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# THOMPSON HINE

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PUCO

February 12, 2007

*Via Hand Delivery*

Ms. Renée J. Jenkins  
Director of Administration  
Secretary of the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio  
180 East Broad Street  
Columbus, Ohio 43215

RE: In the Matter of the Application of The Middle Point Home Telephone Company to Add Directory Assistance to its Tariff, PUCO Case No. 07-144-TP-ATA

Dear Ms. Jenkins:

Enclosed are an original and ten (10) copies of an Application, to be filed in connection with the above-referenced matter on behalf of The Middle Point Home Telephone Company.

Thank you for your assistance. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call.

Very truly yours,

Carolyn S. Flahive

Enclosure

This is to certify that the images appearing are an accurate and complete reproduction of a case file document delivered in the regular course of business.  
Technician ASR Date Processed 2/12/07

Carolyn.Flahive@ThompsonHine.com Fax 614.469.3361 Phone 614.469.3294

dhj 535868.1

THOMPSON HINE LLP  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

10 West Broad Street  
Suite 700  
Columbus, Ohio 43215-3435

www.ThompsonHine.com  
Phone 614.469.3200  
Fax 614.469.3361

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The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
TELECOMMUNICATIONS APPLICATION FORM
for
ILECs Not Subject to Alternative Regulation
(Effective December 3, 2004)

RECEIVED-DOCKETING DIV
2007 FEB 12 AM 10:59
PUCO

In the Matter of the Application of The Middle Point Home Telephone Company to Add Directory Assistance to its Tariff Case No. 07 - 144 - TP - ATA

Name of Company The Middle Point Home Telephone Company
Address of Company 106 1/2 East Jackson Street, P.O. Box 41, Middle Point, Ohio 45863-0041
Company Web Address
Regulatory Contact Person(s) Carolyn S. Flahive Phone (614) 469-3200 Fax (614) 469-3361
Regulatory Contact Person's Email Address Carolyn.Flahive@ThompsonHine.com
Date TRF Docket No. 90 - 5027 - TP - TRF

Motion for protective order included with filing? Yes No
Motion for waiver(s) filed affecting this case? Yes No [Note: waiver(s) tolls any automatic timeframe]

NOTE: This form must accompany:

- All automatic approval/notice applications filed by incumbent local exchange companies (ILECs) not subject to a qualifying alternative regulation plan when making an application pursuant to Case Nos. 84-944-TP-COI, 86-1144-TP-COI, 89-564-TP-COI, or 99-563-TP-COI.
All non-automatic approval applications filed by incumbent local exchange companies (ILECs) not subject to a qualifying alternative regulation plan when making an application pursuant to Section 4909.18, Ohio Revised Code.

I. Please indicate the reason for submitting this form (check one)

- 1 (AEC) Application For Approval Of A Customer Contract For Competitive Services
2 (ACO) ILEC Application for Change in Ownership Pursuant to 4905.402, Ohio Revised Code (30-day approval, 10 copies)
3 (ALI) Small, For-Profit, ILEC Application For A Limited Increase In Non-Basic Rates (60-day approval, 10 copies)
4 (ATA) Application For Tariff Amendment That Does Not Result In An Increase In Rates
5 (ZTA) Tariff Notification Not For An Increase In Rates Involving Message Toll, Toll-Free Service, 900 And 900-Like Services, 500 Service, Calling Card, Prepaid Calling Card, Private Line, and Speed Dialing In Accordance With Waiver Granted in 99-563-TP-COI (5/11/2000 and 11/21/2002) (0-day notice, 7 copies)
6 (NFP) Small, not-for-profit ILEC tariff amendment
7 (Non-Auto) All Others (non-automatic approval, indicate appropriate 3 letter code for case type in Case No. above)

THE FOLLOWING ARE TRF FILINGS ONLY, NOT NEW CASES

- 8 Introduction or Extension of Promotional Offering (10-day notice, 3 copies)
9 New Price List Rate Within an Approved Rate Range for Existing Competitive Service (0-day notice, 3 copies)

II. The following exhibits corresponding to the list of cases above, at a minimum, are required to be filed:

Table with 2 columns: Exhibit number and Description. Includes items like 'Current Tariff Sheets', 'Proposed Tariff Sheets', 'Rationale or Explanation for Change', etc.

