Best instructions, Verizon is erroneously requested to dispatch to a site on Verizon company premises ("dispatch in"), a charge set forth in the Pricing Attachment will be assessed per occurrence to Best by Verizon. If as the result of Best instructions, Verizon is erroneously requested to dispatch to a site outside of Verizon company premises ("dispatch out"), a charge set forth in the Pricing Attachment will be assessed per occurrence to Best by Verizon. Verizon agrees to respond to Best trouble reports on a non-discriminatory basis consistent with the manner in which it provides service to its own retail Customers or to any other similarly initiated Telecommunications Carrier.

15. Rates and Charges

The rates and charges for the foregoing UNEs and other services shall be as set forth in this Attachment and the Pricing Attachment.

16. Combinations

Subject to the conditions set forth in Section 1, Verizon shall be obligated to provide a combination of Network Elements (a "Combination") only to the extent provision of such Combination is required by Applicable Law. To the extent Verizon is required by Applicable Law to provide a Combination to Best, Verizon shall provide such Combination in accordance with, and subject to, requirements established by Verizon that are consistent with Applicable Law (such requirements, the "Combo Requirements"). Verizon shall make the Combo Requirements publicly available in an electronic form.

COLLOCATION ATTACHMENT

1. Verizon's Provision of Collocation

Verizon shall provide to Best, in accordance with this Agreement (including, but not limited to, Verizon's applicable Tariffs) and the requirements of Applicable Law, Collocation for the purpose of facilitating Best's interconnection with facilities or services of Verizon or access to Unbundled Network Elements of Verizon; provided, that notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement, Verizon shall be obligated to provide Collocation to Best only to the extent required by Applicable Law and may decline to provide Collocation to Best to the extent that provision of Collocation is not required by Applicable Law. Subject to the foregoing, Verizon shall provide Collocation to Best in accordance with the rates, terms and conditions set forth in Verizon's Collocation tariff, and Verizon shall do so regardless of whether or not such rates, terms and conditions are effective.

2. Best's Provision of Collocation

Upon request by Verizon, Best shall provide to Verizon collocation of facilities and equipment for the purpose of facilitating Verizon's interconnection with facilities or services of Best. Best shall provide collocation on a non-discriminatory basis in accordance with Best's applicable Tariffs, or in the absence of applicable Best Tariffs, in accordance with terms, conditions and prices to be negotiated by the Parties.

911 ATTACHMENT

1. 911/E-911 Arrangements

- 1.1 Best may, at its option, interconnect to the Verizon 911/E-911 Selective Router or 911 Tandem Offices, as appropriate, that serve the areas in which Best provides Telephone Exchange Services, for the provision of 911/E-911 services and for access to all subtending Public Safety Answering Points ("PSAP"). In such situations, Verizon will provide Best with the appropriate CLLI codes and specifications of the Tandem Office serving area. In areas where E-911 is not available, Best and Verizon will negotiate arrangements to connect Best to the 911 service in accordance with applicable state law.
- 1.2 Path and route diverse Interconnections for 911/E-911 shall be made at the Best-IP, the Verizon-IP, or other points as necessary and mutually agreed, and as required by law or regulation.
- 1.3 Within thirty (30) days of its receipt of a complete and accurate request from Best, to include all required information and applicable forms, and to the extent authorized by the relevant federal, state, and local authorities, Verizon will provide Best, where Verizon offers 911 service, with the following at a reasonable fee, if applicable:
 - 1.3.1 a file via electronic medium containing the Master Street Address Guide ("MSAG") for each county within the LATA(s) where Best is providing, or represents to Verizon that it intends to provide within sixty (60) days of CLEC(s) request, local exchange service, which MSAG shall be updated as the need arises and a complete copy of which shall be made available on an annual basis.
 - 1.3.2 a list of the address and CLLI code of each 911/E-911 selective router or 911 Tandem office(s) in the area in which Best plans to offer Telephone Exchange Service;
 - 1.3.3 a list of geographical areas, e.g., LATAs, counties or municipalities, with the associated 911 tandems, as applicable.
 - 1.3.4 a list of Verizon personnel who currently have responsibility for 911/E-911 requirements, including a list of escalation contacts should the primary contacts be unavailable.
 - 1.3.5 any special 911 trunking requirements for each 911/E-911 selective router or 911 Tandem Office, where available, and;
 - 1.3.6 prompt return of any Best 911/E-911 data entry files containing errors, so that Best may ensure the accuracy of the Customer records.

2. Electronic Interface

Best shall use, where available, the appropriate Verizon electronic interface, through which Best shall input and provide a daily update of 911/E-911 database information related to appropriate Best Customers. In those areas where an electronic interface is not available, Best shall provide Verizon with all appropriate 911/E-911 information such as name, address, and telephone number via facsimile for Verizon's entry into the 911/E-911 database system. Any 911/E-911-related data exchanged between the Parties prior

to the availability of an electronic interface shall conform to Verizon standards, whereas 911/E-911-related data exchanged electronically shall conform to the National Emergency Number Association standards ("NENA"). Best may also use the electronic interface, where available, to query the 911/E-911 database to verify the accuracy of Best Customer information.

3. 911 Interconnection

Verizon and Best will use commercially reasonable efforts to facilitate the prompt, robust, reliable and efficient interconnection of Best systems to the 911/E-911 platforms and/or systems.

4. 911 Facilities

Best shall be responsible for providing facilities from the Best End Office to the 911 Tandem or selective router. Best shall deploy diverse routing of 911 trunk pairs to the 911 tandem or selective router.

5. Local Number Portability for use with 911

The Parties acknowledge that until Local Number Portability ("LNP") with full 911/E-911 compatibility is utilized for all ported telephone numbers, the use of Interim Number Portability ("INP") creates a special need to have the Automatic Location Identification ("ALI") screen reflect two numbers: the "old" number and the "new" number assigned by Best. Therefore, for those ported telephone numbers using INP, Best will provide the 911/E-911 database with both the forwarded number and the directory number, as well as all other required information including the appropriate address information for the customer for entry into the 911/E-911 database system. Further, Best will outpulse the telephone number to which the call has been forwarded (that is, the Customer's ANI) to the 911 Tandem office or selective router. Best will include their NENA five character Company Identification ("COID") for inclusion in the ALI display.

