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October 14, 2004

Renee Jankins, Executive Secretary Docketing Division Public Utilities Commission of Ohio 180 East Broad Street Columbus, OH 43215

RE:

GeoStar Communications, LLC Case No. 04-1310-TP-ACE TRF No. 90-6204-TP-TRF 2004 OCT 15 PH 2: 55

Dear Ms. Jenkins:

In accordance with the request of staff member Doug Jennings, enclosed herewith for filing with the Commission, please find an original and three (3) copies of the above-referenced company's effective tariff.

Also enclosed is a duplicate of the tariff cover page. Please date-stamp the duplicate and return same to me in the enclosed postage-paid envelope.

Very truly yours,

EARLY, LEMNOŃ, CROCKER & BARTOSIEWICZ, P.L.C.

Patrick D. Grooker

PDC/bmr

enc

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Date Processed

# TARIFF FOR

# REGULATIONS, RATES AND CHARGES APPLICABLE TO INTEREXCHANGE RESELLER SERVICES FURNISHED BY

# GEOSTAR COMMUNICATIONS, L.L.C.

WITHIN THE STATE OF OHIO

Issued: August 20, 2004 Case No.: 04-1310-TP-ACE Effective: October 18, 2004

Issued by: Robert L. Green

GEOSTAR COMMUNICATIONS, L.L.C.

# CHECK SHEET

The title page and pages 1-35 inclusive of this Tariff are effective as of the date shown. Original and revised sheets, as named below, comprise all changes from the original Tariff in effect on the date indicated.

| SHEET | REVISION | SHEET | REVISION |
|-------|----------|-------|----------|
| 1     | Original | 21    | Original |
| 2     | Original | 22    | Original |
| 3     | Original | 23    | Original |
| 4     | Original | 24    | Original |
| 5     | Original | 25    | Original |
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| 7     | Original | 27    | Original |
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| 11    | Original | 31    | Original |
| 12    | Original | 32    | Original |
| 13    | Original | 33    | Original |
| 14    | Original | 34    | Original |
| 15    | Original | 35    | Original |
| 16    | Original |       |          |
| 17    | Original |       |          |
| 18    | Original |       |          |
| 19    | Original |       |          |
| 20    | Original |       |          |
|       |          |       |          |

<sup>\*</sup> New or Revised Sheets

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# CONCURRING, CONNECTING AND OTHER PARTICIPATING CARRIERS

**CONCURRING CARRIERS:** 

**CONNECTING CARRIERS:** 

OTHER PARTICIPATING CARRIERS:

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# **TARIFF FORMAT**

Sheet Numbering - Sheet numbers appear in the upper right hand corner of the page. Sheets are numbered sequentially and from time to time new pages may be added to the Tariff. When a new page is added between existing pages, a decimal is added to the preceding page number. For example, a new page added between Sheets 3 and 4 would be numbered 3.1.

Paragraph Numbering Sequence - There are nine levels of paragraph coding. Each level of coding is subservient to its next higher level:

2. 2.1. 2.1.1. 2.1.1.A. 2.1.1.A.1. 2.1.1.A.1.(a). 2.1.1.A.1.(a).l.(i). 2.1.1.A.1.(a).l.(i).

Check Sheets - When a Tariff filing is made with the Commission, an updated check sheet accompanies the Tariff filing. The check sheet lists the pages contained in the Tariff, with a cross reference to the current revision number. When new pages are added, the check sheet 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 this page if these are the only changes made to it. The Tariff user should refer to the latest check sheet to find out if a particular page is the most current on file with the Commission.

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Effective: October 18, 2004

# **APPLICABILITY**

This Tariff sets forth the Service offerings, rates, terms and conditions applicable to the furnishing of intrastate interexchange telecommunications services within the State of Ohio by GEOSTAR COMMUNICATIONS, L.L.C. ("Company"). All services contained within this tariff are competitive.

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# **EXPLANATION OF SYMBOLS**

- (C) To signify changed regulations
- (D) To signify discontinued material
- (I) To signify increased rate
- (M) To signify a move in location of text
- (N) To signify a new rate or regulation
- (R) To signify a rate reduction
- (T) To signify a change in text or regulation but no change in rates

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Akron, OH 44311

# GEOSTAR COMMUNICATIONS, L.L.C.

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# 1. TECHNICAL TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

For the purpose of this Tariff, the following definitions will apply:

#### **Access Coordination**

Provides for the design, ordering, installation, coordination, pre-service testing, service turn-up and maintenance on a Company or Customer provided Local Access Channel.