III. Applicant is filing this application under the regulatory requirements:

- Established by the Commission in Case No. 89-564-TP-COI.
- Established in 4909.18 Ohio Revised Code.

IV. Applicant respectfully requests the Commission to permit the filing of the proposed tariff sheets, to become effective on the date shown on the proposed tariff sheets (which is a date no earlier than the day after the applicable automatic approval date), modified by any further revisions that have become effective prior to the effective date of the proposed schedule sheets.

Respectfully submitted,

THE MIDDLE POINT HOME TELEPHONE COMPANY

By: Carol S. Flahive

Thomas E. Lodge (0015741)

Carolyn S. Flahive (0072404)

THOMPSON HINE LLP

10 West Broad Street, Suite 700

Columbus, Ohio 43215-3435

614-469-3200

Its Attorneys

#### VERIFICATION

I verify that all of the information submitted herein, and all additional information submitted in connection with this case, is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Carol S. Flahive 2/12/07  
\*(Signature and Title) (Date)

\*Verification is required for every filing, and need not be notarized except for Applications for a Limited Increase in Rates (ALIs). The verification may be signed by an officer of the applicant, its counsel, or an authorized agent of the applicant, except for ALIs. ALI applications must be signed by an officer of the company and be notarized.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2007.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public, State of Ohio

My commission expires \_\_\_\_\_.

**EXHIBIT A**  
**(CURRENT TARIFF SHEETS)**

P.U.C.O. NO. 3

SECTION NUMBER 1

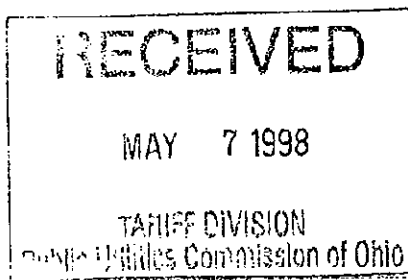
LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE RATES  
TABLE OF CONTENTS

SCHEDULE OF RATES: SHEET

Individual Access Line (Business) .....	1
Individual Access Line (Residence) .....	1
Access Line Mileage .....	1
Multi-Party Access Line .....	2
Surcharge .....	2A

OTHER CHARGES:

Installation .....	3
Disconnect, Reconnect .....	3
Additional Directory Listings .....	4
Vacation Rate .....	4



ISSUED: May 7, 1998

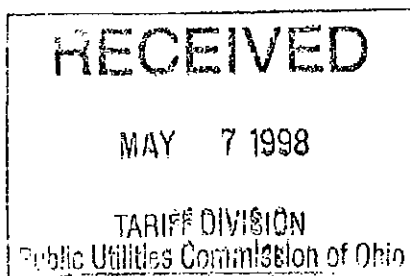
EFFECTIVE: May 7, 1998

IN ACCORDANCE WITH CASE NO. 98-467-TP-ATA  
 ISSUED BY THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO  
 Ronald Long, General Manager  
 Middle Point, Ohio

P.U.C.O. NO. 3

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ISSUED: May 7, 1998

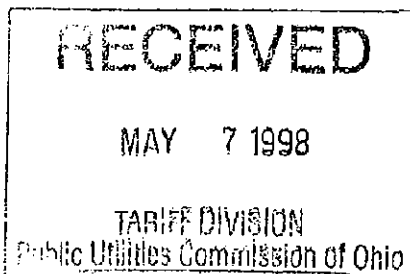
EFFECTIVE: May 7, 1998

IN ACCORDANCE WITH CASE NO. 98-467-TP-ATA  
ISSUED BY THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO  
Ronald Long, General Manager  
Middlepoint, Ohio

P.U.C.O. NO. 3

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ISSUED: May 7, 1998

EFFECTIVE: May 7, 1998

IN ACCORDANCE WITH CASE NO. 98-467-TP-ATA  
ISSUED BY THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO  
Ronald Long, General Manager  
Middlepoint, Ohio