5.1 Best is required to enter data into the 911/E-911 database under the NENA Standards for LNP. This includes, but is not limited to, using Best's NENA COID to lock and unlock records and the posting of Best's NENA COID to the ALI record where such locking and migrating feature for 911/E-911 records are available or as defined by local standards.

6. PSAP Coordination

Verizon and Best 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/E-911 arrangements.

7. 911 Compensation

Best will compensate Verizon for connections to its 911/E-911 platform and/or system pursuant to the rate schedule included in this attachment.

8. 911 Rules and Regulations

Best and Verizon will comply with all applicable rules and regulations (including 911 taxes and surcharges as defined by local requirements) pertaining to the provision of 911/E-911 services in Kentucky.

PRICING ATTACHMENT

1. General

- 1.1 As used in this Attachment, the term "Charges" means the rates, fees, charges and prices for a Service.
- 1.2 Except as stated in Section 2 or Section 3, below, Charges for Services shall be as stated in this Section 1.
- 1.3 The Charges for a Service shall be the Charges for the Service stated in the Providing Party's applicable Tariff.
- 1.4 In the absence of Charges for a Service established pursuant to Section 1.3, the Charges shall be as stated in Appendix A of this Pricing Attachment.
- 1.5 The Charges stated in Appendix A of this Pricing Attachment shall be automatically superseded by any applicable Tariff Charges. The Charges stated in Appendix A of this Pricing Attachment also shall be automatically superseded by any new Charge(s) when such new Charge(s) are required by any order of the Commission or the FCC, approved by the Commission or the FCC, or otherwise allowed to go into effect by the Commission or the FCC (including, but not limited to, in a Tariff that has been filed with the Commission or the FCC), provided such new Charge(s) are not subject to a stay issued by any court of competent jurisdiction.
- 1.6 In the absence of Charges for a Service established pursuant to Sections 1.3 through 1.5, if Charges for a Service are otherwise expressly provided for in this Agreement, such Charges shall apply.
- 1.7 In the absence of Charges for a Service established pursuant to Sections 1.3 through 1.6, the Charges for the Service shall be the Providing Party's FCC or Commission approved Charges.
- 1.8 In the absence of Charges for a Service established pursuant to Sections 1.3 through 1.7, the Charges for the Service shall be mutually agreed to by the Parties in writing.

2. Verizon Telecommunications Services Provided to Best for Resale Pursuant to the Resale Attachment

- 2.1 Verizon Telecommunications Services for which Verizon is Required to Provide a Wholesale Discount Pursuant to Section 251(c)(4) of the Act.
 - 2.1.1 The Charges for a Verizon Telecommunications Service purchased by Best for resale for which Verizon is required to provide a wholesale discount pursuant to Section 251(c)(4) of the Act shall be the Retail Price for such Service set forth in Verizon's applicable Tariffs (or, if there is no Tariff Retail Price for such Service, Verizon's Retail Price for the Service that is generally offered to Verizon's Customers), less, to the extent required by Applicable Law: (a) the applicable wholesale discount stated in Verizon's Tariffs for Verizon Telecommunications Services purchased for resale pursuant to Section 251(c)(4) of the Act; or, (b) in the absence of an applicable Verizon Tariff wholesale discount for Verizon Telecommunications Services purchased for resale pursuant to Section

251(c)(4) of the Act, the applicable wholesale discount stated in Appendix A for Verizon Telecommunications Services purchased for resale pursuant to Section 251(c)(4) of the Act.

- 2.1.2 The Charges for a Verizon Telecommunications Service Customer Specific Arrangement (“CSA”) purchased by Best for resale pursuant to Section 3.3 of the Resale Attachment for which Verizon is required to provide a wholesale discount pursuant to Section 251(c)(4) of the Act, shall be the Retail Price for the CSA, less, to the extent required by Applicable Law: (a) the applicable wholesale discount stated in Verizon’s Tariffs for Verizon Telecommunications Services purchased for resale pursuant to Section 251(c)(4) of the Act; or, (b) in the absence of an applicable Verizon Tariff wholesale discount for Verizon Telecommunications Services purchased for resale pursuant to Section 251(c)(4) of the Act, the applicable discount stated in Appendix A for Verizon Telecommunications Services purchased for resale pursuant to Section 251(c)(4) of the Act. Notwithstanding the foregoing, in accordance with, and to the extent permitted by Applicable Law, Verizon may establish a wholesale discount for a CSA that differs from the wholesale discount that is generally applicable to Telecommunications Services provided to Best for resale pursuant to Section 251(c)(4) of the Act.
- 2.1.3 Notwithstanding Sections 2.1 and 2.2, in accordance with, and to the extent permitted by Applicable Law, Verizon may at any time establish a wholesale discount for a Telecommunications Service (including, but not limited to, a CSA) that differs from the wholesale discount that is generally applicable to Telecommunications Services provided to Best for resale pursuant to Section 251(c)(4) of the Act.
- 2.1.4 The wholesale discount stated in Appendix A shall be automatically superseded by any new wholesale discount when such new wholesale discount is required by any order of the Commission or the FCC, approved by the Commission or the FCC, or otherwise allowed to go into effect by the Commission or the FCC, provided such new wholesale discount is not subject to a stay issued by any court of competent jurisdiction.
- 2.1.5 The wholesale discount provided for in Sections 2.1.1 through 2.1.3 shall not be applied to:
 - 2.1.5.1 Short term promotions as defined in 47 CFR § 51.613;
 - 2.1.5.2 Except as otherwise provided by Applicable Law, Exchange Access services;
 - 2.1.5.3 Subscriber Line Charges, Federal Line Cost Charges, end user common line Charges, taxes, and government Charges and assessment (including, but not limited to, 9-1-1 Charges and Dual Party Relay Service Charges).
 - 2.1.5.4 Any other service or Charge that the Commission, the FCC, or other governmental entity of appropriate jurisdiction determines is not subject to a wholesale rate discount under Section 251(c)(4) of the Act.

