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## KY Public Service Commission

# **Utility Information**

General	Address	Comments	Counties	Groups		
Comments for Utility ID: 22250016 1-800-RECONEX, Inc. dba USTel Certified mailing issued 5/11/2010 to determine confirmation of status; returned as undeliverable; Also inactive						
with KYSOS. Letter issued to ILEC for previously submitted ICA with company allowing 10 days to verify if						
CLEC is active; no response received. Utility declared inactive and ICAs made inactive for 11/3/2009 per KYSOS Certificate of Revocation.						
			Last (	Changed: 9/2/2010		

## 1-800-RECONEX, Inc.

## also d/b/a USTel

## INTRASTATE INTEREXCHANGE TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES

Regulations and rates applying to intrastate interexchange telecommunications services within the State of Kentucky.

This tariff is on file with the Kentucky Public Service Commission, and copies may be inspected, during normal business hours, at the Company's principal place of business, 2500 Industrial Avenue, Hubbard, Oregon 97032. This tariff complies with Kentucky Public Service Commission rules and Kentucky statutes applicable to the Company.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF KENTUCKY EFFECTIVE

JUN 0 9 2003

PURSUANT TO 807 KAR 5 011 Effectives June 9, 2003 BY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Issued: May 7, 2003

#### CHECK SHEET

Pages 1 through 25, inclusive of this Tariff are effective as of the date shown. Revised sheets as named below contain all changes from the original tariff that are in effect on the date thereof.

Page	Number of Revisions Except as Indicated
1	Original
2	1 <sup>st</sup> Revised *
3	1 <sup>st</sup> Revised *
4	Original
5	Original
6	Original
7	Original
8	Original
9	Original
10	Original
11	Original
12	Original
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17	Original
18	Original
19	Original
20	Original
21	Original
22	1 <sup>st</sup> Revised *
23	Original
24	1 <sup>st</sup> Revised *
25	Original

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF KENTUCKY EFFECTIVE

JUN 1 4 2003

PURSUANT TO 807 KAR 5:011 SECTION 9 (1) Changes U. Com-B١ -

Effective: June 14, 2003

Issued: May 15, 2003

Issued by: Jennifer E. Sikes Paralegal 2500 Industrial Avenue Hubbard, Oregon 97032

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Paralegal 2500 Industrial Avenue Hubbard, Oregon 97032

## TARIFF FORMAT SHEET

- 1. <u>Page Numbering.</u> Page numbers appear in the upper-right corner of the page. Pages are numbered sequentially. New pages may occasionally be added to the tariff. When a new page is added, the page appears as a decimal. For example, a new page added between pages 34 and 35 would be 34.1.
- 2. <u>Page Revisions Numbers.</u> Page Revision Numbers also appear in the upper-right comer of the page. These numbers are used to determine the most current page revision on file with the Public Utility Commission of Kentucky. For example, the fourth revised Page 34 cancels the third revised Page 34. Because of deferrals, notice periods, *etc.*, the most current page number on file with the Commission is not always the tariff page in effect. Business Customers should consult with check sheet for the page currently in effect.
- 3. <u>Paragraph Numbering Sequence</u>. There are nine levels of paragraph coding. Each level of coding is subservient to its next higher level of coding.
  - 1. 1.1. 1.1.1. 1.1.1.A. 1.1.1.A.1. 1.1.A.1.(a) 1.1.1.A.1.(a)(I) 1.1.1.A.1.(a)(I)(i) 1.1.1.A.1.(a)(I)(i)(1)
- 4. <u>Check List of Effective Pages.</u> When a tariff filing is made with the Commission, an updated Check List of Effective Pages ("Check List") accompanies the tariff filing. The Check List lists the pages contained in the tariff, with a cross-reference to the current revision number. When new pages are added, the Check List is changed to reflect the revision. All revisions made in a given filing are designated by an asterisk (\*). There will be no other symbols used on the Check List if these are the only changes made to it (i.e., the format, etc.). Customers should refer to the latest Check List to find out if a particular page is the most current page on file with the Commission.
- 5. <u>Symbols Used in This Tariff.</u>
  - (AT) To signify addition to text.
  - (C) To signify a correction.
  - (CP) To signify a change in practice.
  - (CR) To signify a change in rate.
  - (CT) To signify a change in Text.
  - (DR) To signify a discontinued rate.
  - (FC) To signify a change in format lettering or numbering.
  - (MT) To signify moved text.
  - (NR) To signify a new rate.
  - (RT) To signify a removal of text.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF KENTUCKY EFFECTIVE

JUN 0 9 2003

PURSUANT TO 807 FAR 5.011 SECTION 9 (1) BY Change (1) BY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Issued: May 7, 2003

## APPLICATION OF TARIFF

This tariff sets forth the service offerings, rates, terms and conditions applicable to the furnishing of local exchange telecommunications services by 1-800-RECONEX, Inc, also d/b/a USTel, hereinafter referred to as the "Company" or "USTel", to end-user customers within the State of Kentucky.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF KENTUCKY EFFECTIVE

IUN 0 9 2003

PURSUANT TO 807 KAR 5:011

Effective Tune'9, 2003 BY.

Issued: May 7, 2003

## **SECTION 1 - DEFINITIONS**

<u>Alternative Local Exchange Carrier</u> ("ALEC") or Competitive Local Exchange Carrier ("CLEC") - means any entity or person providing local exchange services in competition with an ILEC or LEC.

<u>Business Hours</u> - The phrase "business hours" means the time after 6.00 A.M. and before 6.00 P.M., Monday through Friday and after 7:00 A.M. and before 3:30 P.M. on Saturday excluding holidays.

<u>Business Office</u> - The phrase "business office" means the primary location where the business operations of USTel are performed and where a copy of USTel's tariff is made available for public inspection. The address of the business office is 2500 Industrial Avenue, Hubbard, Oregon 97032.

<u>Called Station</u> - The terminating point of a call (*i.e.*, the called number).

<u>Calling Station</u> - The originating point of a call (*i.e.*, the calling number).

Calling Area - A specific geographic area so designated for the purpose of applying a specified rate structure.