# Administrative Change

A change in Customer billing address or contact name.

# Application for Service

A standard Company order form that includes all pertinent billing, technical and other descriptive information that will enable the Company to provide a communication Service as required.

# <u>ASR</u>

ASR (Access Service Request) means an order placed with a Local Access Provider for Local Access.

# **Authorized User**

A person, firm, corporation or other entity that either is authorized by the Customer to receive or send communications or is placed in a position by the Customer, either through acts or omissions, to send or receive communications.

# **Bandwidth**

The total frequency band, in hertz, allocated for a channel.

# **Bill Date**

The date on which billing information is compiled and sent to the Customer.

# Call

A completed connection between the Calling and Called Stations.

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#### Called Station

The telephone number called.

#### Calling Station

The telephone number from which a Call originates.

## Cancellation of Order

Where the Company has notified a customer or prospective customer of the possibility that special expenses may be incurred in connection with provisioning their service, and then the Company does incur such expenses. Expenses could include special construction, or where special arrangements of facilities or equipment have begun before the Company received a cancellation notice. The charge will be equal to the costs actually incurred, less net salvage.

#### Channel or Circuit

A dedicated communications path between two or more points having a Bandwidth or Transmission Speed specified in this Tariff and selected by a Customer.

#### Commission

**Public Utilities Commission of Ohio** 

#### Company

GEOSTAR COMMUNICATIONS, L.L.C.

#### Company Recognized National Holidays

The following are Company Recognized National Holidays determined at the location of the originator of the Call: New Year's Day, Martin Luther King Day, President's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Columbus Day, Veteran's Day, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day.

The evening rate is used unless a lower rate would normally apply. When a Call begins in one rate period and ends in another, the rate in effect in each rate period applies to the portion of the Call occurring within that rate period. In the event that a minute is split between two rate periods, the rate in effect at the start of that minute applies.

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## Customer

The person, firm, corporation or governmental unit which orders Service and which is responsible for the payment of charges and for compliance with the Company's Tariff regulations. A Customer is considered to be an account for billing purposes. The term Customer also includes an entity that remains presubscribed to the Company Service after its account(s) are removed from the Company's billing system, subsequently continues to use Company's network, and is billed by a local exchange carrier for such use, or otherwise uses Service for which no other Customer is obligated to compensate Company.

## Customer Premises/Customer's Premises

Locations designated by a Customer where Service is originated/terminated whether for its own communications needs or for the use of its resale customers.

# **DCS**

DCS means Digital Cross-Connect System.

# **Dedicated Access/Special Access**

Dedicated Local Access between the Customer's Premises or serving wire center and the Company's Point-of-Presence for origination or termination of Calls.

## **Due Date**

The Due Date is the date on which payment is due.

# **Expedite**

A Service order initiated at the request of the Customer that is processed in a time period shorter than the Company's standard Service interval.

# **FCC**

Federal Communications Commission

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#### Individual Case Basis (ICB)

Individual Case Basis (ICB) determinations involve situations where complex Customerspecific Company arrangements are required to satisfactorily serve the Customer. The nature of such Service requirements makes it difficult or impossible to establish general tariff provisions for such circumstances. When it becomes possible to determine specific terms and conditions for such offerings, they will be offered pursuant to such terms and conditions.

# Installation

The connection of a Circuit, Dedicated Access line, or port for new, changed or an additional Service.

#### Interexchange Service

Interexchange Service means that portion of a communications channel between a Company-designated Point-of-Presence in one exchange and a Point-of-Presence in another exchange.

#### Interruption

Interruption shall mean a condition whereby the Service or a portion thereof is inoperative, beginning at the time of notice by the Customer to Company, or when discovered by the Company, that such Service is inoperative and ending at the time of restoration.

# **Kbps**

Kilobits per second.

## LATA (Local Access Transport Area)

A geographical area established for the provision and administration of communications Service of a local exchange company.

#### **Local Access**

Local Access means the Service between a Customer Premises and a Company designated Point-of-Presence.

# Local Access Provider

Local Access Provider means an entity providing Local Access.

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# Local Exchange Carrier (LEC)

The local telephone utility that provides telephone exchange services.

#### Mbps 1

Megabits per second.