- 2.2 Verizon Telecommunications Services for which Verizon is Not Required to Provide a Wholesale Discount Pursuant to Section 251(c)(4) of the Act.
- 2.2.1 The Charges for a Verizon Telecommunications Service for which Verizon is not required to provide a wholesale discount pursuant to Section 251(c)(4) of the Act shall be the Charges stated in Verizon's Tariffs for such Verizon Telecommunications Service (or, if there are no Verizon Tariff Charges for such Service, Verizon's Charges for the Service that are generally offered by Verizon).
- 2.2.2 The Charges for a Verizon Telecommunications Service customer specific contract service arrangement ("CSA") purchased by Best pursuant to Section 3.3 of the Resale Attachment for which Verizon is not required to provide a wholesale discount pursuant to Section 251(c)(4) of the Act shall be the Charges provided for in the CSA and any other Charges that Verizon could bill the person to whom the CSA was originally provided (including, but not limited to, applicable Verizon Tariff Charges).
- 2.3 Other Charges.
- 2.3.1 Best shall pay, or collect and remit to Verizon, without discount, all Subscriber Line Charges, Federal Line Cost Charges, and end user common line Charges, associated with Verizon Telecommunications Services provided by Verizon to Best.

3. Best Prices

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement, the Charges that Best bills Verizon for Best's Services shall not exceed the Charges for Verizon's comparable Services, except to the extent the Best has demonstrated to Verizon, or, at Verizon's request, to the Commission or the FCC, that Best's cost to provide such Best Services to Verizon exceeds the Charges for Verizon's comparable Services.

4. Section 271

If Verizon is a Bell Operating Company (as defined in the Act) and in order to comply with Section 271(c)(2)(B) of the Act provides a Service under this Agreement that Verizon is not required to provide by Section 251 of the Act, Verizon shall have the right to establish Charges for such Service in a manner that differs from the manner in which under Applicable Law (including, but not limited to, Section 252(d) of the Act) Charges must be set for Services provided under Section 251.

5. Regulatory Review of Prices

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement, each Party reserves its respective rights to institute an appropriate proceeding with the FCC, the Commission or other governmental body of appropriate jurisdiction: (a) with regard to the Charges for its Services (including, but not limited to, a proceeding to change the Charges for its services, whether provided for in any of its Tariffs, in Appendix A, or otherwise); and (b) with regard to the Charges of the other Party (including, but not limited to, a proceeding to obtain a reduction in such Charges and a refund of any amounts paid in excess of any Charges that are reduced).

APPENDIX A TO THE PRICING ATTACHMENT

1. **Rates and Charges for Transportation and Termination of Traffic**
 - A. The Local Call Termination rate element that applies to Local Traffic on a minute of use basis for traffic that is delivered to an End Office is **\$0.0036192***.
 - B. The Local Call Termination rate element that applies to Local Traffic on a minute of use basis for traffic that is delivered to Tandem Switch is **\$0.0045872***.
 - C. The Tandem Transiting Charge is **\$0.0009680***.
 - D. Entrance Facility Charge: **See Intrastate Access Tariff**

*Certain of the rates and charges set forth above, as indicated by an "asterisk", are arbitrated rates taken from the previously arbitrated Interconnection, Resale and Unbundling Agreement between Verizon and AT&T Communications, which was approved by the Commission in an Order dated February 14, 1997, in Order No. 96-478. Verizon has agreed to use and to incorporate herein such arbitrated rates subject to the following: The Parties expressly agree (1) that such arbitrated rates shall not be deemed to have been voluntarily negotiated by the Parties and such arbitrated rates are not subject to interstate MFN obligations under Appendix D, Sections 31 and 32, of the Merger Order, as set forth more fully in Section 37.2 of the General Terms and Conditions; and (2) that, for purposes of calculating Reciprocal Compensation, the arbitrated rates shall not apply to Internet Traffic, as set forth more fully in Section 7.3.4 of the Interconnection Attachment. The foregoing shall not, in any way, limit any other term, condition, limitation or reservation of right in the Agreement that applies to rates, including, but not limited to, Section 37 of the General Terms and Conditions. The Parties further agree that the Commission's Order in Order No. 96-478, to the extent such Order established the arbitrated rates, shall be deemed an "arbitration decision associated with this Agreement" under Section 37.1 of the General Terms and Conditions.

2. **Services Available for Resale**

The avoided cost discount for all services, excluding OS/DA, is 15.95%¹.

Non-Recurring Charges (NRCs) for Resale Services

Pre-ordering

CLEC Account Establishment Per CLEC	\$273.09
Customer Record Search Per Account	\$ 11.69

Ordering and Provisioning

Engineered Initial Service Order (ISO) - New Service	\$311.98
Engineered Initial Service Order - As Specified	\$123.84
Engineered Subsequent Service Order	\$ 59.61
Non-Engineered Initial Service Order - New Service	\$ 42.50
Non-Engineered Initial Service Order - Changeover	\$ 21.62
Non-Engineered Initial Service Order - As Specified	\$ 82.13
Non-Engineered Subsequent Service Order	\$ 19.55

Central Office Connect \$ 12.21

Outside Facility Connect \$ 68.30

Manual Ordering Charge \$ 12.17

Product Specific:

NRCs, other than those for Pre-ordering, Ordering and Provisioning, and Custom Handling as listed in this Appendix, will be charged from the appropriate retail tariff. No discount applies to such NRCs.

Custom Handling:

Service Order Expedite:

Engineered	\$ 35.48
Non-Engineered	\$ 12.59

Coordinated Conversions:

ISO	\$ 17.76
Central Office Connection	\$ 10.71
Outside Facility Connection	\$ 9.59

Hot Coordinated Conversion First Hour:

ISO	\$ 30.55
Central Office Connection	\$ 42.83
Outside Facility Connection	\$ 38.34

Hot Coordinated Conversion per Additional Quarter Hour:

ISO	\$ 4.88
Central Office Connection	\$ 9.43
Outside Facility Connection	\$ 8.37

¹ In compliance with the FCC Order approving the Merger of GTE Corporation and Bell Atlantic (CC Docket No. 98-1840), Verizon will offer limited duration promotional discounts on resold residential exchange access lines. The terms and conditions on which these promotional discounts are being made available can be found on Verizon's web site, at <http://www.gte.com/wise> for former GTE service areas and <http://www.bell-atl.com/wholesale/html/resources.htm> for former Bell Atlantic service areas.