Carrier - The term "Carrier" means 1-800-RECONEX, Inc. also d/b/a USTel.

<u>Central Office</u> - A Local Exchange Carrier's office where a Customer's lines are terminated for the purpose of offering local telephone service and to connect with interexchange carriers.

<u>Competitive Local Exchange Carrier</u> ("CLEC") or Alternative Local Exchange Carrier ("ALEC") - means any entity or person providing local exchange services in competition with an ILEC or LEC.

Commission - Kentucky Public Service Commission ("K.P.S.C.")

Company - The term "Company" means 1-800-RECONEX, Inc. also d/b/a USTel

<u>Customer</u> - The person, firm, company, corporation, or other entity, having a communications requirement of its own that is responsible for the payment of charges and for compliance with this Tariff. See "End User".

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF KENTUCKY EFFECTIVE

IUN 0 9 2003

URSUANT TO 807 KAR 5:011 Effective 9, 2003

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Issued: May 7, 2003

#### **SECTION 1 - DEFINITIONS**

<u>Customer-Provided Equipment</u> - Telecommunications equipment provided by a Customer used to originate calls using USTel's service located at the originating location.

<u>Delinquent or Delinquency</u> - An account for which payment has not been made in full on or before the last day for timely payment.

<u>End User</u> - The ultimate user of the telecommunications services and who orders service and is responsible for payment of charges due in compliance with the Company's price list regulations. See "Customer".

<u>Exchange Area</u> - A geographically defined area wherein the telephone industry through the use of maps or legal descriptions sets down specified area where individual telephone exchange companies hold themselves out to provide communications services.

<u>Facility (or Facilities)</u> - Any item or items of communications plant or equipment used to provide or connect to USTel Services.

FCC - Federal Communications Commission.

Incumbent Local Exchange Carrier ("ILEC") or Local Exchange Carrier ("LEG") - is any local exchange carrier that was as of February 8, 1996 deemed to be a member of the Exchange Carrier Association as set forth in 47 C.F.R. 69.601(b) of the FCC's regulations.

Incomplete Call - Any call where voice transmission between the calling party and the called station is not established (*i.e.*, busy, no answer, etc.).

Interexchange Carrier (IXC) - A common carrier that provides long distance domestic and international communication services to the public.

Local Access Transport Area ("LATA") - The phrase "Local Access Transport Area" means a geographical area established by the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia in <u>United States v. Western Electric Co.. Inc.</u> 552 F. Supp. 131 (D.D.C. 1982), within which a local exchange company provides communication services.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF KENTUCKY EFFECTIVE

JUN 0 9 2003

Effective: June 9, 20035 011 SECTION 9 (1) Change LE DER-

Issued: May 7, 2003

#### **SECTION 1 - DEFINITIONS**

Local Exchange Company ("LEC") - A company that furnishes local exchange telephone services.

<u>Local Exchange Service</u> - is an arrangement which connects the residential End User's location to the LEC's network switching center, thereby allowing End User to transmit and receive local calls within the End User's local calling area, or mandatory expanded area service (EAS) area, as defined by State commissions or, if not defined by State commission, then defined in the LEC's State Tariffs.

Location - A physical premise to or from which USTel provides Service.

 $\underline{NXX}$  - The designation for the first three digits of a local telephone number where N represents 2-9 and X represents 0-9.

<u>NPA</u> - An area code, otherwise called numbering plan area.

<u>Other Common Carrier</u> - The term "other common carrier" denotes a specialized or other type of common carrier authorized by the Federal Communications Commission to provide domestic or international communications services.

Premises - A building or buildings on contiguous property (except railroad rights-of-way, etc.).

Primary Interexchange Carrier (PIC) - The interexchange carrier to which a switched access line is presubscribed.

<u>Regular Billing</u> - A standard bill sent in the normal monthly USTel billing cycle. This billing consists of one bill for each account assigned to the Customer with explanatory' detail showing the derivation of the charges.

<u>Residential Service</u> - The phrase "residential service" means telecommunication services used primarily as nonbusiness service.

Services - USTel's regulated common carrier communications services provided under this Tariff.

<u>Special Access Origination/Termination</u> – Where originating or terminating access between the Customer and the interexchange carrier is provided on dedicated circuits. The Local Access Provider (eg. LEC) provides these dedicated circuits from the Customer's location to the Company's point of presence. The rates and charges for dedicated circuits are determined by the access provider and the Customer is responsible for payments of these charges to the provider.

Subscriber - The term "Customer" is synonymous with the term "subscriber".

Switch - The term "switch" denotes an electronic device that is used to provide circuit sharing, routing, and control.

Timely Payment - A payment on a Customer's account made on or before the due date.

<u>Underlying Carrier</u> - A provider of interstate and intraLATA telecommunications services from whom USTel acquires services that it resells to Customers

OF KENTUCKY REFECTIVE

JUN 0 9 2003

PURSUANT TO 807 KAR 5-011 SECTION 9 (1) BITECTIVE JUNE 9, 2003 BY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Issued: May 7, 2003

#### 2.1. <u>Undertaking of USTel</u>

- 2.1.1. USTel undertakes to provide local exchange telecommunications services within the State of Kentucky on the terms and conditions and at the rates and charges specified herein.
- 2.1.2. USTel installs, operates and maintains the communication services provided hereunder in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth under this Tariff. It may act as the Customer's agent for ordering access connection facilities provided by other carriers or entities when authorized by the Customer to allow connection of a Customer's location to the USTel network. The Customer shall be responsible for all charges due for such service arrangements.
- 2.1.3. USTel's Services and facilities are available twenty-four (24) hours per day, seven (7) days per week.

#### 2.2. <u>Use of Service</u>

- 2.2.1. Services provided under this Tariff may be used only for the transmission of communications in a manner consistent with the terms of this Tariff and regulations of the Federal Communications Commission.
- 2.2.2. Services provided under this Tariff shall not be used for unlawful purposes. Service will not be furnished if any law enforcement agency, acting within its jurisdiction, advises that such services are being used in violation of the law.