#### **Multiplexing**

Multiplexing is the sequential combining of lower bit rate Private Line Services onto a higher bit rate Private Line Service for more efficient facility capacity usage or vice versa.

# <u>N/A</u>

Not available.

#### Nonrecurring Charges

Nonrecurring Charges are one-time charges.

# Payment Method

The manner that the Customer designates as the means of billing charges for Calls using the Company's Service.

# Physical Change

The modification of an existing Circuit, Dedicated Access line or port, at the request of the Customer, requiring some Physical Change or retermination.

# Point-of-Presence (POP)

A Company-designated location where a facility is maintained for the purpose of providing access to its Service.

#### **Primary Route**

The route that in the absence of Customer-designated routing or temporary re-routing would be used by the Company in the provision of Service.

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# Private Line

A dedicated transmission channel furnished to a customer without intermediate switching arrangements for full-time customer use.

## Private Line Service

A dedicated full-time transmission Service utilizing dedicated access arrangements.

## Rate Center

A specified geographical location used for determining mileage measurements.

#### Requested Service Date

The Requested Service Date is the date requested by the Customer for commencement of Service and agreed to by the Company.

#### Restore

To make Service operative following an interruption by repair, reassignment, re-routing, substitution of component parts, or otherwise, as determined by the carrier(s) involved.

# Route Diversity

Two channels that are furnished partially or entirely over two physically separate routes.

# <u>Service</u>

Service means any or all Service(s) provided pursuant to this Tariff.

## Service Commitment Period

The term elected by the Customer and stated on the Service order during which the Company will provide the Services subscribed to by the Customer. The term can be monthly or in the case of Private Line Services for a period of up to 5 years.

# Special Promotional Offerings

Special trial offerings, discounts, or modifications of its regular Service offerings that the Company may, from time to time, offer to its Customers for a particular Service. Such offerings may be limited to certain dates, times, and locations.

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# Start of Service Date

The Requested Service Date or the date Service first is made available by the Company whichever is later.

#### Tariff

The current Intrastate Services Tariff and effective revisions thereto filed by the Company with the Commission.

## Transmission Speed

Data transmission speed or rate, in bits per seconds (bps).

# Two-Way Conversation

A Two-Way Conversation is a telephone conversation between or among two or more parties.

# <u>VF</u>

VF is voice frequency or voice-grade Service designed for private-line Service. Normal transmission is in the 300 hertz to 3000-hertz frequency band.

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# 2. RULES AND REGULATIONS

# 2.1. Description and Limitations of Services

- 2.1.1. Intrastate Telecommunications Service ("Service") is the furnishing of Company communication Services contained herein between specified locations under the terms of this Tariff.
- 2.1.2. Company, when acting at the Customer's request and as its authorized agent, will make reasonable efforts to arrange for Service requirements, such as special routing, Diversity, or circuit conditioning.
- 2.1.3. Service is offered in equal access exchanges subject to the availability of facilities and the provisions of this Tariff. Company reserves the right to refuse to provide Service to or from any location where the necessary facilities and/or equipment are not available.
- 2.1.4. The Company will comply with Rule 4901:1-5-17, Ohio Administration Code, in denying or disconnecting service. If a Customer is unable to establish credit, in accordance with Rule 4901:1-5-13 and 4901:1-5-14, the Company may deny service.
- 2.1.5. Service begins on the date that billing becomes effective and is provided on the basis of a minimum period of at least one month, 24 hours per day. For the purposes of computing charges in this Tariff, a month is considered to have 30 days.
- 2.1.6. Nothing herein, or in any other provision of this Tariff, or in any marketing materials issued by the Company shall give any person any ownership, interest, or proprietary right in any code or 800 number issued by the Company to its Customers.
- 2.1.7. In compliance with Rule 4901:1-5-17, the Company reserves the right to discontinue furnishing Services or billing options, upon written notice, when necessitated by conditions beyond its control. Conditions beyond the Company's control include, but are not limited to, a Customer's having Call volume or a calling pattern that results, or may result, in network blockage or other Service degradation which adversely affects Service to the calling party, the Customer, or other Customers of the Company.

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2.1.8. Except as otherwise provided in this Tariff or as specified in writing by the party entitled to receive Service, notice may be given orally or in writing to the persons whose names and business addresses appear on the executed Service Order and the effective date of any notice shall be the date of delivery of such notice, not the date of mailing. By written notice, Company or Customer may change the party to receive notice and/or the address to which such notice is to be delivered. In the event no Customer or Company address is provided in the executed Service order, notice shall be given to the last known business address of Customer or, as appropriate.