Application of NRCs

Pre-ordering:

CLEC Account Establishment is a one-time charge applied the first time that Best orders any service from this Agreement.

Customer Record Search applies when Best requests a summary of the services currently subscribed to by the end-user.

Ordering and Provisioning:

Engineered Initial Service Order - New Service applies per Local Service Request (LSR) when engineering work activity is required to complete the order, e.g. digital loops.

Non-Engineered Initial Service Order - New Service applies per LSR when no engineering work activity is required to complete the order, e.g. analog loops.

Initial Service Order - As Specified (Engineered or Non-Engineered) applies only to Complex Services for services migrating from Verizon to Best. Complex Services are services that require a data gathering form or has special instructions.

Non-Engineered Initial Service Order - Changeover applies only to Basic Services for services migrating from Verizon to Best. End-user service may remain the same or change.

Central Office Connect applies in addition to the ISO when physical installation is required at the central office.

Outside Facility Connect applies in addition to the ISO when incremental field work is required.

Manual Ordering Charge applies to orders that require Verizon to manually enter Best's order into Verizon's Secure Integrated Gateway System (SIGS), e.g. faxed orders and orders sent via physical or electronic mail.

Custom Handling (These NRCs are in addition to any Preordering or Ordering and Provisioning NRCs):

Service Order Expedite (Engineered or Non-Engineered) applies if Best requests service prior to the standard due date intervals.

Coordinated Conversion applies if Best requests notification and coordination of service cut over prior to the service becoming effective.

Hot Coordinated Conversion First Hour applies if Best requests real-time coordination of a service cut-over that takes one hour or less.

Hot Coordinated Conversion Per Additional Quarter Hour applies, in addition to the Hot Coordinated Conversion First Hour, for every 15-minute segment of real-time coordination of a service cut-over that takes more than one hour.

3. Prices for Unbundled Network Elements

Monthly Recurring Charges

Local Loop²

2 Wire Analog Loop (inclusive of NID)	
Zone 1	\$ 17.44
Zone 2	\$ 22.23
Zone 3	\$ 25.84
4 Wire Analog Loop (inclusive of NID)	
Zone 1	\$ 34.89
Zone 2	\$ 44.46
Zone 3	\$ 51.68
2 Wire Digital Loop (inclusive of NID)	
Zone 1	\$ 17.44
Zone 2	\$ 22.23
Zone 3	\$ 25.84
4 Wire Digital Loop (inclusive of NID)	
Zone 1	\$ 34.89
Zone 2	\$ 44.46
Zone 3	\$ 51.68
DS-1 Loop	\$ 160.31
DS-3 Loop	\$2,584.44

Supplemental Features:

ISDN-BRI Line Loop Extender	TBD
DS1 Clear Channel Capability	\$23.22

Subloop

2-Wire Feeder	\$ 15.83
2-Wire Distribution	\$ 29.39
4-Wire Feeder	\$ 29.20
4-Wire Distribution	\$ 54.24
2-Wire Drop	\$ 5.88
4-Wire Drop	\$ 10.85
Inside Wire	BFR

Network Interface Device (leased separately)

Basic NID:	\$.79
Complex (12 x) NID	\$ 1.60

Switching

Port	
Basic Analog Line Side Port	\$ 5.49
Coin Line Side Port	\$ 9.91
ISDN BRI Digital Line Side Port	\$ 26.16
DS-1 Digital Trunk Side Port	\$ 196.11
ISDN PRI Digital Trunk Side Port	\$ 378.55

² In compliance with the FCC order approving the merger of GTE Corporation and Bell Atlantic (CC Docket No. 98-1840), Verizon will offer limited duration promotional discounts on residential UNE Loops and UNE Advance Services Loops. The terms and conditions on which these promotional discounts are being made available can be found on <http://www.gte.com/wise> for former GTE service areas and <http://www.bell-atl.com/wholesale/html/resources.htm> for former Bell Atlantic service areas.

Vertical Features	See Attached List
Usage Charges (must purchase Port)	
Local Central Office Switching (Oversall Average MOU)	\$0.0059446
Common Shared Transport	
Transport Facility (Average MOU/ALM)	\$0.0000325
Transport Termination (Average MOU/Term)	\$0.0001733
Tandem Switching (Average MOU)	\$0.0035977
Terminating to Originating Ratio	1.00
Assumed Minutes	TBD
Operator and Directory Assistance Services (OS/DA)	
National DA	\$0.5500000
DA	\$0.4500000
Mechanized Operator Calling Card	\$0.0890000
Live Operator	\$0.4490000
Originating Line Number Screening	\$0.0180000
Call Detail Record	\$0.0200000
Busy Line Verify	\$0.9900000
Busy Line Interrupt	\$1.0500000
Dedicated Transport Facilities	
CLEC Dedicated Transport	
CDT 2 Wire	\$ 26.81
CDT 4 Wire	\$ 42.90
CDT DS1	\$ 330.00
CDT DS3 Optical Interface	\$1,125.00
CDT DS3 Electrical Interface	\$1,297.18
Interoffice Dedicated Transport	
IDT DS0 Transport Facility per ALM	\$.27
IDT DS0 Transport Termination	\$ 11.59
IDT DS1 Transport Facility per ALM	\$ 2.85
IDT DS1 Transport Termination	\$ 80.49
IDT DS3 Transport Facility per ALM	\$ 3.65
IDT DS3 Transport Termination	\$ 118.29
Multiplexing	
DS1 to Voice Multiplexing	\$ 185.24
DS3 to DS1 Multiplexing	\$ 887.13
DS1 Clear Channel Capability	\$ 23.22
Unbundled Dark Fiber	
Unbundled Dark Fiber Loops/Subloops	
Dark Fiber Loop	\$ 67.13
Dark Fiber Subloop - Feeder	\$ 53.17
Dark Fiber Subloop - Distribution	\$ 13.96
Unbundled Dark Fiber Dedicated Transport	
Dark Fiber IDT -Facility	\$ 24.80
Dark Fiber IDT -Termination	\$ 6.34
Packet Switching	BFR