#### 2.3. Limitations

- 2.3.1. Service is offered subject to the availability of the necessary facilities or equipment, or both facilities and equipment, and subject to the provisions of this Tariff. The obligation of USTel to provide Service is dependent upon its ability to procure, construct, and maintain facilities that are required to meet the Customer's order for Service. USTel will make all reasonable efforts to secure the necessary facilities.
- 2.3.2. USTel reserve the right to limit or to allocate the use of existing facilities, or to additional facilities offered by USTel, when necessary because of lack of facilities, relevant resources, or due to causes beyond USTel's control. In addition, USTel reserves the right to discontinue Service when the Customer is using the Service in violation of law or the provisions of this Tariff.
- 2.3.3. USTel does not undertake to transmit messages, but offers the use of its facilities when available, and will not be liable for errors in transmission nor for failure to establish connections.
- 2.3.4. USTel reserves the right to refuse service to Customers due to insufficient or invalid charging information.
- 2.3.5. USTel may immediately and without notice block access to its network from particular phone numbers where USTel is experiencing significant amounts of toll fraud, or usage of Services in an amount that USTel deems excessive.
- 2.3.6. USTel may block calls that are made to certain cities or central office exchanges, or use certain Authorization Codes as USTel, in its sole discretion, deems reasonably necessary to prevent unlawful or fraudulent use of Service.

Issued: May 7, 2003

Issued by: Anne Lynch Regulatory Manager 2500 Industrial Avenue Hubbard, Oregon 97032

Effective: June 9, 2003

PURSUANT TO 807 KAR 5.017 SECTION 9 (1)

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

#### 2.3. <u>Limitations</u> (cont'd)

2.3.6. USTel will use reasonable efforts to maintain only the facilities and equipment that it furnishes to the Customer. USTel may substitute, change, or rearrange any equipment or facility at any time and from time to time, but shall not thereby alter the technical parameters of the service provided the Customer. USTel shall have the right to make necessary repairs or changes in its facilities at any time and will have the right to suspend or interrupt service temporarily for the purpose of making the necessary repairs or changes in its system. When such suspension or interruption of service for any appreciable period is necessary, USTel will give the Customers who may be affected reasonable notice thereof as circumstances will permit, and will prosecute the work with reasonable diligence, and if practicable at time that will cause the least inconvenience. When USTel is repairing or changing its facilities, it shall take appropriate precautions to avoid unnecessary interruptions of Customer's service.

#### 2.4 Liabilities of USTel

- 2.4.1. USTel's liability for damages arising out of mistakes, omissions, interruptions, delays, errors, or defects in the installation, provision, termination, maintenance, repair, or restoration occurring in the course of furnishing service, channels, or other facilities, and not caused by the negligence of the subscribers, commences upon activation of service. In no event does USTel's liability exceed an amount equivalent to the proportionate charge to the Customer for the period of service during which such mistakes, omissions, interruptions, delays, errors or defects occur. For the purposes of computing such amount, a month is considered to have thirty (30) days. Credit will be calculated pursuant to Section 2.9 of this Tariff.
- 2.4.2. When the facilities of other carriers are used in establishing connections to points not reached by USTel's facilities, USTel is not liable for any act or omission of the other carrier(s). The Customer will indemnify and save harmless USTel from any third-party claims for such damages referred to in Section 2.4.1.
- 2.4.3. In no event will USTel be responsible for consequential damages or lost profits suffered by a Customer as a result of interrupted or unsatisfactory service. USTel will not be liable for claims or damages resulting from or caused by: (i) Customer's fault, negligence or failure to perform Customer's responsibilities; (ii) claims against Customer by another party; (iii) any act or omission of any other party; or (iv) equipment or service furnished by a third party.
- 2.4.4. USTel does not guarantee or make any warranty with respect to any equipment provided by it or leased on the Customer's behalf where such equipment is used in locations containing an atmosphere which is explosive, prone to fire, dangerous or otherwise unsuitable for such equipment. The Customer shall indemnify and hold USTel harmless from any and all loss, claims, demands, suits or other actions, or any liabilities whatsoever, whether suffered, made, instituted or asserted by the Customer or by any other party or persons, for any personal injury or death of any person or persons, and for any loss, damage or destruction of any property, whether owned by the Customer or others, caused or claimed to have been caused directly or indirectly by the installation, operation, failure to operate, maintenance, removal, presence, condition, location or use of such equipment so used.

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JUN 0 9 2003

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Issued: May 7, 2003

#### 2.4. Liabilities of USTel (cont'd)

- 2.4.5. USTel is not liable for any defacement of, or damage to, the premises of a Customer resulting from the furnishing of services or the attachment of equipment, instruments, apparatus, and associated wiring furnished by USTel on such Customer's premises or by the installation or removal thereof, when such defacement or damage is not the result of USTel negligence. No agents or employees of other participating carriers shall be deemed to be agents or employees of USTel without written authorization. The Customer will indemnify and save harmless USTel from any claims of the owner of the Customer's premises or other third party claims for such damages.
- 2.4.6. USTel and Customer shall be excused from performance under this Tariff and under the application for service for any period, and to the extent that the party is prevented from performing any service pursuant hereto, in whole or in part, as a result of delays caused by the other party or an Act of God, governmental agency, war, civil disturbance, court order, lockouts or work stoppages or other labor difficulties, third party nonperformance (including the failure of performance for reasons beyond the control of common carriers, interexchange carriers, local exchange carriers, suppliers and subcontractors), or other cause beyond its reasonable control, including failures or fluctuations in electrical equipment, and such nonperformance shall not be deemed a violation of this Tariff or of the application for service or grounds for termination of service. Both parties retain all rights of recourse against any third parties for any failures which may create a force majeure condition for the other party.
- 2.4.7. USTel is not liable for any damages, including toll usage charges, the Customer may incur as a result of the unauthorized use of its telephone facilities. This unauthorized use of the Customer's facilities includes, but is not limited to, the placement of calls from the Customer's premises, and the placement of calls through Customer-provided equipment that are transmitted or carried on the USTel network.
- 2.4.8. Where there is a connection via Customer-provided terminal equipment or Customer-provided communications systems, the point of demarcation shall be defined as the USTel facility that provides interconnection. USTel shall not be held liable for Customer-provided access media or equipment. Any maintenance service or equipment arrangements shall be addressed on an individual case basis.
- 2.4.9. USTel will not be responsible if any changes in its service cause hardware or software not provided by USTel to become obsolete, require modification or alternation, or otherwise affect the performance of such hardware or software.
- 2.4.10. The Company shall use reasonable efforts to make services available by the estimated service date. The Company shall not be liable for any damages whatsoever resulting from delays in meeting the estimated service date due to delays resulting from normal installation procedures. Such delays shall include, but not be limited to delays in obtaining necessary regulatory approvals for construction, delays in obtaining right-of-way approvals, delays in actual construction work being done by our vendor(s), and any delays due to any LEC where the Company is relying solely upon such LEC to meet such estimated due date which is beyond the Company's control.

