



Qwest Corporation
220 N 5th Street
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Kent Blickensderfer
State Legislative Affairs Director

RECEIVED

DEC 29 2011

December 29, 2011

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Mr. Darrell Nitschke, Executive Secretary
North Dakota Public Service Commission
600 E Boulevard Avenue – State Capitol
Bismarck, ND 58505-0480

Dear Mr. Nitschke:

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

This filing proposes the addition of tariff language for implementation of the intercarrier compensation regime for certain VoIP-PSTN traffic as mandated in the Federal Communications Commission's November 18, 2011 Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in WC Docket Nos. 10-90, etc. (FCC 11-161).

We have shown January 23, 2012 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 Mark Brinton at 303-992-5832 or via email at Mark.Brinton@CenturyLink.com

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kent Blickensderfer".

Kent Blickensderfer
State Legislative Affairs Director

KB/gkb
Enclosures

Qwest Corporation
Access Service
Price Schedule

State of North Dakota
Effective: 1-23-2012

SECTION 1
Page 15
Release 3

1. APPLICATION AND REFERENCE

1.3 SUBJECT INDEX (Cont'd)

SUBJECT	SECTION	
Identification and Rating of VoIP-PSTN Traffic	2	(N)
Installation and Termination of Services	2	
Interexchange Carrier Subscription	13	
Interference or Impairment	2	
Jurisdictional Report Dispute and Auditing Procedures	2	
Jurisdictional Report Requirements	2	
Jurisdictional Reports	2	
Late Payment Penalty	2	
Liability	2	
Limitation of Use of Metallic Facilities	2	
Limitations	2	
Local Information Delivery Services.....	6	
Local Switching.....	6	
Maintaining Services	2	
Measuring Access Minutes	6	
Message Unit Credit.....	6	
Mileage Measurement	6	
Minimum Monthly Charge.....	6	
Minimum Period	2, 5, 6	
Minimum Period Charges	5	
Moves.....	6	
Negotiated Interval	5	
Network Management	6	
Notification of Service-Affecting Activities	2	

Qwest Corporation
Access Service
Price Schedule

State of North Dakota
Effective: 1-23-2012

SECTION 1
Page 24
Release 3

1. APPLICATION AND REFERENCE

1.6 EXPLANATION OF ABBREVIATIONS (Cont'd)

MFJ	-	Modification of Final Judgment	
MHz	-	Megahertz	
MOU	-	Minutes of Use	
MTS	-	Message Telecommunications Service(s)	
MTSO	-	Mobile Telephone Switching Office	
MUX	-	Multiplexing	
N.	-	North	
NA	-	Not Applicable	
NANP	-	North American Numbering Plan	
NCI	-	Network Channel Interface	
NCTA	-	Non-conversation Time Additive	
NDM	-	Network Data Mover	
No.	-	Number	
NPA	-	Numbering Plan Area	
NRC	-	Nonrecurring Charge	
NTS	-	Non-Traffic Sensitive	
NXX	-	Three-Digit Central Office Code	
OCC	-	Other Common Carrier	
ONAL	-	Off Network Access Line	
OTPL	-	Zero Transmission Level Point	
PAL	-	Public Access Line	
PBX	-	Private Branch Exchange	
PCM	-	Pulse Code Modulation	
PDR	-	Percent Direct Routed	
PI	-	Priority Installation	
PIU	-	Percent Interstate Use	
PLTS	-	Private Line Transport Service	
P.O.	-	Post Office	
POI	-	Point of Interface or Point of Interconnection	
POM	-	Percent Other Messages	
POT	-	Point of Termination	
POTS	-	Plain Old Telephone Service	
PR	-	Priority Installation	
PSP	-	Payphone Service Provider	
PSTN	-	Public Switched Telephone Network	(N)
PTD	-	Plant Test Date	
PVU	-	Percent VoIP Usage	(N)

NOTICE

THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS DOCUMENT IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE.
ND2011-023