Call Related Database **BFR**

Service Management System **BFR**

OSS **BFR**

UNE-P Pricing

MRCs. The MRC for a UNE-P will generally be equal to the sum of the MRCs for the combined UNEs (e.g. the total of the UNE loop charge plus the UNE port charges in the Agreement (see Note A) plus: UNE local switching (per minute originating usage plus T/O factor to determine terminating minutes) based on UNE local switching rates in the Agreement plus UNE shared transport and tandem switching (based on factors for percent interoffice and tandem switch usage, plus assumed transport mileage of 10 miles and 2 terms) based on UNE shared transport rates in the Agreement plus UNE Vertical Services charges (optional per line charges, if allowed by the Agreement).

(Note A): UNE platforms are available in four loop/port configurations as shown below. If the price for any component of these platforms is not set forth herein, Verizon will use the ICB process to determine the appropriate price and TBD pricing shall apply.

UNE Basic Analog Voice Grade Platform consists of the following components:
UNE 2-wire Analog loop; and
UNE Basic Analog Line Side port

UNE ISDN BRI Platform consists of the following components:
UNE 2-wire Digital loop; and
UNE ISDN BRI Digital Line Side port

UNE ISDN PRI Platform consists of the following components:
UNE DS1 loop; and
UNE ISDN PRI Digital Trunk Side port

UNE DS1 Platform consists of the following components:
UNE DS1 loop; and
UNE DS1 Digital Trunk Side port

NRCs. On an interim basis, until NRCs specific to UNE-P have been established, the Initial Service Order Charge for ports will be billed for all UNE combination orders. Central Office Line Connection or Outside Facility Fieldwork charges will be applied as incurred on UNE combination orders. Verizon reserves the right to apply new NRCs specific to UNE-P when such NRCs have been developed.

Optional NRCs will apply as ordered by the CLEC including such charges as Expedites, Coordinated Conversions, loop Conditioning, etc.

Operator Services and Directory Assistance Services (OS/DA). If Best does not initially utilize available customized routing services to re-route OS/DA calls to its own or another party's operator services platform, Verizon will bill the CLEC for OS/DA calls at a market-based ICB rate pending Best's completion of a separate OS/DA agreement.

KENTUCKY UNBUNDLED VERTICAL FEATURES

VERTICAL FEATURES		(Subject to Availability)
Three Way Calling	\$/Feature/Month	\$1.32
Call Forwarding Variable	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.35
Cust. Changeable Speed Calling 1-Digit	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.21
Cust. Changeable Speed Calling 2-Digit	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.30
Call Waiting	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.12
Cancel Call Waiting	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.05
Automatic Callback	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.21
Automatic Recall	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.12
Calling Number Delivery	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.11
Calling Number Delivery Blocking	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.32
Distinctive Ringing / Call Waiting	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.44
Customer Originated Trace	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.12
Selective Call Rejection	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.56
Selective Call Forwarding	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.65
Selective Call Acceptance	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.78
Call Forwarding Variable CTX	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.31
Call Forwarding Incoming Only	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.29
Call Forwarding Within Group Only	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.16
Call Forwarding Busy Line	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.16
Call Forwarding Don't Answer All Calls	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.19
Remote Call Forward	\$/Feature/Month	\$2.43
Call Waiting Originating	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.08
Call Waiting Terminating	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.12
Cancel Call Waiting CTX	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.02
Three Way Calling CTX	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.53
Call Transfer Individual All Calls	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.20
Add-on Consultation Hold Incoming Only	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.18
Speed Calling Individual 1-Digit	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.08
Speed Calling Individual 2-Digit	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.17
Direct Connect	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.08
Distinctive Alerting / Call Waiting Indicator	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.07
Call Hold	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.26
Semi-Restricted (Orig/Term)	\$/Feature/Month	\$1.52
Fully-Restricted (Orig/Term)	\$/Feature/Month	\$1.51
Toll Restricted Service	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.18
Call Pick-up	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.09
Directed Call Pick-up w/Barge-In	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.08
Directed Call Pick-up w/o Barge-In	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.10
Special Intercept Announcements	\$/Feature/Month	\$12.05
Conference Calling - 6-Way Station Cont.	\$/Feature/Month	\$23.63
Station Message Detail Recording	\$/Feature/Month	\$10.17
Station Message Detail Recording to Premises	\$/Feature/Month	\$30.76
Fixed Night Service - Key	\$/Feature/Month	\$4.00
Attendant Camp-on (Non-DI Console)	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.55
Attendant Busy Line Verification	\$/Feature/Month	\$17.36
Control of Facilities	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.05
Fixed Night Service - Call Forwarding	\$/Feature/Month	\$2.00
Attendant Conference	\$/Feature/Month	\$62.35
Circular Hunting	\$/Feature/Month	\$1.72
Preferential Multiline Hunting	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.05
Uniform Call Distribution	\$/Feature/Month	\$5.65