# 2.2. Other Terms and Conditions

- 2.2.1. The name(s) of the Customer(s) desiring to use the Service must be stipulated in the application for Service.
- 2.2.2. The Customer agrees to operate the Company provided equipment in accordance with instructions of the Company or the Company's agent. Failure to do so will void the Company liability for interruption of Service and may make Customer responsible for damage to equipment pursuant to Section 2.2.3 below.
- 2.2.3. Customer agrees to return to the Company all Company-provided equipment delivered to Customer within seven (7) days of termination of the Service in connection with which the equipment was used. Said equipment shall be in the same condition as when delivered to Customer, normal wear and tear only excepted. Customer shall reimburse the Company, upon demand, for any costs incurred by the Company due to Customer's failure to comply with this provision.
- 2.2.4. A Customer shall not use any service-mark or trademark of the Company or refer to the Company in connection with any product, equipment, promotion, or publication of the Customer without prior written approval of the Company.
- 2.2.5. The provision of Service will not create a partnership or joint venture between the Company and the Customer nor result in joint Service offerings to their respective Customers.

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- 2.2.6. The rate or volume discount level applicable to a Customer for a particular Service or Services shall be the rate or volume discount level in effect at the beginning of the monthly billing period applicable to the Customer for the particular Service or Services. When a Service is subject to a minimum monthly charge, account charge, port charge or other recurring charge or Nonrecurring Charge for both intrastate and interstate Service, only one such charge shall apply per account and that charge shall be the interstate charge.
- 2.2.7. Service requested by Customer and to be provided pursuant to this Tariff shall be requested on Company Service Order forms in effect from time to time or Customer's forms accepted in writing by an authorized headquarters representative of the Company (collectively referred to as "Service Orders").
- 2.2.8. The Service Commitment Period for any Service shall be established by the Service Order relevant thereto and commence on the Start of Service Date. Upon expiration, each Service Commitment Period for such Service shall automatically be extended subject to notice of termination by either Company or Customer. The charges for Interexchange Service during any such extension shall not exceed the then current Company month-to-month charges applicable to such Service.
- 2.2.9. Customers may establish service in compliance with Rules 4901:1-5-13 and 4901:1-5-14

# 2.3. Liability

2.3.1. Except as provided otherwise in this Tariff, the Company shall not be liable to Customer or any other person, firm or entity for any failure of performance hereunder if such failure is due to any cause or causes beyond the reasonable control of the Company. Such causes shall include, without limitation, fire, explosion, vandalism, cable cut, storm or other similar occurrence, any law, order, regulation, direction, action or request of the United States government or of any other government or of any civil or military authority, national emergencies, insurrections, riots, wars, strikes, lockouts or work stoppages or other labor difficulties, supplier failures, shortages, breaches or delays, or preemption of existing Services to restore service in compliance with Part 64, Subpart D, Appendix A, of the FCC's Rules and Regulations.

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- 2.3.2. With respect to the Services contained herein and except an otherwise provided herein, the Company's liability shall not exceed an amount equal to the charge applicable to a one minute Call to the Called Station at the time the affected Call was made. If the initial minute rate is higher than the additional minute rate, the higher rate shall apply. For those Services with monthly recurring charges, the Company's liability is limited to an amount equal to the proportionate monthly recurring charges for the period during which Service was affected.
- 2.3.3. Unless required by Rule 4901:1-5, the Company is not liable for any act or omission of any other company or companies (including any Company affiliate that is a participating or concurring carrier) furnishing a portion of the Service or facilities, equipment, or Services associated with such Service.
- 2.3.4. The Customer is responsible for taking all necessary legal steps for interconnecting the Customer provided terminal equipment with the Company facilities. The Customer shall ensure that the signals emitted into the Company's network do not damage Company equipment, injure personnel or degrade Service to other Customers. The Customer is responsible for securing all licenses, permits, rights-of-way, and other arrangements necessary for such interconnection. In addition, the customer shall comply with applicable LEC signal power limitations.
- 2.3.5. The Company may rely on Local Exchange Carriers or other third parties for the performance of other Services such as Local Access. Upon Customer request and execution and delivery of appropriate authorizing documents, the Company may act as agent for Customer in obtaining such other Services. Customer's liability for charges hereunder shall not be reduced by untimely Installation or non-operation of Customer provided facilities and equipment.
- 2.3.6. The failure to give notice of default, to enforce or insist upon compliance with any of the terms or conditions herein, the waiver of any term or conditions herein, or the granting of an extension of time for performance by the Company or the Customer shall not constitute the permanent waiver of any term or condition herein. Each of the provisions shall remain at all times in full force and effect until modified in writing.