Qwest Corporation
Access Service
Price Schedule

State of North Dakota
Effective: 1-23-2012

SECTION 1
Page 25
Release 4

1. APPLICATION AND REFERENCE

1.6 EXPLANATION OF ABBREVIATIONS (Cont'd)

RESP ORG	-	Responsible Organization
rms	-	root-mean-square
RR	-	Reference Rated
RSM	-	Remote Switching Modules
RSS	-	Remote Switching Systems
S.	-	South
SCD	-	Selective Carrier Denial
SCP	-	Service Control Point
SMS/800	-	Service Management System/800
SP	-	Signal Point
SPOI	-	Signaling Point of Interface
SRL	-	Singing Return Loss
SSN	-	Switched Service Network
SSP	-	Service Switching Point
SS7	-	Signaling System 7
STP	-	Signal Transfer Point
SWC	-	Serving Wire Center
TCAP	-	Transaction Capabilities Application Part
TES	-	Telephone Exchange Service(s)
TIM	-	Tariff Information Management
TLP	-	Transmission Level Point
TSP	-	Telecommunications Service Priority
TSPS	-	Traffic Service Position System
TST	-	Tandem-Switched Transport
TT	-	Tandem Transmission
USOC	-	Uniform Service Order Code
V	-	Vertical
VG	-	Voice Grade
V & H	-	Vertical & Horizontal
VoIP	-	Voice over Internet Protocol
W.	-	West
WATS	-	Wide Area Telecommunications Service(s)
WPM	-	Words-per-minute
WSO	-	WATS Serving Office

(N)

Qwest Corporation
Access Service
Price Schedule

State of North Dakota
Effective: 1-23-2012

SECTION 2
Index Page 1
Release 3

2. GENERAL REGULATIONS

SUBJECT	PAGE	
Availability for Testing	11	
Balance	11	
Cancellation of an Order for Service	37	
Changes and Substitutions	6	
Claims and Demands for Damages	12	
Connections	49	
Coordination with Respect to Network Contingencies	8,13	
Credit Allowance for Service Interruptions	37	
Damages	10	
Definitions	49	
Design of Customer Services	11	
Determination of Interstate Charges for Mixed Interstate and Intrastate Switched Access Service	30	
Determination of Jurisdiction for Mixed Interstate and Intrastate Access Service Billing	30	
Equipment Space and Power	10	
Identification and Rating of VoIP-PSTN Traffic	29.1	(N)
Installation and Termination of Services	5	
Interference or Impairment	9	
Jurisdictional Report Dispute and Auditing Procedures	25	
Jurisdictional Report Requirements	13	
Jurisdictional Reports	13	
Late Payment Penalty	33	
Liability	2	
Limitation of Use of Metallic Facilities	8	
Limitations	1	
Maintaining Services	6	
Minimum Periods	36	

Qwest Corporation
Access Service
Price Schedule

State of North Dakota
Effective: 1-23-2012

SECTION 2
Page 29.1
Release 1

2. GENERAL REGULATIONS

2.3 OBLIGATIONS OF THE CUSTOMER

2.3.10 JURISDICTIONAL REPORT REQUIREMENTS (Cont'd)

G. Identification and Rating of VoIP-PSTN Traffic

VoIP-PSTN Traffic is defined as traffic exchanged between a Company end user and the customer in Time Division Multiplexing (TDM) format that originates and/or terminates in Internet Protocol (IP) format. This section governs the identification of VoIP-PSTN Traffic that is required to be compensated at interstate access rates unless the parties have agreed otherwise by the F.C.C. in its Report and Order in WC Dockets Nos. 10-90, etc., F.C.C. Release No. 11-161 (November 18, 2011) (F.C.C. Order). Specifically, this section establishes the method of separating VoIP-PSTN Traffic from the customer's traditional intrastate access traffic, so that VoIP-PSTN Traffic can be billed in accordance with the F.C.C. Order.

VoIP-PSTN Traffic identified in accordance with this tariff section will be billed at rates equal to the Company's applicable tariffed interstate switched access rates as set forth in Qwest Corporation's F.C.C. No. 1 Tariff.

