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PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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December 15, 2008

Ms. Illona Jeffcoat-Sacco, Executive Secretary
North Dakota Public Service Commission
600 E Boulevard Avenue – State Capitol
Bismarck, ND 58505-0480

Dear Ms. Jeffcoat-Sacco:

Attached for filing with the Commission are an original and one copy of the North Dakota Access Service Price Schedule.

This filing introduces the Facility Signaling Point of Interconnection (FSPOI) to the Common Channel Signaling Network. FSPOIs are Qwest designated ordering points to which customers may establish SS7 signaling connections. No new rates or changes in rates are associated with FSPOI. Qwest is also clarifying language regarding CCSAC multiplexing to be consistent with provisioning processes.

We have shown January 14, 2009 as the effective date. We would appreciate acknowledgment of receipt of this filing. An additional copy of this transmittal letter and a self-addressed, stamped envelope, are enclosed. Please date stamp the copy and return it to us.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Sue Henson by telephone at (206)345-4341 or by e-mail at Susan.Henson@qwest.com.

Sincerely,

Kent Blickensderfer
Director – Public Policy

KB/gkb
Enclosures

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR TELECOMMUNICATIONS FILING

I. Description of Service Affected:

This filing introduces the Facility Signaling Point of Interconnection (FSPOI) to the Common Channel Signaling Network. Qwest is also clarifying language regarding Common Channel Signaling Access Capability (CCSAC) multiplexing to be consistent with provisioning processes.

II. Value/Benefit:

FSPOIs are Qwest designated ordering points to which customers may establish SS7 signaling connections. No changes in rates are proposed in this filing.

III. Proposed Effective Date of Change:

Qwest proposes to make this change effective January 14, 2009.

1. APPLICATION AND REFERENCE

1.6 EXPLANATION OF ABBREVIATIONS

EO	-	End Office
EOSP	-	End Office Shared Port
EPL	-	Echo Path Loss
ERL	-	Echo Return Loss
ESS	-	Electronic Switching System
etc.	-	Etcetera
ETCA	-	Exchange Telephone Company A
ETCB	-	Exchange Telephone Company B
EU	-	End User
EXM	-	Exit Message
f	-	Frequency
F.C.C.	-	Federal Communications Commission
FIC	-	Facility Interface Code
FID	-	Field Identifier
FSPOI	-	Facility Signaling Point of Interconnection (N)
Ft.	-	Feet
FX	-	Foreign Exchange
GPR	-	Ground Potential Rise
H	-	Horizontal
HNPA	-	Home Numbering Plan Area
Hz	-	Hertz
IAM	-	Initial Address Message
IC	-	Interexchange Carrier
ICB	-	Individual Case Basis
ICL	-	Inserted Connection Loss
i.e.	-	That is
Inc.	-	Incorporated
ISDN	-	Integrated Services Digital Network
ISUP	-	Integrated Services Digital Network User Part
kHz	-	Kilohertz
LATA	-	Local Access and Transport Area
LEC	-	Local Exchange Carrier
LOF	-	Letter on File
LS	-	Local Switching
Ma	-	Milliamperes
Mbps	-	Megabits per second
mcs	-	Microseconds
MF	-	Multifrequency

2. GENERAL REGULATIONS

2.6 DEFINITIONS (Cont'd)

Expected Measured Loss (EML)

The term "Expected Measured Loss" denotes a calculated loss which specifies the end-to-end 1004-Hz loss on a terminated test connection between two readily accessible manual or remote test points. It is the sum of the inserted connection loss and test access loss including any test pads.

Exit Message (EXM)

The term "Exit Message" denotes a SS7 message sent to an end office by the Company's tandem switch to mark the carrier connect time when the Company's tandem switch sends an Initial Address Message to the IC.

Facility Signaling Point of Interconnection (FSPOI) (N)

The term Facility Signaling Point of Interconnection (FSPOI) denotes a Company designated ordering point within a Company LATA to which customers may establish SS7 Signaling connections. (N)

Field Identifier (FID)

The term "Field Identifier" denotes two to four characters that are used on service orders to convey specific instructions. Field Identifiers may or may not have associated data. Selected Field Identifiers are used in Company billing systems to generate nonrecurring charges.

First Come - First Served

The term "First Come - First Served" denotes a procedure followed when the first Access Service Request (ASR) received will be the first order processed.