**EXHIBIT B**  
**(PROPOSED TARIFF SHEETS)**



P.U.C.O. NO. 3

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SECTION NUMBER 1

LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE RATES  
TABLE OF CONTENTS

SCHEDULE OF RATES:	SHEET
Individual Access Line (Business).....	1
Individual Access Line (Residence).....	1
Access Line Mileage.....	1
Multi-Party Access Line.....	2
Surcharge.....	2A
OTHER CHARGES:	
Installation.....	3
Disconnect, Reconnect.....	3
Additional Directory Listings.....	4
Vacation Rate.....	4
911 Emergency Surcharge.....	4A
Optional Toll Calling Plan.....	5
Exchange Maps.....	8-9
Directory Assistance.....	10-12 (N)

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DIRECTORY ASSISTANCE SERVICE

(N)

1. Regulations

- a. The Telephone Company furnishes Directory Assistance Service whereby customers may request assistance in determining telephone numbers.
- b. The rates specified in Section 3 below are not applicable to calls placed from pay telephone stations, or from hospitals and skilled nursing homes. For the purpose of this tariff, the term "skilled nursing homes" applies to those nursing homes that provide 24-hour per day professional nursing care.
- c. Directory Assistance Service furnished to the visually or physically handicapped:
  - i. Charges for Directory Assistance Service are not applicable to calls placed by visually or physically handicapped subscribers to the Directory Assistance attendant. One residence service per handicapped person is designated by that handicapped person who is unable to use a directory due to a visual or other physical handicap. Such person must make application to the Telephone Company for exemption and will be required to provide suitable proof of handicap. Such application shall be established by the following procedures:
    - i.i A letter to the Telephone Company from a qualified professional familiar with the person's visual or physical impairment stating that the person qualifies for the exemption, or
    - i.ii The filling out of a prepared form made available by the Telephone Company, by a qualified professional familiar with the person's visual or physical impairment.

(N)

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DIRECTORY ASSISTANCE SERVICE (Continued)

(N)

1. Regulations (Continued)

ii. Exemption may be extended to one business service in lieu of a residence service where the handicapped person subscribes only to business service that is located in the residence of said person.

iii. For the purpose of this tariff, a visually handicapped person is defined as follows:

iii.i Visual acuity of 20/60 or worse with best refractive correction with best eye, or

iii.ii Visual field of 20° or less in diameter.

d. Directory Assistance Service for the communicatively impaired:

i. For purposes of this tariff, the definition of impaired refers to those persons with communication impairments, including those hearing impaired, deaf, deaf/blind and speech impaired persons who have an impairment that prevents them from communicating over the telephone without the aid of a telecommunications device for the deaf.

ii. Residential impaired customers or impaired members of a customer's household, upon written application and upon certification of their impaired status, which is evidenced by either a certificate from a physician, health care official or state agency or a diploma from an accredited educational institution for the impaired, may receive a discount off their message toll service rates, and, if they utilize telebraille devices, they may receive free access to local and intrastate long distance directory assistance. Additionally, TDD lines maintained by nonprofit organizations and governmental agencies, upon written application and verification that such lines are maintained for the benefit of the impaired, may receive a discount off their message toll services rates.

(N)

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DIRECTORY ASSISTANCE SERVICE (Continued)

(N)

2. Service

- a. The Company provides Local and National Directory Assistance Service. Customers requesting a National number (i.e., any number that is not within the customer's local service area or EAS areas) will hear a prompt that informs the customer that the call will be automatically completed.
- b. The Customer may request a maximum of two (2) telephone numbers per directory assistance call.

3. Rates

- a. Local:
  - i. Requests for telephone numbers of individuals or businesses within the customer's local service area or EAS areas will be \$0.75 per call.
- b. National:
  - i. Requests for telephone numbers of individuals or businesses located outside the local service and EAS areas will be \$.95 per call. Customers requesting a National number (i.e., any number that is not within the customer's local service area or EAS areas) will hear a prompt that provides them with the option of having the call automatically connected by pressing "1." Customers will hear a recording that will inform them that they will be billed \$.25 per minute for all such connected calls. For billing purposes, after the initial period of eighteen (18) seconds, calls are billed in six (6) second increments.