1. Calculation and Application of Percent-VoIP- Usage Factors

- a. The Company will determine the number of VoIP-PSTN Traffic minutes of use (MOU) to which interstate rates will be applied under B, preceding, by applying an originating Percent VoIP Usage (PVU) factor to the total intrastate access MOU originated by a Company end user and delivered to the customer and by applying a terminating PVU factor to the total intrastate access MOU terminated by a customer to the Company's end user.
- b. The customer will calculate and furnish to the Company an originating PVU factor representing the whole number percentage of the customer's total originating intrastate access MOU that the customer exchanges with the Company in the LATA that is received from the Company and that is terminated in IP format and that would be billed by the Company as intrastate access MOU.
- c. The customer will calculate and furnish to the Company a terminating PVU factor representing the whole number percentage of the customer's total terminating intrastate access MOU that the customer exchanges with the Company in the LATA that is sent to Company and which originated in IP format and that would be billed by the Company as intrastate access MOU.
- d. The customer shall not modify their reported PIU factor to account for VoIP-PSTN Traffic.

NOTICE

THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS DOCUMENT IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE.
ND2011-023

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Qwest Corporation

Access Service Price Schedule

SECTION 2
Page 29.2
Release 1

State of North Dakota
Effective: 1-23-2012

2. GENERAL REGULATIONS

2.3 OBLIGATIONS OF THE CUSTOMER

2.3.10 JURISDICTIONAL REPORT REQUIREMENTS

G. Identification and Rating of VoIP-PSTN Traffic

1. Calculation and Application of Percent-VoIP- Usage Factors (Cont'd)

- e. Both the customer provided originating PVU and the terminating PVU shall be based on information such as the number of the customer's retail VoIP subscriptions in the state (e.g. as reported on F.C.C. Form 477), traffic studies, actual call detail or other relevant and verifiable information which will be provided to the Company upon request.
- f. The customer shall retain the call detail, work papers, and information used to develop the PVU factors for a minimum of one year.
- g. If the Customer does not furnish the Company with a PVU factor, the Company will utilize a PVU equal to zero.

2. Initial Implementation of PVU Factors

- a. If the PVU factors cannot be implemented in the Company's billing systems by December 29, 2011, once the factors can be implemented the Company will adjust the customer's bills to reflect the PVU factors prospectively in the next bill period if the PVU factors are provided by the customer to the Company prior to April 15, 2012.
- b. The Company may choose to provide credits based on the reported PVU factors on a quarterly basis until such time as the billing system modifications can be implemented.

3. PVU Factor Updates

The customer may update the PVU factors quarterly using the method set forth in 1.c, preceding. If the customer chooses to submit such updates, it shall forward to the Company, no later than 15 days after the first day of January, April, July and/or October of each year, revised PVU factors based on data for the prior three months, ending the last day of December, March, June and September, respectively. The revised PVU factors will serve as the basis for future billing and will be effective on the bill date of each such month and shall serve as the basis for subsequent monthly billing until superseded by new PVU factors. No prorating or back billing will be done based on the updated PVU factors.

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NOTICE

THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS DOCUMENT IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

Qwest Corporation
Access Service
Price Schedule

State of North Dakota
Effective: 1-23-2012

SECTION 2
Page 29.3
Release 1

2. GENERAL REGULATIONS

2.3 OBLIGATIONS OF THE CUSTOMER

2.3.10 JURISDICTIONAL REPORT REQUIREMENTS

G. Identification and Rating of VoIP-PSTN Traffic (Cont'd)

4. PVU Factor Verification

- a. Not more than twice in any year, the Company may request from the customer an overview of the process used to determine the PVU factors, the call detail records, description of the method for determining how the end user originates and terminates calls in IP format, and other information used to determine the customer's PVU factors furnished to the Company in order to validate the PVU factors supplied. The customer shall comply, and shall reasonably supply the requested data and information within 15 days of the Company's request.
- b. The Company may dispute the Customer's PVU factor based upon:
 - A review of the requested data and information provided by the customer,
 - The Company's reasonable review of other market information, F.C.C. reports on VoIP lines, such as F.C.C. Form 477 or state level results based on the F.C.C. Local Competition Report or other relevant data.
 - A change in the reported PVU factor by more than five percentage points from the preceding quarter.
- c. If after review of the data and information, the customer and the Company establishes revised PVU factors, the Company will begin using those revised PVU factors with the next bill period.