15. COMMON CHANNEL SIGNALING NETWORK (CCSN)

15.1 GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Common Channel Signaling Access Capability (CCSAC) allows a customer to connect with the Company's SS7 network. CCSAC is used in conjunction with other SS7 based features and services. CCSAC provides the means for transmitting SS7 out of band signaling information via Switched Access CCS Links between the customer's Signaling Point of Interface (SPOI) and the Company's Signal Transfer Point (STP) or Facility Signaling Point of Interconnection (FSPOI). The STP provides translations and routing functions for SS7 signaling messages received from the Company's network signaling points and the SS7 networks of other entities. There are two types of signaling messages. ISDN User Part (ISUP) messages are used for call set-up (establishing and closing transmission paths for voice and data calls over the public switched network). Transaction Capabilities Application Part (TCAP) messages are used to carry information between signaling points for call related database services. CCSAC acts as a platform for the following applications. (C) (C)

The customer's SPOI and the Company's STP or FSPOI wire center must be located within the same LATA. (C)

A. Call Set-Up

This application provides the customer the capability to send originating and terminating call set-up signaling information, via ISUP messages, between the customer's designated premises, the Company's STP and other entities in association with message telecommunications service. Call Set-Up may be associated with calls that utilize the Company's switched access network or may be associated with calls that do not utilize the Company's switched access network. If the message trunks are provided by the Company, the customer must order the associated FGD trunks with SS7 Out of Band Signaling option as set forth in Section 6, preceding. Call Set-Up associated with calls that do not utilize the Company's switched access network is referred to as transient call set-up and the customer must have message trunks with SS7 capabilities. CCSAC Service as set forth in this section is required to provide both capabilities.

B. Foreign Database Queries

This service provides the customer the ability to query foreign databases (databases not maintained by the Company) by sending signaling information via TCAP messages between the Company's STP, the customer's designated premises and the foreign database. CCSAC Service as set forth in this section is required to provide this capability.

15. COMMON CHANNEL SIGNALING NETWORK (CCSN)

15.2 SERVICE DESCRIPTION

15.2.1 COMMON CHANNEL SIGNALING ACCESS CAPABILITY (CCSAC)

CCSAC transmission specifications, diversity requirements and testing parameters are set forth in Technical Reference GR-905-CORE, GR-954-CORE and 77342. Diversity will be provided as mutually agreed upon by the Company and the customer based upon availability from the customer's STP, SP or SSP location to the Company's STP. If applicable, Special Construction terms, conditions and charges will apply. CCSAC interconnection is available only in suitably equipped Company STP locations.

CCSAC network interface specifications between the Company's STP location and the customer's STP location supporting Integrated Services Digital Network (ISDN) signaling are described in Technical Reference GR-905-CORE.

A. CCS Link

CCSAC is provided by a CCS Link. The CCS Link provides digital bidirectional transmission and operates at a DS0-A level (i.e., 56 kbps of CCS7 signaling data and 8 kbps of control/supervisory data). Each DS0-A channel (link) occupies a single DS0 (i.e., 64 kbps) channel of a 24 channel DS1 digital transmission system. The DS0-A channel (link) is multiplexed into a DS1 format for hand off at the customer's SPOI. One STP Port is required for each 56 kbps signaling link utilized for CCSAC at the Company STP. The customer's SPOI and the Company's STP or FSPOI, wire center must be located within the same LATA. Customer connections at an FSPOI will only provide signaling access for the LATA served by the FSPOI. Customer connections for multiple LATAs, where available, must be made at the Company STP. The STP Port is the POT to the signal switching capability of the STP and is dedicated to the customer. The CCS Link is transported via an Entrance Facility and a Direct Link Transport (DLT) facility as described in 1. and 2., following, and is utilized exclusively for connecting the customer's CCS network and the Company's CCSN for the transmission of network control signaling data only. (C) (C)

15. COMMON CHANNEL SIGNALING NETWORK (CCSN)

15.2 SERVICE DESCRIPTION
15.2.1 COMMON CHANNEL SIGNALING ACCESS CAPABILITY (CCSAC)

A. CCS Link (Cont'd)

2. Direct Link Transport (DLT)

The DLT provides for the transmission facilities between the SWC of the customer's SPOI and the Company's STP or FSPOI. The customer has the option of ordering a DS1 DLT facility from this section, utilized exclusively for the transmission of network control signaling data only, or a single DS0-A channel (i.e., 64 kbps) of a 24 channel DS1 facility. The customer may utilize an existing DS1 DLT facility previously ordered from this section for additional CCS Links or order a new DS1 DLT or a DS0 DLT facility. (C)