VERTICAL FEATURES		(Subject to Availability)
Stop Hunt Key	\$/Feature/Month	\$5.74
Make Busy Key	\$/Feature/Month	\$5.75
Queuing	\$/Feature/Month	\$10.62
Automatic Route Selection	\$/Feature/Month	\$3.07
Facility Restriction Level	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.23
Expansive Route Warning Tone	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.04
Time-of-Day Routing Control	\$/Feature/Month	\$8.63
Foreign Exchange Facilities	\$/Feature/Month	\$8.99
Anonymous Call Rejection	\$/Feature/Month	\$4.72
Basic Business Group Sta-Sta ICM	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.52
Basic Business Group CTX	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.10
Basic Business Group DOD	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.05
Basic Business Auto ID Outward Dialing	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.00
Basic Business Group DID	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.00
Business Set Group Intercom All Calls	\$/Feature/Month	\$5.13
Dial Call Waiting	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.15
Loudspeaker Paging	\$/Feature/Month	\$8.76
Recorded Telephone Dictation	\$/Feature/Month	\$10.54
On-Hook Queuing for Outgoing Trunks	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.42
Off-Hook Queuing for Outgoing Trunks	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.03
Teen Service	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.06
Bg - Automatic Call Back	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.12
Voice/Data Protection	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.01
Authorization Codes for Afr	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.10
Account Codes for Afr	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.27
Code Restriction Diversion	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.26
Code Calling	\$/Feature/Month	\$11.12
Meet-Me Conference	\$/Feature/Month	\$9.38
Call Park	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.12
Executive Busy Override	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.08
Last Number Redial	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.09
Direct Inward System Access	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.13
Authorization Code Immediate Dialing	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.00
Bg - Speed Calling Shared	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.01
Attendant Recall from Satellite	\$/Feature/Month	\$3.47
Bg - Speed Calling 2-Shared	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.01
Business Set - Call Pick-up	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.07
Authorization Code for Mdr	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.00
Locked Loop Operation	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.00
Attendant Position Busy	\$/Feature/Month	\$2.60
Two-Way Splitting	\$/Feature/Month	\$5.04
Call Forwarding - All (Fixed)	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.41
Business Group Call Waiting	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.00
Music on Hold	\$/Feature/Month	\$1.42
Automatic Alternate Routing	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.35
DTMF Dialing	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.06
BG DTMF Dialing	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.05
Business Set Access to Paging	\$/Feature/Month	\$2.54
Call Flip-Flop (Ctx-A)	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.44
Selective Calling Waiting (Class)	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.32
Direct Inward Dialing	\$/Feature/Month	\$7.97
Customer Dialed Account Recording	\$/Feature/Month	\$1.24

VERTICAL FEATURES		(Subject to Availability)
Deluxe Automatic Route Selection	\$/Feature/Month	\$23.44
MDC Attendant Console	\$/Feature/Month	\$34.04
Warm Line	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.01
Calling Name Delivery	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.30
Call Forwarding Enhancements	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.00
Caller ID Name and Number	\$/Feature/Month	\$1.03
InContact	\$/Feature/Month	\$1.68
Call Waiting ID	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.08
Att'd ID on Incoming Calls	\$/Feature/Month	\$4.02
Privacy Release	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.40
Display Calling Number	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.20
Six-Port Conference	\$/Feature/Month	\$41.54
Business Set Call Back Queuing	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.01
ISDN Code Calling - Answer	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.23
Att'd Call Park	\$/Feature/Month	\$2.09
Att'd Autodial	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.99
Att'd Speed Calling	\$/Feature/Month	\$1.69
Att'd Console Test	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.11
Att'd Delayed Operation	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.00
Att'd Lockout	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.00
Att'd Multiple Listed Directory Numbers	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.00
Att'd Secrecy	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.82
Att'd Wildcard Key	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.34
Att'd Flexible Console Alerting	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.00
Att'd VFG Trunk Group Busy on Att'd Console	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.17
Att'd Console Act/Deact of CFU/CFT	\$/Feature/Month	\$1.55
Att'd Display of Queued Calls	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.03
Att'd Interposition Transfer	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.22
Att'd Automatic Recall	\$/Feature/Month	\$0.70

NON-RECURRING CHARGES

LOCAL WHOLESALE SERVICES	Ordering 100% Manual	Ordering Semi- Mech.	Provisioning Initial Unit	Addt'l Unit
UNBUNDLED LOOP				
Exchange - Basic - Initial	\$ 38.75	\$ 27.60	\$ 42.17	\$ 38.81
Exchange - Basic - Subsequent	\$ 17.44	\$ 12.55	\$ 14.49	\$ 13.53
Exchange - Complex Nondigital - Initial	\$ 40.56	\$ 25.03	\$107.58	\$ 26.61
Exchange - Complex Nondigital - Subsequent	\$ 18.87	\$ 13.98	\$ 14.49	\$ 13.53
Exchange - Complex Digital - Initial	\$ 40.56	\$ 25.03	\$ 96.76	\$ 26.53
Exchange - Complex Digital - Subsequent	\$ 18.87	\$ 13.98	\$ 14.49	\$ 13.53
Advanced - Basic - Initial	\$ 36.18	\$ 25.03	\$573.73	\$202.79
Advanced - Complex - Initial	\$ 40.56	\$ 25.03	\$569.13	\$303.39
UNBUNDLED PORT				
Exchange - Basic - Initial	\$ 33.04	\$ 21.89	\$ 31.29	\$ 29.38
Exchange - Basic - Subsequent (Port Feature)	\$ 19.78	\$ 14.89	\$ 1.14	\$ 1.14
Exchange - Basic - Subsequent (CO Interconnection)	\$ 19.78	\$ 14.89	\$ 14.49	\$ 13.53
Exchange - Complex Nondigital - Initial	\$ 43.54	\$ 28.01	\$ 75.32	\$ 38.01
Exchange - Complex Nondigital - Subsequent (Port Feature)	\$ 25.90	\$ 21.01	\$ 6.23	\$ 6.23
Exchange - Complex Nondigital – Subsequent (Switch Feature Group)	\$ 30.28	\$ 21.01	\$ 23.06	\$ --
Exchange - Complex Nondigital – Subsequent (CO Interconnection)	\$ 25.90	\$ 21.01	\$ 14.49	\$ 13.53
Exchange - Complex Digital - Initial	\$ 43.54	\$ 28.01	\$129.72	\$ 32.97
Exchange - Complex Digital - Subsequent (Port Feature)	\$ 25.90	\$ 21.01	\$ 5.45	\$ 5.45
Exchange - Complex Digital – Subsequent (Switch Feature Group)	\$ 30.28	\$ 21.01	\$ 23.06	\$ --
Exchange - Complex Digital - Subsequent (CO Interconnection)	\$ 25.90	\$ 21.01	\$ 14.49	\$ 13.53
Advanced - Complex - Initial	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
Advanced - Complex - Subsequent	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
UNBUNDLED NID				
Exchange – Basic	\$ 27.06	\$ 18.83	\$ 33.99	N/A
UNBUNDLED SUBLOOP				
Exchange - MDF Interconnection - Initial	\$ 36.32	\$ 26.88	\$ 48.65	\$ 34.50
Exchange - MDF Interconnection - Subsequent	\$ 15.01	\$ 11.83	\$ 14.18	\$ 13.22
Exchange - FDI Feeder Interconnection - Initial	\$ 36.32	\$ 26.88	\$ 46.20	\$ 24.97
Exchange - FDI Feeder Interconnection - Subsequent	\$ 15.01	\$ 11.83	\$ 16.99	\$ 7.22
Exchange - FDI Distribution Interconnection - Initial	\$ 36.32	\$ 26.88	\$ 61.90	\$ 30.36
Exchange - FDI Distribution Interconnection - Subsequent	\$ 15.01	\$ 11.83	\$ 16.99	\$ 7.22
Exchange - Serving Terminal Interconnection - Initial	\$ 36.32	\$ 26.88	\$ 28.99	\$ 15.51