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- 2.3.7. Except as required by the MTSS, the Company shall not be liable to the Customer or any other person, firm or entity in any respect whatsoever as a result of mistakes, accidents, errors, omissions, interruptions, delays, or defects in Service (collectively "Defects"). Defects caused by or contributed to, directly or indirectly, by any act or omission of Customer or its customers. affiliates, agents, representatives, invitees, licensees, successors or assigns or which arise from or are caused by the use of facilities or equipment of Customer or related parties shall not result in the imposition of any liability whatsoever upon the Company, and Customer shall pay to the Company any reasonable costs, expenses, damages, fees or penalties incurred by the Company as a result thereof, including penalties incurred by the Company as a result thereof, including costs of Local Access Providers' labor and materials. In addition, all or a portion of the Service may be provided over facilities of third parties, or sold by third parties, and the Company shall not be liable to Customer or any other person, firm or entity in any respect whatsoever arising out of Defects caused by such third parties. THE COMPANY SHALL NOT BE LIABLE FOR ANY DIRECT, INDIRECT, CONSEQUENTIAL, SPECIAL, ACTUAL, PUNITIVE OR ANY OTHER DAMAGES, OR BUSINESS INTERRUPTION, FOR ANY LOST PROFITS OF ANY KIND OR NATURE WHATSOEVER ARISING OUT OF ANY DEFECTS OR ANY OTHER CAUSE. THIS WARRANTY AND THESE REMEDIES ARE EXCLUSIVE AND IN LIEU OF ALL OTHER WARRANTIES OR REMEDIES, WHETHER EXPRESS, IMPLIED OR STATUTORY, INCLUDING WITHOUT LIMITATION IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. IN THE EVENT OF AN INTERRUPTION IN SERVICE OR ANY DEFECT IN THE SERVICE WHATSOEVER, NEITHER COMPANY NOR ANY AFFILIATED OR UNAFFILIATED THIRD PARTY, THIRD PARTY PROVIDER OR OPERATOR OF FACILITIES EMPLOYED IN THE PROVISION OF THE SERVICE SHALL BE LIABLE FOR ANY DIRECT, INDIRECT, CONSEQUENTIAL, SPECIAL, ACTUAL, PUNITIVE OR ANY OTHER DAMAGES, OR FOR ANY LOST PROFITS OF ANY KIND OR NATURE WHATSOEVER.
- 2.3.8. With respect to the routing of Calls by the Company to public safety answering points or municipal Emergency Service providers, Company liability, if any, will be limited to the lesser of: (a) the actual monetary damages incurred and proved by the Customer as the direct result of the Company's action, or failure to act, in routing the Call, or (b) as determined by a court of law.

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2.3.9. In the event parties other than Customer (e.g., Customer's customers) shall have use of the Service directly or indirectly through Customer, then Customer agrees to forever indemnify and hold Company and any affiliated or unaffiliated third-party, third-party provider or operator of facilities employed in provision of the Service harmless from and against any and all claims, demands, suits, actions, losses, damages, assessments or payments which may be asserted by said parties arising out of or relating to any Defects.

# 2.4. Reserved for Future Use

- 2.5. Cancellation for Cause by the Company
  - 2.5.1. The Company will comply with Rule 4901:1-5-17, Ohio Administration Code, in denying or disconnecting service.

#### 2.6. Credit Allowance

- 2.6.1. Credit allowance for the interruption of Service is subject to the general liability provisions set forth in this Tariff. Customers shall receive no credit allowance for the interruption of service that is due to the Company's testing or adjusting, negligence of the Customer, or to the failure of channels or equipment provided by the Customer. The Customer should notify the Company when the Customer is aware of any interruption in Service for which a credit allowance is desired. Before giving such notice, the Customer shall ascertain that the trouble is not being caused by any action or omission within Customer's control, or is not in wiring or equipment, if any, furnished by the Customer in connection with the Company's Services.
- 2.6.2. No credit is allowed in the event service must be interrupted in order to provide routine service quality or related investigations.
- 2.6.3. No credit shall be allowed:
  - 2.6.3.A. For failure of services or facilities of Customer; or
  - 2.6.3.B. For failure of services or equipment caused by the negligence or willful acts of Customer.
- 2.6.4. Credit for an interruption shall commence after the Company notices, or the Customer notifies Company, of the interruption and ceases when services have been restored.
- 2.6.5. Credits are applicable only to that portion of Service interrupted.