Company hubbing arrangements can be utilized for CCSAC. If the customer has an existing DS3 facility between the SWC of the customer's premises and a Company Hub, ordered and provisioned as set forth in Section 6, preceding, or Section 7, of the Interstate Access Service Tariff, F.C.C. No. 1, the customer may utilize a portion (i.e., DS1) of the existing DS3 facility for the CCS Link(s) under the provisions of the Shared Use regulations as set forth in 2.7, preceding. In addition, the customer must order the DS1 or DS0 DLT from the Company Hub to the Company STP or FSPOI. (C)

When the customer orders a DS1 DLT facility from the SWC of the customer's SPOI or a Company Hub to a Company STP or FSPOI, the customer must also order a DS1 to DS0 Multiplexer at the Company STP or FSPOI for termination into the STP Port. When the customer orders a DS0 DLT channel, the customer must also order a DS1 to DS0 Multiplexer at the SWC of the customer's SPOI. Multiplexing rates are set forth in 15.8, following. (C) (C)

(D)

(D)

15. COMMON CHANNEL SIGNALING NETWORK (CCSN)

15.3 RATE CATEGORIES

15.3.1 CCSAC RATE CATEGORIES

CCS Link rates and charges are set forth in 15.8, following. Carrier Common Line, as set forth in Section 3, preceding, and Switched Access rates, as set forth in Section 6, preceding, are not applicable.

A. Nonrecurring Charges

Each CCS Link is assessed a nonrecurring charge per link provided on a first and each additional basis, per order.

Any change in CCSAC Service, except a change in jurisdiction, will be treated as a discontinuance of the existing service and an installation of a new service. Minimum period requirements are as set forth in 5.2.5, preceding.

B. Monthly Rates

The Entrance Facility monthly rate is assessed on a per DS1 facility provided when the Entrance Facility is ordered from this section for CCSAC. When the customer has Shared Use facilities, the monthly rates are apportioned as set forth in 2.7, preceding.

For each DLT facility provided, DS0 or DS1, a fixed monthly rate, per mile band, and a monthly rate per mile is assessed. When the customer has Shared Use facilities, the monthly rates are apportioned as set forth in 2.7, preceding. Mileage measurement is calculated on a airline mile basis, using the V & H coordinates method, between the SWC of the customer's SPOI and the Company's STP or FSPOI. When DLT facilities of different capacities are connected by a multiplexer at a Company Hub, mileage is measured separately from the SWC of the customer's premises to the Company Hub, where multiplexing occurs, and then measured from the Company Hub to the Company STP or FSPOI. (T) (C) (C)

An STP Port is provided for each CCS Link and each STP Port is assessed a monthly rate.

EF and DTT multiplexing equipment is assessed a monthly rate per arrangement provided. When the customer has Shared Use facilities, the monthly rates are apportioned as set forth in 2.7, preceding.

15. COMMON CHANNEL SIGNALING NETWORK (CCSN)

15.4 REPORT REQUIREMENTS

15.4.1 CCSAC NETWORK MANAGEMENT

The customer shall provide semiannually a CCSAC Network Management Report. The CCSAC Network Management Report requirements are described in Technical Reference 77342. The Company will use the report information in its own effort to further project CCSN facility requirements.

15.5 ORDERING, SERVICE PROVISIONING AND PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS

15.5.1 CCSAC ORDERING REQUIREMENTS

When a customer orders CCSAC, the customer must specify the customer STP premises, the number of CCS Links and the service (application) requiring CCSAC connectivity. One STP Port is provided for each link ordered. In addition, the customer must specify, at a minimum, information for the Entrance Facility and the DLT as described following.

The customer must have capacity available on an existing DS1 Entrance Facility (ordered and provisioned from this section) or a DS3 facility (ordered and provisioned from Section 6, preceding or Section 7, of the Interstate Access Service Tariff, F.C.C. No. 1.) between the customer's SPOI and the SWC of the customer's SPOI with a compatible interface or request a DS1 Entrance Facility. If the Entrance Facility is existing, the customer shall provide the Circuit Facility Assignment (CFA) of the existing facilities that will be utilized.