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NOTICE

THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS DOCUMENT IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE.
ND2011-023

Qwest Corporation
Access Service
Price Schedule

State of North Dakota
Effective: 1-23-2012

SECTION 2
Page 29.4
Release 1

2. GENERAL REGULATIONS

2.3 OBLIGATIONS OF THE CUSTOMER

2.3.10 JURISDICTIONAL REPORT REQUIREMENTS

G. Identification and Rating of VoIP-PSTN Traffic

4. PVU Factor Verification (Cont'd)

- d. If the dispute is unresolved, the Company may initiate an audit. The Company shall limit audits of the customer's PVU factor to no more than twice per year. The customer may request that the audit be conducted by an independent auditor. In such cases the associated auditing expenses will be paid by the customer.
- In the event that the customer fails to provide adequate records to enable the Company or an independent auditor to conduct an audit verifying the customer's PVU factors, the Company will bill the usage for all contested periods using the most recent undisputed PVU factors reported by the customer. These PVU factors will remain in effect until the audit can be completed.
 - During the audit, the most recent undisputed PVU factors from the previous reporting period will be used by the Company.
 - The Company will adjust the customer's PVU factors based on the results of the audit and implement the revised PVU in the next billing period or quarterly report date, whichever is first. The revised PVU factors will apply for the next two quarters before new factors can be submitted by the customer.
 - If the audit supports the customer's PVU factors, the usage for the contested periods will be adjusted to reflect the customer's audited PVU factors.

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NOTICE

THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS DOCUMENT IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE.
ND2011-023

Qwest Corporation
Access Service
Price Schedule

State of North Dakota
Effective: 1-23-2012

SECTION 2
Page 70
Release 3

2. GENERAL REGULATIONS

2.6 DEFINITIONS (Cont'd)

Special Order

The term "Special Order" denotes an order for an Information and Billing Service.

Subtending End Office of an Access Tandem

The term "Subtending End Office of an Access Tandem" denotes an end office that has final trunk group routing through that tandem.

Synchronous Test Line

The term "Synchronous Test Line" denotes an arrangement in an end office which performs marginal operational tests of supervisory and ring-tripping functions.

Tandem-Switched Transport (TST)

The term "Tandem-Switched Transport" denotes the transport between an access tandem and end offices that subtend the access tandem that utilizes tandem switching functions. Tandem-Switched Transport consists of circuits used in common by multiple customers from the tandem to an end office.

Terminating Direction

The term "Terminating Direction" denotes the use of Access Service for the completion of calls from a customer's premises to an end user's premises.

Toll VoIP-PSTN Traffic

The term Toll VoIP-PSTN Traffic denotes a customer's interexchange voice traffic exchanged with the Telephone Company in Time Division Multiplexing format over PSTN facilities, which originates and/or terminates in Internet Protocol (IP) format. Toll VoIP-PSTN Traffic originates and /or terminates in IP format when it originates from and/or terminates to an end user customer of a service that requires IP-compatible customer premises equipment.

Traffic Types

The term "Traffic Types" denotes one of five Switched Access capacity types. They are Originating, Terminating, SWITCHNET 56 Service, CCC Originating, and CCC Terminating. See 6.1.1, following, for application.

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2. GENERAL REGULATIONS

2.6 DEFINITIONS (Cont'd)

Transaction Capabilities Application Part (TCAP)

The term "Transaction Capabilities Application Part" denotes the design of non-circuit related messages. TCAP protocol provides a means for reliable transfer of information from one application at a switch location to another application within another network entity.

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Transmission Measuring (105 Type) Test Line/Responder

The term "Transmission Measuring (105 Type) Test Line/Responder" denotes an arrangement in an end office which provides far-end access to a responder and permits two-way loss and noise measurements to be made on trunks from a near end office.