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JUN 0 9 2003

Issued: May 7, 2003

PURSUANT TO 607 KAR 5:011 Effective June 9, 2003 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

#### 2.4. <u>Liabilities of USTel</u> (cont'd)

- 2.4.11. With respect to the services, materials and equipment provided hereunder, USTel makes no promises, agreements, understandings, representations or warranties, express or implied, and hereby expressly disclaims all warranties, express or implied, not stated in this Tariff, and in particular disclaims all warranties of merchantability and fitness for a particular purpose.
- 2.4.12. For errors or omissions in listings in alphabetical telephone directories and information records furnished without additional charge, the Company shall have no liability.

Subject to the provision of Section 2.4 of this Tariff, the Company shall allow, for errors or omissions in alphabetical telephone directories (excluding the use of bold face type), or in information records, an amount within the following limits:

- 1. For listings in alphabetical telephone directories furnished at additional charge, as set forth herein, an amount not in excess of the charge for that listing during the effective life of the directory in which the error or omission occurred.
- 2. For listings in the information records furnished at additional charge, as set forth herein, an amount not in excess of the charge for the listing during the period of omission or error.

#### 2.5 <u>Responsibilities of the Customer</u>

- 2.5.1. The Customer must initiate a service order pursuant to Section 2.6 of this Tariff.
- 2.5.2. The Customer may not, nor may the Customer permit others to, rearrange, disconnect, remove, attempt to repair, or otherwise interfere with any of the facilities or equipment installed by USTel, except upon the written consent of USTel. The equipment USTel provides or installs at the Customer premises for use in connection with the service USTel offers shall not be used for any purpose other than for which it was provided.
- 2.5.3. The Customer shall ensure that the equipment and/or system is properly interfaced with USTel's facilities or service. If the Federal Communications Commission or some other appropriate certifying body certifies terminal equipment as being technically acceptable for direct electrical connection with interstate communications service, USTel will permit such equipment to be connected with its channels without the use of protective interface devices.
- 2.5.4. The Customer shall be responsible for securing its telephone equipment against being used to place fraudulent calls using USTel's service. The Customer shall be responsible for payment of all applicable charges for services provided by USTel and charged to the Customer's accounts, even where those calls are originated by fraudulent means either from Customer's premises or from remote locations.
- 2.5.5. USTel shall be indemnified and held harmless by the Customer against claims of liable, slander, or the infringement of copyright, or for the unauthorized use of any trademark, trade name, or service mark, arising from the material transmitted over USTel's service, against claims for infringement of ) patents arising from, combining with, or using in connection with, service, USTel's Explanation and systems of the Customer; against all other claims arising out of any act or omission of the member in connection with USTel's service. The Customer shall be liable for:

JUN 0 9 2003

Issued: May 7, 2003

Issued by: Anne Lynch Regulatory Manager 2500 Industrial Avenue Hubbard, Oregon 97032 PUPSUANT TO 607 KAR 5:017 Effective: Tune 9, 2003 BY Change U. C. Min-EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

#### 2.5. <u>Responsibilities of the Customer</u> (cont'd)

- 2.5.5.A. Loss due to theft, fire, flood, or other destruction of USTel's equipment or facilities on Customer's premises.
- 2.5.5.B. Reimbursing USTel for damages to facilities or equipment caused by the negligence or willful acts of the Customer's officers, employees, agents or contractors.
- 2.5.5.C. Charges incurred with interconnect or local operating companies for service or service calls made to the Customer's premises or on the Customer's leased or owned telephonic equipment unless USTel specifically authorizes said visit or repairs in advance of the occurrence and USTel agrees in advance to accept the liability for said repairs or visit.
- 2.5.5.D. Payment for all USTel service charges incurred through usage or direct action on the part of the Customer.
- 2.5.6. The Customer may be required to verify in writing that it is duly authorized to order service at all locations designated by the Customer for service, and assumes financial responsibility for all locations designated by the Customer to receive USTel's services. If the verification (i.e., a letter of authorization) cannot be produced within five (5) calendar days of the request, the presubscription of the Customer's locations are considered unauthorized.
- 2.5.7. The Customer shall not use the USTel name, logo or trademark in any promotional materials, contracts, Tariffs, service bills, etc., without expressed written authorization from USTel. The Customer shall not use the USTel name, logo or trademark in any pre-sale activities. The Customer is prohibited from using USTel's name or trademark on any of the Customer's products or services.
- 2.5.8. Customer may not assign or transfer any of its rights or services ordered without the prior written consent of USTel. USTel may assign any service orders to its parent company or any affiliate. USTel will notify Customers of any such assignment.

#### 2.6 Application for Service

- 2.6.1. Applicants wishing to obtain service must initiate a service order which may include the Customer's authorization for USTel to instruct other carriers and vendors and the appropriate LEC to provide certain services on the Customer's behalf. USTel will obtain the proper authorization from the Customer where necessary, pursuant to Commission regulations. Applications for initial or additional service made verbally or in writing become a contract upon the establishment of the service or facility.
- 2.6.2. An Application for Service may be changed by Customer upon written notice to USTel, subject to acceptance and confirmation by USTel, provided that a charge shall apply to any change when the request is received by USTel after notification by USTel of the acceptance and confirmation. Such charge shall be the sum of the charges and costs for access facilities and other services and features and the lesser of (i) the monthly recurring rate for each service component that has been canceled as a result of the change times the appropriate minimum service period, plus the applicable installation or non-recurring charges, and (ii) the costs incurred by USTel in accommodating each change, less net salvage. The costs incurred by USTel will include the direct and indirect cost of facilities specifically provided or used, the costs of installation, including design preparation, engineering, supply expense, labor after supervision, and removal effort.