Exchange - Serving Terminal Interconnection - Subsequent	\$ 15.01	\$ 11.83	\$ 13.23	\$ 6.41
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UNBUNDLED DARK FIBER

Advanced - Service Inquiry Charge	\$405.87	\$405.65	N/A	N/A
Advanced - Interoffice Dedicated Transport - Initial	\$ 64.80	\$ 64.57	\$267.28	\$224.68
Advanced - Unbundled Loop - Initial	\$ 64.80	\$ 64.57	\$261.86	\$220.43
Advanced - Subloop Feeder - Initial	\$ 64.80	\$ 64.57	\$261.86	\$220.43
Advanced - Subloop Distribution - Initial	\$ 64.80	\$ 64.57	\$264.84	\$216.19

ENHANCED EXTENDED LINK (WITH MANUAL AND SEMI-MECHANIZED OPTIONS)

Advanced - Basic - Initial	\$ 88.39	\$ 56.13	\$397.31	N/A
Advanced - Basic - Subsequent	\$ 38.02	\$ 21.89	\$ 49.53	N/A
DS0 - Initial	\$ 88.39	\$ 56.13	\$482.99	N/A
DS0 - Subsequent	\$ 38.02	\$ 21.89	\$ --	N/A
DS1/DS3 - Initial	\$ 97.94	\$ 65.68	\$384.08	N/A
DS1/DS3 - Subsequent	\$ 38.02	\$ 21.89	\$ 9.90	N/A

LOOP CONDITIONING³

(No charge for loops 12,000 feet or less)

Loop Conditioning - Bridged Tap	N/A	N/A	\$318.71	\$ 34.88
Loop Conditioning - Load Coils	N/A	N/A	\$249.91	\$ --
Loop Conditioning - Load Coils / Bridged Tap	N/A	N/A	\$568.62	\$ 34.88

UNE PLATFORM

Exchange - Basic - Initial	\$ 31.57	\$ 22.13	\$ 28.23	\$ 26.58
Exchange - Basic - Subsequent	\$ 16.44	\$ 13.26	\$ 1.08	\$ 1.08
Exchange - Basic - Changeover	\$ 19.93	\$ 15.54	\$ 0.90	\$ 0.90
Exchange - Complex Nondigital - Initial	\$ 41.35	\$ 27.53	\$162.41	\$ 31.70
Exchange - Complex Nondigital - Subsequent (Port Feature)	\$ 16.44	\$ 13.26	\$ 5.89	\$ 5.89
Exchange - Complex Nondigital - Subsequent (Switch Feature Group)	\$ 20.82	\$ 13.26	\$ 22.73	\$ 22.73
Exchange - Complex Nondigital - Changeover (As Is)	\$ 22.35	\$ 17.96	\$ 3.61	\$ 3.61
Exchange - Complex Nondigital - Changeover (As Specified)	\$ 30.08	\$ 21.31	\$ 20.97	\$ 3.61
Exchange - Complex Digital - Initial	\$ 41.35	\$ 27.53	\$205.75	\$ 28.18
Exchange - Complex Digital - Subsequent (Port Feature)	\$ 16.44	\$ 13.26	\$ 5.15	\$ 5.15
Exchange - Complex Digital - Subsequent (Switch Feature Group)	\$ 20.82	\$ 13.26	\$ 22.73	\$ 22.73
Exchange - Complex Digital - Changeover (As Is)	\$ 22.35	\$ 17.96	\$ 4.18	\$ 4.18
Exchange - Complex Digital - Changeover (As Specified)	\$ 30.08	\$ 21.31	\$ 80.98	\$ 4.18
Advanced - Complex - Initial	\$ 48.35	\$ 34.53	\$681.24	\$303.66
Advanced - Complex - Subsequent	\$ 20.82	\$ 13.26	\$ 65.81	\$ 48.47
Advanced - Complex - Changeover (As Is)	\$ 24.06	\$ 19.67	\$ 51.51	\$ 34.17
Advanced - Complex - Changeover (As Specified)	\$ 37.08	\$ 28.31	\$ 82.31	\$ 64.97

DEDICATED TRANSPORT

Advanced - Basic - Initial	\$ 95.49	\$ 63.01	\$428.58	N/A
Advanced - Basic - Subsequent	\$ 45.12	\$ 28.77	\$ 58.20	N/A

³ These charges are interim and subject to retroactive true-up back to the Effective Date of this Agreement.