Transmission Path

The term "Transmission Path" denotes an electrical path capable of transmitting signals within the range of the service offering, e.g., a voice grade transmission path is capable of transmitting voice frequencies within the approximate range of 300 to 3000 Hz. A transmission path is comprised of physical or derived facilities consisting of any form or configuration of plant typically used in the telecommunications industry.

Trunk

The term "Trunk" denotes a communications path connecting two switching systems in a network, used in the establishment of an end-to-end connection.

Trunk Group

The term "Trunk Group" denotes a set of trunks which are traffic engineered as a unit for the establishment of connections between switching systems in which all of the communications paths are interchangeable.

Trunkside Connection

The term "Trunkside Connection" denotes the connection of a transmission path to the trunk side of a local exchange switching system.

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Qwest Corporation
Access Service
Price Schedule

State of North Dakota
Effective: ~~5-1-2001~~1-23-2012

SECTION 1
Page 15
Release 23

1. APPLICATION AND REFERENCE

1.3 SUBJECT INDEX (Cont'd)

SUBJECT	SECTION	
<u>Identification and Rating of VoIP-PSTN Traffic.....</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>(N)</u>
Installation and Termination of Services	2	
Interexchange Carrier Subscription.....	13	
Interference or Impairment	2	
Jurisdictional Report Dispute and Auditing Procedures	2	
Jurisdictional Report Requirements	2	
Jurisdictional Reports	2	
Late Payment Penalty	2	
Liability	2	
Limitation of Use of Metallic Facilities	2	
Limitations	2	
Local Information Delivery Services	6	
Local Switching	6	
Maintaining Services	2	
Measuring Access Minutes	6	
Message Unit Credit	6	
Mileage Measurement.....	6	
Minimum Monthly Charge	6	
Minimum Period.....	2, 5, 6	
Minimum Period Charges	5	
Moves.....	6	
Negotiated Interval.....	5	
Network Management	6	
Notification of Service-Affecting Activities	2	

Qwest Corporation
Access Service
Price Schedule

SECTION 1
Page 24
Release 23

State of North Dakota
Effective: ~~7-21-2003~~1-23-2012

1. APPLICATION AND REFERENCE

1.6 EXPLANATION OF ABBREVIATIONS (Cont'd)

MFJ	- Modification of Final Judgment	
MHz	- Megahertz	
MOU	- Minutes of Use	
MTS	- Message Telecommunications Service(s)	
MTSO	- Mobile Telephone Switching Office	
MUX	- Multiplexing	
N.	- North	
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POI	- Point of Interface or Point of Interconnection	
POM	- Percent Other Messages	
POT	- Point of Termination	
POTS	- Plain Old Telephone Service	
PR	- Priority Installation	
PSP	- Payphone Service Provider	
<u>PSTN</u>	- <u>Public Switched Telephone Network</u>	<u>(N)</u>
PTD	- Plant Test Date	
<u>PVU</u>	- <u>Percent VoIP Usage</u>	<u>(N)</u>

NOTICE

THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS DOCUMENT IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE.
ND2011-023

Qwest Corporation
Access Service
Price Schedule

SECTION 1
Page 25
Release 34

State of North Dakota
Effective: ~~7-31-2001~~1-23-2012

1. APPLICATION AND REFERENCE

1.6 EXPLANATION OF ABBREVIATIONS (Cont'd)

RESP ORG	-	Responsible Organization
rms	-	root-mean-square
RR	-	Reference Rated
RSM	-	Remote Switching Modules
RSS	-	Remote Switching Systems
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VG	-	Voice Grade
V & H	-	Vertical & Horizontal
VoIP	-	Voice over Internet Protocol
W.	-	West
WATS	-	Wide Area Telecommunications Service(s)
WPM	-	Words-per-minute
WSO	-	WATS Serving Office

(N)