Issued: May 7, 2003

Issued by: Anne Lynch Regulatory Manager 2500 Industrial Avenue Hubbard, Oregon 97032 IUN (19 2003 Effective: June 9, 2003 PURSUANT TO 802 KAR 5 011 SECTION 9 (1) Y Change (1) Contact EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

#### 2.6. <u>Application for Service</u> (cont'd)

2.6.3. Where the Customer or applicant cancels an Application for Service prior to the start of installation of service, lease of network elements, or prior to the start of special construction, no charge applies. Where installation of service has been started prior to the cancellation, a cancellation charge equal to the costs incurred by USTel shall apply, but in no case shall such charge exceed the charge for the minimum period of the service ordered, including applicable installation charges, if any. The costs incurred by USTel will include the direct and indirect costs of facilities specifically leased, provided or used; the cost of installation, including design preparation, engineering, supply expense, labor and supervision, general and administrative, and any other costs resulting from the preparation, installation and removal effort.

#### 2.7. Establishing Credit, Deposits and Advance Payments

- 2.7.1. Credit Requirement
  - 2.7.1.A. USTel may require an applicant for service to satisfactorily establish credit, pursuant to applicable K.P.S.C rules and regulations, but such establishment of credit shall not relieve the end-user from complying with USTel's policy regarding the prompt payment of bills.
  - 2.7.1 .B. For the purposes of this rule, "applicant" is to be defined as a person who applies for service for the first time or reapplies at a new or existing location after a previous discontinuance of service; "customer" is defined as someone who is currently receiving service.
- 2.7.2. Reestablishment of Credit

Any applicant who previously has been an end-user of USTel and whose service has been discontinued for nonpayment of bills shall be required, before service is rendered, to pay all amounts due USTel or execute a deferred payment agreement.

#### 2.7.3. Deposits and Interest

The Company may require a deposit before providing service, or at any time after service as commenced, upon reasonable prior notice. If the requested deposit is not paid, the Company may immediately terminate service. The deposit will not exceed 2/12ths (2 months) of estimated or average annual bill.

For the period the deposit is held by the Company, the customer will receive simple interest which will accrue on the deposit at the appropriate rate, per annum, established by the appropriate legal authority within the state. The deposit and accrued interest are refundable at the time of termination of service. The Company, in its sole discretion, may refund the deposit and interest thereon to customer at any time prior to termination, in which event the customer may elect to apply the deposit and interest to future invoices or receive a payment. The Company reserves the right to apply the customer's deposit and accumulated interest against the customer's unpaid balance at any time.

#### 2.8. Billing and Payment Procedures

2.8.1. A. USTel shall render a bill during each billing period to every customer. The billing period shall be monthly.

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#### 2.8. **Billing and Payment Procedures (cont'd)**

- B. At a minimum, each residential customer bill rendered by the Company shall clearly state all of the following information:
  - the beginning and ending dates of the billing period 1
  - 2. the due date
  - 3. any previous balance
  - 4. the telephone number for which the bill is rendered
  - the amount for basic local exchange service and regulated toll service 5.
  - an itemization of all taxes due 6.
  - 7. the total amount due
  - the statement that rate schedules for basic local exchange service are available and will be 8. mailed by the Company upon request at no cost to the customer
  - 9. the address and telephone number of the Company, designating where the customer may initiate an inquiry or informal complaint regarding the bill as rendered or the service provided
  - 10. a toll free number to contact the Company
- C. Not later than 15 days after the completion of an order for new service, USTel provides each residential customer an insert or other written notice which contains an itemized account of the charges for the equipment and service for which the customer has contracted.
- D. A residential customer shall have the right, within one billing period of receiving a bill for new services or changed services, to cancel, reduce, or modify a service or a portion of a service without further service charge.
- 2.8.1. The Customer is responsible for the payment of all charges for facilities and services furnished by USTel to the Customer and to all Users authorized by the Customer, regardless of whether those services are used by the Customer itself or are resold to or shared with other persons.
- 2.8.2. For billing of monthly charges, service is considered to be established upon the day in which USTel notifies the Customer of installation and testing of the Customer's services.
- 2.8.3. Usage charges will be billed monthly in arrears. Customer will be billed for all usage accrued beginning immediately upon access to the service. Customers will be billed for usage occurring during their specific 30-day billing cycle, which for purposes of computing charges shall be considered a month. The rates charged to a Customer will be the rates in effect on the first day of the Customer's billing cycle.
- Monthly charges for all access service components, provided hereunder, are billed in advance of 2.8.4. service and reflect the rates in effect as of the date of the invoice. A Customer's first invoice may contain charges from previous periods for service provided from the date of installation through the current invoice period.

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#### 2.8. <u>Billing and Payment Procedures</u> (cont'd)

- 2.8.5. Bills are due and payable as specified on the bill. Bills may be paid by mail or in person at the business office of USTel or an agency authorized to receive such payment. All charges for service are payable only in United States currency. Payment may be made by cash, check, money order, cashier's check, or certain major credit cards. Customer payments are considered prompt when received by USTel or its agent by the due date on the bill. Amounts not paid within twenty (20) days after the mail date of invoice will be considered past due. In the event that a postmark on a customer's payment received after the due date is not discernible, a three day mailing period will be presumed. If the last calendar day for remittance falls on a Sunday, legal holiday, or other day when the offices of USTel are not open to the general public, the final payment date shall be extended through the next business day. If USTel becomes concerned at any time about the ability of a Customer to pay its bills, USTel may require that the Customer pay its bills and make such payments in cash or the equivalent of cash.
- 2.8.6. Any disputed charge may be brought to USTel's attention by verbal or written notification. In the case of a billing dispute between the Customer and USTel that cannot be settled to their mutual satisfaction, the undisputed portion and subsequent bills must be paid on a timely basis, or the service may be subject to disconnection. The Customer may request an in-depth investigation into the disputed amount and a review by a USTel manager. During the period that the disputed amount is under investigation, USTel shall not pursue any collection procedures or assess late fees with regard to the disputed amount. The Customer shall be required to pay the undisputed part of the bill, and if not paid, USTel may discontinue service. In the event the dispute is not resolved, USTel shall inform the customer that the customer has the option to pursue the matter with the Kentucky Public Service Commission.
- 2.8.7. The Customer is responsible to pay USTel for all toll calls or other third party charges resulting from the origination of calls to points outside the local exchange and for charges or calls billed to the Customer's number.
- 2.8.8. USTel may assess up to a twenty-five dollar (\$25) charge for each returned check or credit card charge back.

