

GENERAL EXCHANGE TARIFF

NELSON-BALL GROUND TELEPHONE COMPANY
Georgia

Section E
Third Revised Contents Sheet 1
Cancels Second Revised Contents Sheet 1

CHARGES APPLICABLE UNDER SPECIAL CONDITIONS

Contents

APPROVED

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CHARGES APPLICABLE UNDER SPECIAL CONDITIONS

E.1 CONSTRUCTION CHARGES

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I. **General**

Construction charges are non-recurring charges applicable under certain conditions or for extending company facilities in order to provide telecommunication services. These charges are in addition to applicable charges for the class of service furnished, service connection charges, charges for moves and changes, and other charges that may be applicable.

II. **Definitions**

A. Applicant

A residential customer applying for telecommunication services at a location that currently does not have facilities established.

B. Application:

A request to the Company for telecommunication services, as distinguished from an inquiry as to the availability or charges for such service.

C. Construction Allowance

The portion of new construction and facilities that is provided at no charge.

D. Costs

Costs associated with the construction of new facilities include, but are not limited to, engineering, labor, materials, equipment, government fees and charges, right-of-ways, road crossings, road boring, trenching, etc.

E. Developer

An Applicant who is responsible for requesting placement telecommunications services in a new area for permanent residential and/or business telecommunications services prior to, or in conjunction with, a request for telephone service by a customer located in that new area. The area to be developed is defined as land which is divided or is proposed to be divided into 5 or more lots, parcels, or units.

F. Easement:

A right given to another person or entity to trespass upon land that person or entity does not own. Easements are used for roads, private property, etc. given to utility companies for the right to bury cables or access utility lines.

G. Group Application or Project

A request for telecommunications services to 4 or less premises which are located one-half mile or less between each other by individuals who wish to establish telecommunications services at the same time.

H. Line Extension

Company outside plant that is required to extend Company facilities and service beyond the existing facilities of the Company.

I. New Construction

The placement of those additional facilities required to extend telecommunications services from the nearest existing working facility within the wire center to the Applicant(s) premises.

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E.1 CONSTRUCTION CHARGES (Continued)

II. Definitions (continued)

- J. Permanent Service
Service provided at premises that has a permanent foundation and permanent connections to basic utilities such as water, gas and electricity.
- K. Right of Way
Legal access to land not owned by the Company for the purpose of digging trenches, laying cable or planting poles.
- L. Service Drop
Service conductor six-pair or smaller delivering service to the customer premise from the service provider's last network access point.
- M. Special Construction
When an Applicant requests specific and/or unusual plant, equipment, or services to be installed.
- N. Temporary Construction
Service provided is for a limited time and there is no immediate prospect of reusing the plant.

III. Terms and Conditions

- A. This tariff applies to requests for extension of residential basic local exchange service.
- B. This tariff does not apply to the application requests listed below. The terms and conditions of these requests shall be governed by an individual contract to be developed between the prospective applicant and the Company:
 - 1. Applications for Extension of Service for Business Service;
 - 2. Applications for Extension of Service by residential customers for other than residential basic local exchange service, unless the Company chooses to treat such application under this tariff;
 - 3. Applications from Developers requesting service to developments.
- C. The Company will determine the location and type of plant facilities required to provide the quantity and class of service, and to meet quality of service standards unless other arrangements have been agreed upon.

New construction is based on actual route and average conditions that will enable the Company to extend service to Applicant(s) at a reasonable cost without adding an undue burden to the general body of existing customers.
- E. Where new construction is required, the Company will consult with other utilities to minimize construction costs (e.g., sharing trenches, poles, etc.).
- F. The Company will construct, own, and maintain outside plant facilities using standard specifications, engineering, design, and materials standards unless other arrangements have been agreed upon.

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E.1 **CONSTRUCTION CHARGES** (Continued)

- E. Reinforcement of existing physical plant will be provided at the Company's expense except where facilities on private property are provided by the Applicant.
- F. Upon request by an Applicant for service; the Company will provide, without charge, a preliminary sketch and rough estimate of the construction costs to be paid by the Applicant(s).
- I. Any construction performed by the Applicant must be authorized and approved by the Company.
- J. The Company must receive a Service Order plus payment of any agreed upon construction charges before construction begins.
- K. An Applicant(s) ordering service at more than one premise is treated as separate Applications.
- L. The start and completion time will depend on when the Company can coordinate for joint engineering and construction with other utilities; and obtain the material, labor and facilities necessary to complete the new construction.
- M. When the Company receives a group application or project for telephone service, any applicable construction charges for shared facilities (less a Construction Allowance per premises) will be divided between the Applicants.
- N. The Company will provide the Applicant(s) the estimated construction charges to be paid by the Applicant(s) in writing. The estimated construction charges will be good for thirty days after the Company provides a bill to the Applicant(s).
- O. Construction Charges will be associated with the premises for which they were established rather than the Applicant(s). Credit for Construction Charges may not be transferred from one premise to another.
- P. A single Applicant's request may be combined with another Applicant or added to a Group Applicant/Project when there is one-half mile or less of construction between Applicants and/or the grouping results in lower charges (or no increase in construction charges) for all Applicants involved.
- Q. If an Applicant disconnects service, no refund or adjustment is made to the Construction Charge applicable to the Applicant's premises regardless of any future reconnection of basic telephone service by the Applicant or upon connection of telephone service to a new Applicant. Upon disconnect, any outstanding construction charge amounts become due

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E.1 CONSTRUCTION CHARGES (Continued)

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IV. Rates and Charges

A. General

1. All Construction charges are payable at the time the application for service is signed or when the account is rendered based on estimated costs, unless other arrangements have been authorized by the Company.
2. The initial NID will be provided at no cost to the Applicant(s).
3. If a single or group applicant disconnects service, all outstanding construction charges will become due and payable immediately.