(N)

## EXHIBIT C

The Middle Point Home Telephone Company ("Middle Point") hereby seeks authority to begin directly providing directory assistance service to its customers. Currently, Middle Point has an agreement with Embarq to provide directory assistance service. Therefore, directory assistance was a product provided by a third party over which Middle Point had no control. Middle Point's customers reach directory assistance either by calling (NPA) 555-1212, in which case the customer is directed to the customer's PIC'd carrier, or by dialing 411 for a local number. Calls to 411 are directed to Embarq and the customer is charged \$1.45 for that call. If the customer's PIC'd carrier is Embarq, the customer is also charged \$1.45 for calls to (NPA) 555-1212. Middle Point assumes that customers are billed by other toll carriers for calls to (NPA) 555-1212, but would have no way of knowing those associated charges unless Middle Point handles the billing for that carrier.

Middle Point will now begin providing directory assistance directly to its customers. Under this new arrangement, when a customer dials 411 or (NPA) 555-1212, the customer will have the opportunity to request either a local number or a national number. Customers requesting a national number (i.e., any number that is not within the customer's local service area or EAS areas) will hear a prompt that provides them with the option of having the call automatically connected by pressing "1." The customers will be informed of the \$.25/minute charge for call completion after receiving the number but before pressing "1" to complete the call, which is optional.

Customers will be charged \$.75 per call to directory assistance requesting a local number and \$.95 for requests for national numbers.

Middle Point will now have more control over the service provided and will be able to ensure that its customers receive quality service. This new arrangement is similar to that implemented by other small carriers over the past several years.

## **EXHIBIT D**

Customers will be informed of the proposed directory service rates via bill insert that will mail February 23, 2007.

## THE MIDDLE POINT HOME TELEPHONE COMPANY

### CUSTOMER NOTICE

The Middle Point Home Telephone Company ("Middle Point") filed an application with the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio ("PUCO") requesting authority to begin directly providing directory assistance service to its customers. If approved by the PUCO, the new rates will become effective on April 1, 2007. Middle Point's directory assistance service will result in a reduction of rates for you.

Currently, customers are charged \$1.45 for calls to 411. Customers making directory assistance calls to (NPA) 555-1212 are charged by the customer's long distance carrier. If the carrier is Embarq, such calls are \$1.45.

With Middle Point's new directory assistance service, which will become effective on April 1, 2007, upon PUCO approval, customers may request a local telephone number for \$.75 per call or a national telephone number (a maximum of two telephone numbers per directory assistance call) for \$0.95 per call. Customers requesting a national number (i.e., any number that is not within the customer's local service area or EAS areas) will hear a prompt that informs them that the call will be automatically completed if the customer presses "1." Completed calls will be billed at the rate of \$0.25 per minute. For billing purposes, after the initial period of eighteen seconds, calls are billed in six second increments.

If you have any questions concerning this new charge, please call our business office at (419) 968-2000 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday – Friday.

**EXHIBIT E**

**(Affidavit)**



**BEFORE  
THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO**

In the Matter of the Application of The Middle Point        )  
Home Telephone Company to Add Directory                    )  
Assistance to its Tariff    )    Case No. 07 - 144 - TP - ATA

**AFFIDAVIT OF  
JOY THOMAS**

**NOW COMES** Joy Thomas, being first duly cautioned and sworn, deposes and says  
as follows:

1.    I am Assistant Vice President of The Middle Point Home Telephone Company ("Middle Point"), 106½ East Jackson Street, P.O. Box 41, Middle Point, Ohio 45863-0041. I make this Affidavit on behalf of Middle Point and do so in the ordinary discharge of my responsibilities.
2.    On February 12, 2007, Middle Point filed an application in this matter seeking authority to begin providing Directory Assistance Service.
3.    Customers were notified of the service and new rates via bill insert that mailed on February 23, 2007. A copy of the notice is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

**FURTHER AFFIANT SAYETH NAUGHT.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Joy Thomas

Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2007.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public

**EXHIBIT A**