If service is suspended/disconnected by USTel in accordance with the provisions of the Tariff and later restored, restoration of service will be subject to all applicable installation charges if service was disconnected, or a reconnect fee if service was suspended.

When a customer is unable to pay a charge in full when due, USTel shall permit the customer to enter into an initial settlement agreement under which the charge may be paid as mutually agreed by both USTel and the customer. A copy of the settlement agreement shall be delivered or mailed to the customer upon request by the customer. Settlement agreements are only set up at the request of the customer. Settlement agreements are intended to function as a short-term solution and will be reviewed and approved on an individual case basis.

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#### 2.9. Interruption of Service

2.9.1. Credit allowance for the interruption of service that is not due to USTel's testing or adjusting, negligence of the Customer or to the failure of channels or equipment provided by the Customer, are subject to the general liability provisions set forth herein. It shall be the obligation of the Customer to notify USTel immediately of any interruption in service for which a credit allowance is desired. Before giving such notice, the Customer or end-user shall ascertain that the trouble is not being caused by any action or omission by the Customer within his or her control, or is not in wiring or equipment, if any, furnished by the Customer and connected to USTel's facilities. An adjustment or refund shall be made:

1. Automatically, if the service interruption lasts for more than forty-eight (48) hours after being reported to the company and the adjustment or refund exceeds \$1.00 in amount; and

2. Upon subscriber oral or written request, if the service interruption lasts twenty-four (24) to forty-eight (48) hours after being reported to the company and the adjustment or refund exceeds \$1.00 in amount.

- 2.9.2. For purposes of credit computation, every month shall be considered to have 720 hours.
- 2.9.3. The Customer shall be credited for an interruption at the rate of 1/720th of the monthly charge for the facilities affected for each hour or major fraction thereof that the interruption continues.

Credit Formula:

Credit =  $A/720 \times B$ 

"A" - outage time in hours "B" - total monthly charge for affected facility

2.9.4. If written notice of a dispute as to charges is not received by the Company within 180 days of the date a bill is issued, such charges shall be deemed to be correct and binding on the Customer.

#### 2.10. <u>Restoration of Service</u>

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

#### 2.11. Disconnection of Service by Customer

- 2.11.1. By giving notice, Customer may disconnect service at any time following its minimum service requirement(s).
- 2.11.2. The Customer will be responsible for all charges until the disconnect is effected. For nonusage sensitive charges, Customer will be liable for the entire monthly recurring charge during the month Customer's service terminates. If the Customer disconnects service prior to the end of a term plan, the termination liabilities associated with the term plan will apply.

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#### 2.12. Cancellation for Cause

- 2.12.1 The Company may shut off service or cancel an application for service, pursuant to applicable Commission rules, without incurring any liability for any of the following reasons:
  - A. Nonpayment of a delinquent account for basic local exchange service.
  - B. Nonpayment of a delinquent account with a delinquent balance of \$150 or more for basic local exchange service and regulated toll service in the name of the customer.
  - C. Maintaining a delinquent balance of \$125 or more for three consecutive months for basic local exchange service and regulated toll service.
  - D. Unauthorized tampering or interference with facilities and equipment owned by a provider of basic local exchange service that are situated on or about the customer's premises.
  - E. Refusal to grant access at reasonable times to equipment installed upon the premises of the customer for the purpose of inspection, maintenance, or replacement.
  - F. Misrepresentation of the customer's identity for the purpose of obtaining basic local exchange service.
  - G. In cases of bankruptcy, receivership, abandonment of service, or abnormal toll usage not covered adequately by a security deposit if necessary to protect the Company's revenues.
  - H. Any other unauthorized use or interference with basic local exchange service, including improper use of a party line service by denying other customers on the line an equitable proportionate use of the service.
  - H. A violation of a tariff provision of the provider of basic local exchange service that is on file with or approved by the K.P.S.C. that adversely affects the safety of the customer or other persons or the integrity of the provider's basic local exchange system.
  - I. Failure to pay deposit required in Section 2.7.3 when warranted by the Company to protect its revenue.
- 2.12.2 Service may be shut off during normal business hours on or after the date specified in the notice of shutoff. Service shall not be shut off on a day when the offices of the Company are not available to facilitate reconnection of service or on a day immediately preceding such a day.
- 2.12.3 Service shall not be shut off unless written notice by first-class mail is sent or delivered to the customer at least 5 days prior to the date of the proposed shutoff. If a shutoff of service is sought for nonpayment of a delinquent account, then a notice of shutoff will not be sent before the time the account becomes delinquent. Service of notice by mail is complete upon mailing, unless proven otherwise by the customer. The Company will maintain an accurate record of the date of mailing. The Company is responsible for the accurate and timely notice of shutoff.
- 2.12.4 A notice of shutoff of service shall not be issued if a customer has a pending formal complaint before the commission concerning the bill upon which the notice is based.
- 2.12.5 Basic local exchange service shall not be shut off while a complaint related to the reason of the shutoff is pending.