Qwest Corporation
Access Service
Price Schedule

State of North Dakota
 Effective: ~~10-2-2003~~1-23-2012

SECTION 2
 Index Page 1
 Release 23

2. GENERAL REGULATIONS

SUBJECT	PAGE	
Availability for Testing.....	11	
Balance.....	11	
Cancellation of an Order for Service	37	
Changes and Substitutions	6	
Claims and Demands for Damages.....	12	
Connections.....	49	
Coordination with Respect to Network Contingencies.....	8,13	
Credit Allowance for Service Interruptions	37	
Damages.....	10	
Definitions.....	49	
Design of Customer Services.....	11	
Determination of Interstate Charges for Mixed Interstate and Intrastate Switched Access Service.....	30	
Determination of Jurisdiction for Mixed Interstate and Intrastate Access Service Billing.....	30	
Equipment Space and Power	10	
<u>Identification and Rating of VoIP-PSTN Traffic.....</u>	<u>29.1</u>	<u>(N)</u>
Installation and Termination of Services	5	
Interference or Impairment.....	9	
Jurisdictional Report Dispute and Auditing Procedures.....	25	
Jurisdictional Report Requirements.....	13	
Jurisdictional Reports	13	
Late Payment Penalty.....	33	
Liability.....	2	
Limitation of Use of Metallic Facilities.....	8	
Limitations	1	
Maintaining Services	6	
Minimum Periods	36	

Qwest Corporation
Access Service
Price Schedule

SECTION 2
Page 29.1
Release 1

State of North Dakota
Effective: 1-23-2012

2. GENERAL REGULATIONS

2.3 OBLIGATIONS OF THE CUSTOMER

2.3.10 JURISDICTIONAL REPORT REQUIREMENTS (Cont'd)

G. Identification and Rating of VoIP-PSTN Traffic

(N)

VoIP-PSTN Traffic is defined as traffic exchanged between a Company end user and the customer in Time Division Multiplexing (TDM) format that originates and/or terminates in Internet Protocol (IP) format. This section governs the identification of VoIP-PSTN Traffic that is required to be compensated at interstate access rates unless the parties have agreed otherwise by the F.C.C. in its Report and Order in WC Dockets Nos. 10-90, etc., F.C.C. Release No. 11-161 (November 18, 2011) (F.C.C. Order). Specifically, this section establishes the method of separating VoIP-PSTN Traffic from the customer's traditional intrastate access traffic, so that VoIP-PSTN Traffic can be billed in accordance with the F.C.C. Order.

VoIP-PSTN Traffic identified in accordance with this tariff section will be billed at rates equal to the Company's applicable tariffed interstate switched access rates as set forth in Qwest Corporation's F.C.C. No. 1 Tariff.

1. Calculation and Application of Percent-VoIP- Usage Factors

- a. The Company will determine the number of VoIP-PSTN Traffic minutes of use (MOU) to which interstate rates will be applied under B, preceding, by applying an originating Percent VoIP Usage (PVU) factor to the total intrastate access MOU originated by a Company end user and delivered to the customer and by applying a terminating PVU factor to the total intrastate access MOU terminated by a customer to the Company's end user.
- b. The customer will calculate and furnish to the Company an originating PVU factor representing the whole number percentage of the customer's total originating intrastate access MOU that the customer exchanges with the Company in the LATA that is received from the Company and that is terminated in IP format and that would be billed by the Company as intrastate access MOU.
- c. The customer will calculate and furnish to the Company a terminating PVU factor representing the whole number percentage of the customer's total terminating intrastate access MOU that the customer exchanges with the Company in the LATA that is sent to Company and which originated in IP format and that would be billed by the Company as intrastate access MOU.
- d. The customer shall not modify their reported PIU factor to account for VoIP-PSTN Traffic.