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- 2.6.6. For purposes of credit computation, every month shall be considered to have 720 hours.
- 2.6.7. No credit shall be allowed for an interruption of a continuous duration of less than two hours.
- 2.6.8. The Customer shall be credited for an interruption of two hours or more at a rate of 1/720th of the monthly recurring charge for the service affected for each hour or major fraction thereof that the interruption continues. Calculations of the credit shall be made in accordance with the following formula.

Credit Formula:

Credit = 
$$\frac{A}{720}$$
 X B

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

## 2.7. Use of Service

2.7.1. The Services offered herein may be used for any lawful purpose, including residential, business, governmental, or other use. There are no restrictions on sharing or resale of Services. However, the Customer remains liable for all obligations under this Tariff notwithstanding such sharing or resale and regardless of the Company's knowledge of same. The Company shall have no liability to any person or entity other than the Customer and only as set forth in Section 2.3. The Customer shall not use nor permit others to use the Service in a manner that could interfere with Services provided to others or that could harm the facilities of the Company or others.

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- 2.7.2. Service furnished by the Company may be arranged for joint use or authorized use. The joint user or Authorized User shall be permitted to use such Service in the same manner as the Customer, but subject to the following:
  - 2.7.2.A. One joint user or Authorized User must be designated as the Customer.
  - 2.7.2.B. All charges for the Service will be computed as if the Service were to be billed to one Customer. The joint user or Authorized User that has been designated as the Customer will be billed for all components of the Service and will be responsible for all payments to the Company. In the event that the designated Customer fails to pay the Company, each joint user or Authorized User shall be liable to the Company for all charges incurred as a result of its use of the Company's Service.
- 2.7.3. In addition to the other provisions in this Tariff, Customers reselling Company Services shall be responsible for all interaction and interface with their own subscribers or customers. The provision of the Service will not create a partnership or joint venture between Company and Customer nor result in a joint communications Service offering to the Customers of either the Company or the Customer.
- 2.7.4. Service furnished by the Company shall not be used for any unlawful or fraudulent purposes.
- 2.7.5. The Customer will be billed directly by the LEC for certain Dedicated Access arrangements selected by the Customer for the provisioning of direct access arrangements. In those instances where the Company at the Customer's request may act as agent in the ordering of such arrangements, the Company will bill the Customer Local Access charges.

# 2.8. Payment Arrangements

2.8.1. The Customer is responsible for payment of all charges for Services furnished to the Customer or its joint or Authorized Users. This responsibility is not changed due to any use, misuse, or abuse of the Customer's Service or Customer provided equipment by third parties, the Customer's employees, or the public. The Customer is *not* responsible for fraudulent charges.

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- 2.8.2. The Company's bills are due 14 days after postmarked. Amounts not paid within 30 days from the Bill Date of the invoice will be considered past due.
- 2.8.3. Customer inquiries or complaints regarding service or accounting may be made in writing or by telephone to the Company at:

GEOSTAR COMMUNICATIONS, L.L.C.

PO Box 370 Akron, OH 44309

Toll-Free:

(888) 436-7827

Facsimile: (330) 252-1120

Any objection to billed charges should be reported promptly to the Company. Customer is responsible for all nondisputed charges. If after investigation and review by the Company, a disagreement remains as to the disputed amount, the customer may file an appropriate complaint with:

PUBLIC UTILTIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

180 East Broad Street Columbus, OH 43215-3793

(800) 686-7826 (voice) Telephone:

(800) 686-1570 (TDD)

(614) 752-8351 Facsimile:

- 2.8.4. If a LEC has established or establishes a Special Access surcharge, the Company will bill the surcharge beginning on the effective date of such surcharge for Special Access arrangements presently in Service. The Company will cease billing the Special Access surcharge upon receipt of an Exemption Certificate or if the surcharge is removed by the LEC.
- 2.8.5. Company will not require deposits or advance payments by Customers for Services.
- 2.8.6. The Company's bills and billing practices will comply with MTSS Rule 4901:1-5-15, Ohio Administration Code.