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#### 2.12. <u>Cancellation for Cause</u> (Cont'd)

- 2.12.6 Notwithstanding any other provision of this tariff, the Company will postpone the shutoff of basic local exchange service and regulated toll service to a residential customer for not more than 30 days if the customer produces a physician's certificate stating that the current mental or physical condition of the customer, a member of the customer's family, or another permanent resident of the premises where service is rendered who is suffering from an existing mental illness or medical condition will be endangered by a shutoff of service. The certificate shall identify the mental illness or medical condition of the premises where service is rendered. If the Company is notified telephonically or in writing that a psychiatric or medical emergency exists, then the Company will permit 7 days for the residential customer to produce the certificate or notice. The postponement may be extended for 1 additional 15-day period by the renewal and the resubmission of the certificate or notice.
- 2.12.7 After basic local exchange service has been shut off to a customer, the Company will restore service promptly, but not later than 1 working day after the customer's request, when the cause for the shutoff of service has been cured or credit arrangements satisfactory to the Company have been made.
- 2.12.8 Any payments required for service restoration may be made by the customer in any reasonable manner. Payment by personal check may be refused by the provider if the customer has tendered payment in this manner and the check has been dishonored during the last 3 years, excluding bank error.
- 2.12.9 Before restoring service, the Company at its option may require one or more of the following: (a) payment of the total amount due on all of the customer's delinquent and shutoff accounts for basic local exchange service and regulated toll service owed to the Company; (b) an arrangement or settlement agreement requiring the payment of all amounts owed to the Company for basic local exchange service and regulated toll service; (c) payment of an amount provided by tariff for basic local exchange service restoration (d) a deposit as outlined in 2.7.3.
- 2.12.10 USTel Notices of Shutoff shall contain the following information:
  - A. the name and the billing address of the customer and, to the extent possible, the address of the service, if different
  - B. a clear and concise statement of the reason for the proposed shutoff of service
  - C. the date after which service will be subject to shutoff without further notice unless the customer takes appropriate action
  - D. the right of the customer to file a formal complaint with the commission if the dispute cannot be otherwise resolved and a statement that the customer must pay to the provider of basic local exchange service that portion of the bill for basic local exchange service and regulated toll service that is not in dispute within 3 days of the date that the formal complaint is filed
  - E. a statement that service will not be shut off pending the resolution of a formal complaint that is filed and prosecuted in conformity with all applicable statutes, rules, regulations, and orders of the commission
  - F. the telephone number and address of the Company where the customer may make inquiry or enter into a settlement agreement.

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#### 2.13. Notice and Communication

- 2.13.1. The Customer shall designate on the Application for Service an address to which USTel shall mail or deliver all notices and other communications, except that USTel may also designate a separate address to which USTel's bills for service shall be mailed.
- 2.13.2. USTel shall designate on the Application for Service an address to which the Customer shall mail or deliver all notices and other communications, except that USTel may designate a separate address on each bill for service to which the Customer shall mail payment on that bill.
- 2.13.3. All notices or other communications required to be given pursuant to this Tariff shall be made in writing to USTel at P.O. Box 40, Hubbard, Oregon 97032 or by calling (503) 982-8000. Notices and other communications of either party, and all bills mailed by USTel, shall be presumed to have been delivered to the other party on the third business day following placement of the notice, communication or bill with the U. S. Mail or a private delivery service, prepaid and properly addressed, or when actually received or refused by the addressee, whichever occurs first.
- 2.13.4. USTel or the Customer shall advise the other party of any changes to the addresses designated for notices, other communications or billing, by following the procedures for giving notice set forth herein.

#### 2.14. Taxes, Surcharges and Utility Fees

Customer is responsible for the payment of all federal, state and local taxes, surcharges, utility fees, or other similar fees (*i.e.*, gross receipts tax, sales tax, municipal utilities tax, 911 surcharges or fees) that may be levied by a governing body or bodies in conjunction with or as a result of the service furnished under this Tariff. These charges will appear as separate line items on the Customer's bill and are not included in the rates contained in this Tariff. There shall be added to the Customer's bill for service, an additional charge equal to the pro rata share of any occupation, franchise, business, license, excise privilege or other similar charge or tax, now or hereafter imposed upon the gross receipts or revenue of USTel by any municipal taxing body or municipal authority whether by statute, ordinance, law or otherwise, and whether presently due or to hereafter become due. The charge applicable to each Customer will appear as a separate line item on the Customer's regular monthly bill and shall be determined on a basis equal to the tax levied by each municipal taxing body or municipal authority.

#### 2.15. <u>Customer Billing Inquiries</u>

Any customer who has a question regarding his/her telephone bill may contact USTel toll free at (800) 418-6020, or at 2500 Industrial Avenue, Hubbard, Oregon 97032.

#### 2.16. Kentucky Universal Service Fund

The Kentucky Universal Service Fund has been established by the State of Kentucky to help pay for keeping local phone rates affordable for low income customers. The amount of the surcharge will be consistent with the rate set by the Commission from time to time.

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#### **SECTION 3 - DESCRIPTION OF SERVICES**

### 3.1 <u>General</u>

The Company provides intrastate, interexchange:" services, including direct-dialed messages telecommunications services and 800/888/877/866 Service to residential and business customers who also subscribe to the Company's Local Exchange Telecommunications Services, as described in Kentucky P.S.C. Tariff No. 4. Each service is offered independently of the other and is offered via USTel's facilities, conventional network elements purchased from other local or inter-exchange carriers, or via resale of facilities of other local or inter-exchange carriers for the transmission of one-way or two-way communications, unless otherwise noted. Calls are rated based on the duration of the call. Services are available twenty-four (24) hours a day, seven (7) days a week.

#### 3.2 Charges Based on Duration of Use

Where charges for a service are specified based on the duration of use, such as the duration of a telephone call, the following rules apply:

- 3.2.1 Calls are measured in duration increments identified for each service. All calls which are fractions of a measurement increment are rounded up to the next whole unit
- 3.2.2 Timing on completed calls begins when the call is answered by the called party. Answering is determined by hardware answer supervision in all cases where this signaling is provided by the terminating local carrier and any intermediate carrier(s).
- 3.2.3 Timing terminates on all calls when the calling party hangs up or the Company's network receives an on-hook signal from the terminating carrier.
- 3.2.4 Calls originating in one time period and terminating in another will be billed in proportion to the rates in effect during different segments of the call.
- 3.2.5 All times refer to local times.
- 3.2.6 Rates are not distance sensitive. As such, unless otherwise indicated, mileage bands are not applicable to the services offered.
- 3.2.7 Unless otherwise indicated, rates do not vary depending upon day or the time of day (Day, Evening, and Night/Weekend).
- 3.2.8 Each call is rated and billed in whole cents. Any rated call with a fraction of a cent less than \$0.004 will be rounded down to the nearest whole cent. Any rated call with a fraction of a cent \$0.005 or greater will be rounded up to the nearest whole cent.