In addition the customer must specify the type of DLT facility, DS1 or DS0, to be utilized or provided between the SWC of the customer's SPOI and the Company's STP or FSPOI. (C)

15. COMMON CHANNEL SIGNALING NETWORK (CCSN)

15.5 ORDERING, SERVICE PROVISIONING AND PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS
15.5.1 CCSAC ORDERING REQUIREMENTS (Cont'd)

The Company will allow Company provided hubbing arrangements in association with CCSAC. If the customer has an existing DS3 facility (ordered and provisioned from Section 6, preceding, or Section 7, of the Interstate Access Service Tariff, F.C.C. No. 1.) to a Company Hub, the customer may use a portion of the DS3 facility (i.e., DS1) for the CCS Link(s) from the SWC of the customer's SPOI to the Company Hub and then order the DS1 or DS0 DLT from the Company Hub to the Company's STP or FSPOI. If the customer requests a DS1 DLT, multiplexing equipment must be ordered at the Company's STP or FSPOI. CCSAC orders are subject to the provisions (e.g., access order intervals, modification charges, cancellation charges and minimum periods) specified in Section 5, preceding. (C) (C)

When a customer orders CCSAC in association with other services (e.g., FGD with SS7 Out of Band Signaling for call set-up), separate orders shall be issued.

15.5.2 CCSAC SERVICE PROVISIONING

CCSAC transmission specifications, diversity requirements, testing parameters and design requirements for STP Links (i.e., CCS Signaling Links) are set forth in Technical References GR-905-CORE, GR-954-CORE and 77342. CCSAC network interface specifications between the Company STP location and the customer's STP location supporting Integrated Services Digital Network (ISDN) signaling are described in Technical Reference GR-905-CORE.

CCSAC is provided from either the customer's Signaling Point (SP) which requires a minimum of two STP Links and two STP Ports or from the customer's STP which requires a minimum of four STP Links and four STP Ports. A group of signaling links that connect the same two signaling points is described as a link set. There are a maximum of 16 signaling links located within one link set. The quantity of CCS Links required is based upon diversity requirements. Diversity is provided as mutually agreed upon by the Company and the customer based upon the availability of facilities from the customer's SPOI location to the Company's STP or FSPOI. Customer connections at an FSPOI will only provide two diverse routes to the Company STP. If applicable, Special Construction regulations and charges apply. CCSAC interconnection is available only in suitably equipped Company STP locations. (T) (C) (C)

15. COMMON CHANNEL SIGNALING NETWORK (CCSN)

15.5 ORDERING, SERVICE PROVISIONING AND PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS (Cont'd)

15.5.3 CCSAC PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS

The Company supports the performance standards for CCSN as defined in Technical References GR-905-CORE and 77342. The overall end-to-end CCSN network objective from any SP to any other SP is less than ten minutes unavailable access per year based on design and diversity requirements and the performance objective for any single SP, including a Service Control Point (SCP), is less than three minutes unavailable access per year. The combined link set from the SCP to the Signal Transfer Point (STP) has a performance objective of less than two minutes unavailable access per year.

The Company will administer its CCSN network to ensure acceptable service provision levels. The Company maintains the right to apply protective controls to its CCSN as a result of occurrences such as failure or overload of CCSN facilities, natural disasters, mass calling or national security demands. In the event that the protective controls applied by the Company result in the complete loss of CCSAC Service by the customer, the customer will be entitled to a credit allowance for Switched Access Service interruptions as set forth in 2.4.5, preceding.

When the customer or the Company, pursuant to an order for service, arranges to establish a route to a signaling point, such route will be used by all messages delivered to the Company's signaling network. (N) (N)

15.6 TESTING REQUIREMENTS

15.6.1 CCSAC ACCEPTANCE TESTING REQUIREMENTS

At no additional charge, the Company will cooperatively test with the customer, at the time of installation, network compatibility and other operational tests for CCSAC as described in Technical Reference 77342 and GR-905-CORE.

When Clear Channel Capability on FGD Service is ordered as described in 6.3.1, preceding, the Company will cooperatively test with the customer, at the time of installation, CCSAC network compatibility and other operational tests for ISDN interworking as described in Technical Reference GR-905-CORE, at no additional charge.

Successful completion and acceptance of all testing requirements must occur in order to receive CCSAC Service.