Advanced - Complex - Initial	\$105.04	\$ 72.56	\$584.49	N/A
Advanced - Complex - Subsequent	\$ 45.12	\$ 28.77	\$ 86.80	N/A

SIGNALING SYSTEM 7 (SS7)

Facilities and Trunks - Initial	\$237.67	\$205.19	\$568.54	N/A
Facilities and Trunks - Subsequent (with Engineering Review)	\$ 71.58	\$ 55.23	\$213.12	N/A
Facilities and Trunks - Subsequent (w/o Engineering Review)	\$ 71.58	\$ 55.23	\$ 67.28	N/A
Trunks Only - Initial	\$126.13	\$ 93.65	\$505.41	N/A
Trunks Only - Subsequent (with Engineering Review)	\$ 49.46	\$ 33.11	\$202.03	N/A
Trunks Only - Subsequent (w/o Engineering Review)	\$ 49.46	\$ 33.11	\$ 67.28	N/A
STP Ports (SS7 Links)	\$237.67	\$205.19	\$438.81	N/A
Entrance Facility/Dedicated Transport DS0 - Initial	\$ 95.49	\$ 63.01	\$390.08	N/A
Entrance Facility/Dedicated Transport DS0 - Subsequent	\$ 45.12	\$ 28.77	\$ 58.20	N/A
Entrance Facility/Dedicated Transport DS1/DS3 - Initial	\$105.04	\$ 72.56	\$515.03	N/A
Entrance Facility/Dedicated Transport DS1/DS3 - Subsequent	\$ 45.12	\$ 28.77	\$ 86.80	N/A

COORDINATED CONVERSIONS

Exchange - Standard Interval - Per Qtr. Hour	\$ 30.72	\$ 30.50	N/A	N/A
Exchange - Additional Interval - Per Qtr. Hour	\$ 26.97	\$ 26.75	N/A	N/A
Advanced - Standard Interval - Per Qtr. Hour	\$ 22.92	\$ 22.69	N/A	N/A
Advanced - Additional Interval - Per Qtr. Hour	\$ 21.12	\$ 20.89	N/A	N/A

HOT-CUT COORDINATED CONVERSIONS (Only available for 2-wire analog loops)

Exchange - Standard Interval - Per Hour	\$108.80	\$108.57	N/A	N/A
Exchange - Additional Interval - Per Qtr. Hour	\$ 26.97	\$ 26.75	N/A	N/A
Advanced - Standard Interval - Per Hour	\$ 83.43	\$ 83.20	N/A	N/A
Advanced - Additional Interval - Per Qtr. Hour	\$ 21.12	\$ 20.89	N/A	N/A

CUSTOMIZED ROUTING

BFR BFR BFR BFR

EXPEDITES

Exchange Products	\$ 3.36	\$ 3.36	N/A	N/A
Advanced Products	\$ 25.80	\$ 25.80	N/A	N/A

OTHER

Customer Record Search (per account)	\$ 4.21	\$ -	N/A	N/A
CLEC Account Establishment (per CLEC)	\$166.32	\$166.32	N/A	N/A

LINE SHARING - CLEC OWNED SPLITTER

CLEC Splitter Connection - Initial	\$ 32.19	\$ 22.52	\$ 53.04	\$ 47.29
CLEC Splitter Connection - Subsequent	\$ 13.24	\$ 9.83	\$ 14.49	\$ 13.53

PACKET SWITCHING

TBD TBD TBD TBD

CALL RELATED DATABASE

TBD TBD TBD TBD

SERVICE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

TBD TBD TBD TBD

OSS

TBD

TBD

TBD

TBD

Application of NRCs

Preordering:

CLEC Account Establishment is a one-time charge applied the first time that Best orders any service from this Agreement.

Customer Record Search applies when Best requests a summary of the services currently subscribed to by the end-user.

Ordering and Provisioning:

Initial Service Order (ISO) applies to each Local Service Request (LSR) and Access Service Request (ASR) for new service. Charge is Manual (e.g. for a faxed order) or Semi-Mechanized (e.g. for an electronically transmitted order) based upon the method of submission used by the CLEC.

Subsequent Service Order applies to each LSR/ASR for modifications to an existing service. Charge is Manual or Semi-Mechanized based upon the method of submission used by the CLEC.

Advanced ISO applies per LSR/ASR when engineering work activity is required to complete the order.

Exchange ISO applies per LSR/ASR when no engineering work activity is required to complete the order.

Provisioning – Initial Unit applies per ISO for the first unit installed. The Additional Unit applies for each additional unit installed on the same ISO.

Basic Provisioning applies to services that can be provisioned using standard network components maintained in inventory without specialized instructions for switch translations, routing, and service arrangements.

Complex Provisioning applies to services that require special instruction for the provisioning of the service to meet the customer's needs.

Examples of services and their Ordering/Provisioning category that applies:

Exchange-Basic: 2-Wire Analog, 4-Wire Analog, Standard Subloop Distribution, Standard Subloop Feeder, Drop and NID.

Exchange-Complex: Non-loaded Subloop Distribution, Non-load Subloop Feeder, Loop Conditioning, Customized Routing, ISDN BRI Digital Line Side Port and Line Sharing.

Advanced-Basic: 2-Wire Digital Loop, 4-Wire Digital Loop

Advanced-Complex: DS1 Loop, DS3 Loop, Dark Fiber, EELs, and ISDN PRI Digital Trunk Side Port

Conditioning applies in addition to the ISO, for each Loop or Subloop UNE for the installation and grooming of Conditioning requests.

DS1 Clear Channel Capability applies in addition to the ISO, per DS1 for the installation and grooming of DS1 Clear Channel Capability requests.

Changeover Charge applies to UNE-P and EEL orders when an existing retail, resale, or special access service is already in place.

Service Inquiry – Dark Fiber applies per service inquiry when a CLEC requests Verizon to determine the availability of dark fiber on a specific route.

Custom Handling (These NRCs are in addition to any Preordering or Ordering and Provisioning NRCs):

Service Order Expedite applies if Best requests service prior to the standard due date intervals and the expedite request can be met by Verizon.

Coordinated Conversion applies if Best requests notification and coordination of service cut-over prior to the service becoming effective.

Hot Coordinated Conversion First Hour applies if Best requests real-time coordination of a service cut-over that takes one hour or less.

Hot Coordinated Conversion Per Additional Quarter Hour applies, in addition to the Hot Coordinated Conversion First Hour, for every 15-minute segment of real-time coordination of a service cut-over that takes more than one hour.

4. **Rates and Charges for 911**

See State 911 Tariff.