#### <u>Assignment</u> 2.9.

2.9.1. The obligations set forth in this Tariff shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the parties hereto and their respective successors or assigns, provided, however, the Customer shall not assign or transfer its rights or obligations without the prior written consent of the Company.

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# 2.10. Tax and Fee Adjustments

- 2.10.1. When any municipality, or other political subdivision, local agency of government, or department of public utilities imposes upon and collects from the Company an occupation tax, license tax, permit fee, franchise fee or regulatory fee, such taxes and fees shall, insofar as practicable, be billed pro rata to the Company's Customers receiving service within the territorial limits of such municipality, other political subdivision, local agency of government.
- 2.10.2. The Company may adjust its rates and charges or impose additional rates and charges on its Customers in order to recover amount it is required by governmental or quasi-government authorities to collect from or pay to others in support of statutory or regulatory programs. Examples of such programs include, but are not limited to, compensation to payphone service providers for use of their payphones to access the Company's services.

# 2.11. Method for Calculation of Airline Mileage

2.11.1. The airline mileage between two cities can be calculated using the Vertical (V) and Horizontal (H) coordinates of the serving wire centers associated with the Company's POP locations. The method for calculating the airline mileage is obtained by reference to AT&T's Tariff F.C.C. No. 10 in accordance with the following formula:

$$\sqrt{\frac{(V_1 - V_2)^2 + (H_1 - H_2)^2}{10}}$$

where V1 and H1 correspond to the V&H coordinates of City 1 and V2 and H2 correspond to the V&H coordinates of City 2.

Example: 
$$\frac{V}{\text{City 1}} = \frac{1406}{5004} = \frac{1406}{3424}$$

$$\frac{(5004 - 5987)^2 + (1406 - 3424)^2}{(1406 - 3424)^2}$$

The result is 709.83 miles. Any fractional miles are rounded to the next higher whole number; therefore, the airline mileage for this example is 710 miles.

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# 2.12. Time of Day Rate Periods

2.12.1. Time of Day Rate Periods are determined by the time of day at the location of the Calling Station.

The rates shown in Section 4 apply as follows:

|             | MON | TUE                 | WED      | THU      | FRI | SAT | SUN |
|-------------|-----|---------------------|----------|----------|-----|-----|-----|
| 8 AM-5 PM*  | DAY | TIME RA             | TE PERIO | D        |     |     |     |
| 5 PM-11 PM* | EVE | EVENING RATE PERIOD |          |          |     | EVE |     |
| 11 PM-8 AM* | NIG | HT/WEEK             | END RAT  | E PERIOD | )   |     |     |

<sup>\*</sup>Up to, but not including

# 2.13. Special Customer Arrangements

2.13.1. In cases where a Customer requests a special or unique arrangement which may include engineering, conditioning, installation, construction, facilities, assembly, purchase or lease of facilities and/or other special Services not offered under this Tariff, the Company, at this option, may provide the requested Services. Appropriate recurring charges and/or Nonrecurring Charges and other terms and conditions will be developed for the Customer for the provisioning of such arrangements. Any contracts entered between the Company and Customer shall be filed with the PUCO.

## 2.14. Inspection

2.14.1. The Company may, upon notice, make such tests and inspections as may be necessary to determine that the requirements of this Tariff are being complied with in the installation, operation or maintenance of Customer or the Company equipment. The Company may interrupt the Service in compliance with Rule 4901:1-5-17, Ohio Administration Code.

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## 3. DESCRIPTION OF SERVICES

# 3.1. Wide Area ("WATS") and Message ("MTS") Toll Services

3.1.1. The Company offers WATS and MTS intrastate interexchange long distance service utilizing switched or dedicated access arrangements between the Customers Premises and the Company's facilities for call origination. Call termination is completed through a combination of Company facilities and LEC switched access arrangements.

# 3.2. Switched Inbound Service

3.2.1. Switched inbound service permits inward calling (via 800 codes) to a specific location utilizing premium switched, Feature Group D access on both ends.

#### 3.3. Switched Outbound Service

3.3.1. Switched outbound services permits outward calling utilizing premium switched Feature Group D access on both the originating and terminating ends.