B. Construction Allowance

1. Each Applicant with an active service order request will be provided with a one-time construction allowance per premises of 1000 feet, which includes a maximum of 300 feet on private property.

C. Charges

1. The cost of construction above the allowance.
2. The Applicant may be responsible for some or all the costs associated with the following:
 - Detail of the estimate, if requested prior to the start of construction;
 - Securing, clearing, and retaining right-of-ways;
 - Specific or unusual plant facilities not normally provided by the Company;
 - Establishment and removal of temporary facilities or seasonal in nature;
 - Rearrangement, change or move of facilities after construction begins;
 - Clearing the ground where facilities are to be laid of trees, stumps and other obstructions plus excavating and backfilling;
 - Removing rock or other abnormal conditions that are encountered;
 - Installation of lines after curb and sidewalks or other obstructions are in place;
 - Overtime work at the Applicant(s) request;
 - Rearrangement or relocation of existing facilities at the customer's request

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E.1 CONSTRUCTION CHARGES (Continued)

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E.1 CONSTRUCTION CHARGES (Continued)

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ISSUED: October 6, 2014
BY: Joel Dohmeier, Vice-President

EFFECTIVE: **DEC 05 2014**

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E.2 SPECIAL SERVICES AND FACILITIES

Special services and facilities, not ordinarily used in the furnishing of service and not otherwise mentioned in, or provided for or contemplated by the Tariffs of the Telephone Company, may be furnished or leased pursuant to special contract for such special service or facility does not interfere with the telephone service furnished by the Telephone Company.

In the event any such service or facility or the use made thereof interferes with, or the facilities used in furnishing such special service or facility are needed for the furnishing of telephone service by the Telephone Company, it may terminate such contract and cease to furnish such special service and facility after 30 days' written notice to the customer; and provided further that the Public Service Commission may terminate such contract whenever, in its opinion, public interest requires such termination.

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E.3 FRANCHISE & MUNICIPALITY TAXES

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Equity requires that any special, excessive or abnormal tax imposed by a political subdivision be borne by the beneficiaries thereof. Therefore, any business license, franchise fee, occupation or similar tax, fee or charge imposed by any municipality on the recurring local service revenues received from subscribers located within such municipality will be billed, insofar as practicable, pro rata to the subscribers receiving exchange service within the municipality.

If any county, or political subdivision or agency of the state collects, or receives from the Company any payment through business license, franchise fee, occupation or similar tax, fee or charge, such payment will be billed, insofar as practicable, pro rata to the exchange subscribers within such county or political subdivision; provided however, the foregoing shall not apply to ad valorem taxes.

The charges billed by the Company pursuant to these Tariff provisions will be listed individually on the bill and identified as follows:

"Type of license, fee, tax or charge – Required by action of – (name of governmental entity)."

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E.4 CONTRACT SERVICE ARRANGEMENTS

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1. General

- a. When economically practical, customer specific contract service arrangements may be furnished in lieu of existing tariff offerings provided there is reasonable potential for uneconomic bypass of the Company's services. Uneconomic bypass occurs when an alternative service arrangement is utilized, in lieu of Company services, at prices below the Company's rates but above the Company's incremental costs.
- b. Rates, Charges, Terms and additional regulations, if applicable, for the contract service arrangements will be developed on an individual case basis, and will include all relevant costs, plus an appropriate level of contribution.
- c. Costs for the contract service arrangements will include one or more of the following items:
 1. Labor, engineering, and materials
 2. Operating expenses, e.g., maintenance, administration, etc.
 3. Return on investment
 4. Taxes
 5. Depreciation
 6. Any other identifiable associated cost
- d. Unless otherwise specified, the regulations for contract service arrangements are in addition to the applicable regulations and rates specified in other Section of this Tariff.
- e. Contract Service Arrangements are furnished by the Company to a subscriber only for communications in which the subscriber has a direct interest and shall not be used for any purpose for which a payment or other compensation shall be received by him from any other person, firm, or corporation for such use, or in the collection, transmission or delivery of any communication for others unless expressly authorized by state statute. Contract Service Arrangements will not be offered to other Common Carriers (OCC's) or other parties for the purposes of resale and/or shared use.
- f. The subscriber and the company may elect to enter into an agreement where certain rates and/or charges for contract service arrangements are applicable for a fixed period of time. The Company will continue to offer such contract service arrangements without change in the applicable rate and/or charges unless mutual consent has been reached between the Company and the subscriber to undertake such changes. At the completion of this period, the agreement may be renewed at the option of the Company and the subscriber. Revised rates and/or charges may apply to any renewed agreement. The Georgia Public Service Commission has the right to modify the terms, conditions, rates, and charges during the period of the contract.

ISSUED: October 6, 2014
BY: Joel Dohmeier, Vice-President

EFFECTIVE: **DEC 05 2014**

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E.5 GA UNIVERSAL ACCESS FUND SURCHARGE

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The Company will comply with, and require its Customers to comply with the Commission's Universal Access fund Requirements as set forth in O.C.G.A. Section 46-5-167 or any Commission order, rule, or regulation adopted or promulgated hereunder. The surcharge will be shown as a separate line item on the Customer's monthly invoice and will read: GA Universal Access Fund Surcharge. The rate of the surcharge will be equal to the contribution factor established by the Commission.

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