#### 3.3 <u>Product Descriptions</u>

#### 3.3.1 Switched Outbound (1+)

Service provides USTel customers with the ability to originate calls from a USTel-provided access line to all other stations on the public switched telephone network bearing the designation of any central office exchanges outside the customer's local calling area. This service is available on a switched basis only.

This service is available to Local Exchange Telecommunications Service Supervise Commission pursuant to the terms and conditions of Company's Kentucky P.S.C. Tariff No. 4.

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#### SECTION 3 - DESCRIPTION OF SERVICES

#### 3.3 **Product Descriptions (Cont'd)**

#### 3.3.2 Bundled Long Distance Service

Bundled Long Distance Service is offered to Customers who purchase local and long distance service from the Company in a bundled package. Fixed monthly charges and number of minutes included in the monthly call allowance are found in the Company's Local Exchange Tariff No. 3 for each particular bundle.

#### 3.3.3 <u>Toll Free Service (8xx)</u>

Toll Free Service is an inbound-only service that allows callers located anywhere in the State of Kentucky to place Toll Free Calls to Customers by dialing an assigned telephone number with an 8XX area code. The Company provides Switched Toll Free Service only. Calls may be terminated either to the Customer's local exchange telephone service or dedicated access line.

#### 3.3.4 Post-Paid Calling Card Services

Post-Paid Calling Card Service enables Customers to make Calls through the use of a long distance calling card to points throughout the State of Kentucky. Charges incurred are billed to the Customer's account. Access to the network is available through 1-800 or other toll-free access arrangements. The caller will then be prompted to dial the telephone number associated with the called station and an authorization code in order to complete the call.

#### 3.3.5 Directory Assistance

Directory Assistance ("DA") is a Service that provides Customers with access to telephone number information. Access is obtained by direct dialing 1 + (Area Code) 555-1212 or 1-411.

#### 3.3.6 Operator Services

Operator Services involve assisting Customers with the placement of telephone calls, including collect calls, calling cards, credit card calls, person-to-person calls, third party calls, and other related operator services as well as the obtaining of related information. The Company provides this service for local and intraLATA calls. All other operator assisted calls will be routed to the Company's underlying carrier.

#### 3.3.7 Discount Long Distance Calling Plan

An interstate calling plan of discounted minutes with a recurring monthly charge. The (AT) discounted minutes and recurring monthly charge are outlined in Section 4.6.1 of this tariff MISSION

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#### SECTION 4 - RATES AND CHARGES

The following rates and charges are applicable to Residential and Business Customers.

#### 4.1 Switched Outbound (1+)

4.1.1 For all customers who choose USTel as their intraLATA toll and interLATA long distance provider.

Rate per Minute \$ 0.09

4.1.2 For customers who do not choose USTel as both their intraLATA toll and interLATA long distance provider.

Rate per Minute IntraLATA Toll Calls InterLATA Long Distance Calls

\$0.11 per minute where USTel is the carrier \$ 0.09 per minute where USTel is the carrier

4.1.3 The duration of each call is rounded up to the nearest minute.

## 4.2 Toll Free Service (8xx)

- 4.2.1 The rate per minute is \$ 0.11. A \$0.99 per call surcharge will apply to all calls placed from a payphone.
- 4.2.2 The duration of each call is rounded up to the nearest minute.

#### 43 Post-Paid Calling Card Services

- 4.3.1 The rate per minute is \$ 0.20. A \$0.99 per call surcharge will apply to all calls placed from a payphone.
- 4.3.2 The duration of each call is rounded up to the nearest minute.

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#### SECTION 4 - RATES AND CHARGES

#### 4.4 Directory Assistance

4.4.1 InterLATA Directory Assistance calls, other than calls placed to 8xx toll free DA:

Per call rate: \$1.25

#### 4.4.2 IntraLATA Directory Assistance

Direct Dialed	\$ 1.25 per call
Via Operator	\$ 1.25 per call
Fully-Automated	
Sent-Paid	\$ 0.99 per call
Collect	\$ 0.99 per call
Bill to 3 <sup>rd</sup> Number	\$ 0.99 per call
Semi-Automated	
Sent-Paid	\$ 0.99 per call
Collect, Bill to 3rd Numbers	<b>\$ 0.99 per call</b>
Bill to 3 <sup>rd</sup> Number	\$ 0.99 per call
Person-to-Person	\$ 3.00 per call

#### 4.4.3 Calls placed to 800/888 toll free DA

Calls placed to 800/888 toll free DA are provided at no charge to the Customer.

#### 4.5 **Operator Services**

- 4.5.1 All usage associated with operator assisted calls will be charged the per minute rates as stated in Section 4.1.
- 4.5.2 In addition to applicable usage charges, the following operator-assisted charges will apply:

<u>Person-to-Person</u> IntraLATA	\$ 3.00 per call
<u>Station-to-Station</u> IntraLATA	\$ 1.25 per call

#### 4.6 Discount Long Distance Calling Plan

4.6.1 Customers can pay a monthly recurring charge and get discounted interstate long distance service at the below rate.

Per month Service Fee\$4.95Per minute rate\$0.049

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#### SECTION 5 - PROMOTIONS AND DISCOUNTS

#### 5.0. <u>General</u>

The Company, from time to time, may make promotional offerings of its services, which may include waiving or reducing the applicable charges for the promoted service. Promotions will be filed as separate tariff sheets under this Section 5.

All promotions will be limited in duration, and will identify a definite, reasonable time period during which the promotion will be in effect. A promotion may also be limited as to the locations where the offerings are made. A promotion may also, if so designated, provide for its conclusion upon the occurrence of a promotion-related event that is reasonable certain to occur, although the timing may not be certain.

Promotions will be implemented with at least one day's notice prior to the effective date of each promotion.

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