(N)

NOTICE

THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS DOCUMENT IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE.
ND2011-023

Qwest Corporation

Access Service

Price Schedule

SECTION 2

Page 29.2

Release 1

State of North Dakota

Effective: 1-23-2012

2. GENERAL REGULATIONS

2.3 OBLIGATIONS OF THE CUSTOMER

2.3.10 JURISDICTIONAL REPORT REQUIREMENTS

G. Identification and Rating of VoIP-PSTN Traffic

1. Calculation and Application of Percent-VoIP- Usage Factors (Cont'd)

- e. Both the customer provided originating PVU and the terminating PVU shall be based on information such as the number of the customer's retail VoIP subscriptions in the state (e.g. as reported on F.C.C. Form 477), traffic studies, actual call detail or other relevant and verifiable information which will be provided to the Company upon request. (N)
- f. The customer shall retain the call detail, work papers, and information used to develop the PVU factors for a minimum of one year.
- g. If the Customer does not furnish the Company with a PVU factor, the Company will utilize a PVU equal to zero.

2. Initial Implementation of PVU Factors

- a. If the PVU factors cannot be implemented in the Company's billing systems by December 29, 2011, once the factors can be implemented the Company will adjust the customer's bills to reflect the PVU factors prospectively in the next bill period if the PVU factors are provided by the customer to the Company prior to April 15, 2012.
- b. The Company may choose to provide credits based on the reported PVU factors on a quarterly basis until such time as the billing system modifications can be implemented.

3. PVU Factor Updates

The customer may update the PVU factors quarterly using the method set forth in 1.c, preceding. If the customer chooses to submit such updates, it shall forward to the Company, no later than 15 days after the first day of January, April, July and/or October of each year, revised PVU factors based on data for the prior three months, ending the last day of December, March, June and September, respectively. The revised PVU factors will serve as the basis for future billing and will be effective on the bill date of each such month and shall serve as the basis for subsequent monthly billing until superseded by new PVU factors. No prorating or back billing will be done based on the updated PVU factors. (N)

NOTICE

THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS DOCUMENT IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

ND2011-023

Qwest Corporation
Access Service
Price Schedule

SECTION 2
Page 29.3
Release 1

State of North Dakota
Effective: 1-23-2012

2. GENERAL REGULATIONS

2.3 OBLIGATIONS OF THE CUSTOMER

2.3.10 JURISDICTIONAL REPORT REQUIREMENTS

G. Identification and Rating of VoIP-PSTN Traffic (Cont'd)

4. PVU Factor Verification

(N)

a. Not more than twice in any year, the Company may request from the customer an overview of the process used to determine the PVU factors, the call detail records, description of the method for determining how the end user originates and terminates calls in IP format, and other information used to determine the customer's PVU factors furnished to the Company in order to validate the PVU factors supplied. The customer shall comply, and shall reasonably supply the requested data and information within 15 days of the Company's request.

b. The Company may dispute the Customer's PVU factor based upon:

- A review of the requested data and information provided by the customer,
- The Company's reasonable review of other market information, F.C.C. reports on VoIP lines, such as F.C.C. Form 477 or state level results based on the F.C.C. Local Competition Report or other relevant data.
- A change in the reported PVU factor by more than five percentage points from the preceding quarter.

c. If after review of the data and information, the customer and the Company establishes revised PVU factors, the Company will begin using those revised PVU factors with the next bill period.

(N)

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ND2011-023

Qwest Corporation
Access Service
Price Schedule

SECTION 2
Page 29.4
Release 1

State of North Dakota
Effective: 1-23-2012

2. GENERAL REGULATIONS

2.3 OBLIGATIONS OF THE CUSTOMER

2.3.10 JURISDICTIONAL REPORT REQUIREMENTS

G. Identification and Rating of VoIP-PSTN Traffic

4. PVU Factor Verification (Cont'd)

- d. If the dispute is unresolved, the Company may initiate an audit. The Company shall limit audits of the customer's PVU factor to no more than twice per year. The customer may request that the audit be conducted by an independent auditor. In such cases the associated auditing expenses will be paid by the customer. (N)
- In the event that the customer fails to provide adequate records to enable the Company or an independent auditor to conduct an audit verifying the customer's PVU factors, the Company will bill the usage for all contested periods using the most recent undisputed PVU factors reported by the customer. These PVU factors will remain in effect until the audit can be completed.
 - During the audit, the most recent undisputed PVU factors from the previous reporting period will be used by the Company.
 - The Company will adjust the customer's PVU factors based on the results of the audit and implement the revised PVU in the next billing period or quarterly report date, whichever is first. The revised PVU factors will apply for the next two quarters before new factors can be submitted by the customer.
 - If the audit supports the customer's PVU factors, the usage for the contested periods will be adjusted to reflect the customer's audited PVU factors. (N)