## 3.4. Dedicated Inbound Service

3.4.1. Dedicated inbound service permits inward calling (via 800 codes) to a specific location featuring the use of a dedicated, special access type connection on the terminating end. The Customer shall be responsible for all LEC charges in addition to the Recurring, Non-recurring and Usage charges set forth hereinafter.

#### 3.5. Dedicated Outbound Service

3.5.1. Dedicated outbound service permits outward calling to stations in diverse service areas. Dedicated outbound service is distinguished from other services by the existence of a dedicated, special access connection on one end. The Customer shall be responsible for all LEC charges in addition to the Recurring, Non-recurring and Usage charges set forth hereinafter.

# 3.6. Calling Card Service

3.6.1. The Company's Calling Card Service permits Customers to place long distance calls utilizing Company issued Calling Cards for billing purposes.

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# 3.7. Timing of Calls

- 3.7.1. Long distance usage charges are based on the actual usage of the Company network. Chargeable time begins when a connection is established between the Calling Station and the Called Station. Chargeable time ends when either party "hangs up" thereby releasing the network connection.
- 3.7.2. Unless otherwise specified in this Tariff, the minimum call duration for billing purposes is 18 seconds. In addition, unless otherwise specified in this Tariff, usage is measured thereafter in 6 second increments and rounded to the next higher 6 second period.

# 3.8. Minimum Call Completion Rate

3.8.1. A Customer can expect a call completion rate of not less than 90% during peak use periods for all services.

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# 4. RATES AND CHARGES

# 4.1. <u>Usage Rates</u>

4.1.1. The following are the per minute usage charges which apply to all calls. These charges are in addition to the Non-recurring Charges and Recurring Charges referred to herein.

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# 4.2. Switched Inbound Usage Rates

# DAY/EVENING/NIGHT/WEEKEND

| Mileage | Initial 18 Seconds | Additional 6 Seconds |
|---------|--------------------|----------------------|
| ALL     | \$0.075            | \$0.025              |

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# 4.3. <u>Dedicated Inbound Usage Rates</u>

# DAY/EVENING/NIGHT/WEEKEND

| Mileage | Initial 6 Seconds | Additional 1 Second |
|---------|-------------------|---------------------|
| ALL     | \$0.025           | \$0.004             |

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# 4.4. Switched Outbound Usage Rates

# DAY/EVENING/NIGHT/WEEKEND

| Mileage | Initial 18 Seconds | Additional 6 Seconds |
|---------|--------------------|----------------------|
| ALL     | \$0.075            | \$0.025              |

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# 4.5. <u>Dedicated Outbound Usage Rates</u>

# DAY/EVENING/NIGHT/WEEKEND

| Mileage | Initial 6 Seconds | Additional 1 Second |
|---------|-------------------|---------------------|
| ALL     | \$0.025           | \$0.004             |

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# 4.6. <u>Calling Card Usage Rates</u>

4.6.1. Customers using the Company's Calling Card to place long distance calls incur a \$0.50 per call charge in addition to the per minute usage charge set forth hereinafter.

# DAY/EVENING/NIGHT/WEEKEND

| Mileage | Initial 60 Seconds | Additional 60 Seconds |
|---------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| ALL     | \$0.25             | \$0.25                |

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# 4.7. Recurring Charges

4.7.1. Reserved for future use.

# 4.8. Non-recurring Charges

4.8.1. Reserved for future use.

# 4.9. Special Promotional Offering

4.9.1. The Company may from time to time engage in Special Promotional Offerings or Trial Service Offerings limited to certain dates, times or locations designed to attract new subscribers or increase subscriber usage when approved by Commission. Company will not have special promotional offerings for more than 90 days in any 12-month period. In all such cases, the rates charged will not exceed those specified in Section 4 hereof.

# 4.10. Emergency Calls

4.10.1. Customer shall configure its PBX or other switch vehicle from which a customer places a call so that 911 emergency calls, where available, and similar emergency calls will be automatically routed to the emergency answering point for the geographical location where the call originated without the intervention of Company.

# 4.11. Payphone Use Service Charge

4.11.1. A Payphone Use Service Charge applies to each completed interLATA and intraLATA non-sent paid message made over a pay phone owned by a utility or Customer Owned Pay Telephone (COPT) Service. This includes calling card service, collect calls, calls billed to a third number, completed calls to Directory Assistance and Prepaid Card Service calls. This charge is collected on behalf of the pay phone owner. All Customers will pay the Company a per call service charge of \$0.35.

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