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ND2011-023

Qwest Corporation
Access Service
Price Schedule

State of North Dakota
Effective: ~~7-31-2001~~1-23-2012

SECTION 2
Page 70
Release 23

2. GENERAL REGULATIONS

2.6 DEFINITIONS (Cont'd)

Special Order

The term "Special Order" denotes an order for an Information and Billing Service.

Subtending End Office of an Access Tandem

The term "Subtending End Office of an Access Tandem" denotes an end office that has final trunk group routing through that tandem.

Synchronous Test Line

The term "Synchronous Test Line" denotes an arrangement in an end office which performs marginal operational tests of supervisory and ring-tripping functions.

Tandem-Switched Transport (TST)

The term "Tandem-Switched Transport" denotes the transport between an access tandem and end offices that subtend the access tandem that utilizes tandem switching functions. Tandem-Switched Transport consists of circuits used in common by multiple customers from the tandem to an end office.

Terminating Direction

The term "Terminating Direction" denotes the use of Access Service for the completion of calls from a customer's premises to an end user's premises.

Toll VoIP-PSTN Traffic

The term Toll VoIP-PSTN Traffic denotes a customer's interexchange voice traffic exchanged with the Telephone Company in Time Division Multiplexing format over PSTN facilities, which originates and/or terminates in Internet Protocol (IP) format. Toll VoIP-PSTN Traffic originates and /or terminates in IP format when it originates from and/or terminates to an end user customer of a service that requires IP-compatible customer premises equipment.

(N)

(N)

Traffic Types

The term "Traffic Types" denotes one of five Switched Access capacity types. They are Originating, Terminating, *SWITCHNET 56* Service, CCC Originating, and CCC Terminating. See 6.1.1, following, for application.

(M)

Transaction Capabilities Application Part (TCAP)

~~The term "Transaction Capabilities Application Part" denotes the design of non-circuit related messages. TCAP protocol provides a means for reliable transfer of information from one application at a switch location to another application within another network entity.~~

(M) Material moved to Page 71.

NOTICE

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ND2011-023

Qwest Corporation
Access Service
Price Schedule

SECTION 2
Page 71
Release 12

State of North Dakota
Effective: 3-9-2001-23-2012

2. GENERAL REGULATIONS

2.6 DEFINITIONS (Cont'd)

Transaction Capabilities Application Part (TCAP)

(M)

The term "Transaction Capabilities Application Part" denotes the design of non-circuit related messages. TCAP protocol provides a means for reliable transfer of information from one application at a switch location to another application within another network entity.

(M)

Transmission Measuring (105 Type) Test Line/Responder

The term "Transmission Measuring (105 Type) Test Line/Responder" denotes an arrangement in an end office which provides far-end access to a responder and permits two-way loss and noise measurements to be made on trunks from a near end office.

Transmission Path

The term "Transmission Path" denotes an electrical path capable of transmitting signals within the range of the service offering, e.g., a voice grade transmission path is capable of transmitting voice frequencies within the approximate range of 300 to 3000 Hz. A transmission path is comprised of physical or derived facilities consisting of any form or configuration of plant typically used in the telecommunications industry.

Trunk

The term "Trunk" denotes a communications path connecting two switching systems in a network, used in the establishment of an end-to-end connection.

Trunk Group

The term "Trunk Group" denotes a set of trunks which are traffic engineered as a unit for the establishment of connections between switching systems in which all of the communications paths are interchangeable.

Trunkside Connection

The term "Trunkside Connection" denotes the connection of a transmission path to the trunk side of a local exchange switching system.

(M) Material moved from Page 70.