

July 16, 2021

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

Dear Mr. Kahl:

Attached for filing are the following revisions to the CenturyLink Communications, LLC d/b/a Lumen Technologies Group Competitive Access Service Price Schedule No. 3, issued with a proposed effective date of July 31, 2021:

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This filing proposes the first step in implementing the 8YY Access Service reductions mandated in the Federal Communications Commission's October 9, 2020 Report and Order in WC Docket No. 18-156, (FCC 20-143), (8YY Access Charge Reform). The Company's intrastate rate reductions will mirror the interstate switched rates which are on file with the F.C.C. in CenturyLink Competitive Operating Companies Tariff F.C.C. No. 1.

If you need additional information, please contact me by email or at (913) 884-1111.

Sincerely,



Christina L. Chushuk

Attachments

ND2021-08

**CHRISTINA L. CHUSHUK**

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**CenturyLink Communications, LLC**  
**d/b/a Lumen Technologies Group**  
**Competitive Access Service**  
**Price Schedule No. 3**

(C)

State of North Dakota  
Effective: July 31, 2021

SECTION 2  
Page 46  
Release 2

**2. GENERAL REGULATIONS**

**2.6 DEFINITIONS (Cont'd)**

Multiplexing (MUX)

Denotes a method of concentrating information via signal processing techniques (i.e., frequency division, multiplexing, time division multiplexing, etc.)

Non-Toll Free

(N)

**All calls that are not toll free (8YY) as established by the FCC's 8YY Access Charge Reform Order (FCC 20-143) released on October 9, 2020.**

(N)  
(N)

Nonrecurring Charge

Denotes those charges which are one time charges to the customer, i.e., not monthly charges.

North American Numbering Plan (NANP)

Denotes a numbering scheme which includes a three-digit (Numbering Plan Area) code and a seven-digit telephone number which consists of a three-digit central office code plus a four-digit station number.

Office Replacement

Denotes a situation where the hardware and software in a Company switching office is replaced with different hardware and software for the establishment and maintenance of a given switching office.

Originating Direction

Denotes the use of Access Service for the origination of calls from an end user's premises to a customer's premises.

Percent Interstate Use (PIU)

The term "Percent Interstate Use" (PIU) refers to traffic that originates in one state and terminates in a different state.

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**2. GENERAL REGULATIONS**

**2.6 DEFINITIONS (Cont'd)**

Signaling

Denotes the process of passing information, identifying the called subscriber or addressee and for supervising and controlling the connection once it has been established.

Signaling System 7 (SS7)

Denotes the signaling protocol.

Switching System

Denotes the hardware and/or software utilized by the Company for the establishment and maintenance of a given wire center.

Tandem-Switched Transport (TST)

Denotes the transport between an access tandem and Company end office that subtends 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

Denotes the use of Access Service for the completion of calls from a customer's premises to an end user's premises.

Third Party Carrier

A Local Exchange Carrier or CMRS provider other than the Company.

**Toll Free Code (TFC)**

**The term "Toll Free Code" denotes a three-digit Numbering Plan Area (NPA) or Area Code that is specifically assigned by the telecommunications industry for use by Telecommunications Service Providers in the provision of telephone numbers that, unlike traditional telephone numbers and calls, when dialed are toll free to the originating caller. The specific codes assigned and used, or reserved for use, for this purpose are 800, 822, 833, 844, 855, 866, 877, and 888.**

(N)  
|  
(N)

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6. SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE

6.1 GENERAL

6.1.2 RATE CATEGORIES (Cont'd)

A. Switched Transport

1. General Description

The Switched Transport rate category provides the transmission facilities between the customer's premises and the end office switch(s) where the customer's traffic is switched to originate or terminate its communications. The Switched Transport rate category provides the transmission facilities between the customer's premises and a LEC tandem.

Switched Transport is a two-way voice-frequency transmission path composed of an Entrance Facility (EF) and a Direct-Trunked Transport (DTT) facility to the tandem and Tandem-Switched Transport (TST) from the tandem to the subtending end offices. The transmission path permits the transport of calls in the originating direction (from the end user's end office switch to the customer's premises) and in the terminating direction (from the customer's premises to the end office switch), but not simultaneously. The voice-frequency transmission path may be comprised of any form or configuration of plant capable of and typically used in the telecommunications industry for the transmission of voice and associated telephone signals within the frequency bandwidth of approximately 300 to 3000 Hz.

Switched Transport is provided at the rates and charges set forth in Section 6.8, following. The application of these rates with respect to the different types of service is as set forth in 6.7.1, following.

Switched Access is ordered under the access order provisions as set forth in Section 5, preceding. Design and traffic routing of Switched Access Service is described in 6.5.2, following.

**As established in the 8YY Access Charge Reform (FCC 20-143), existing tandem switching charges and transport charges for originating 8YY traffic are eliminated and a single joint tandem switched access service rate element for 8YY originating access service is established as 8YY Joint Tandem Switched Transport.**

(N)  
|  
(N)

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**6. SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE**

**6.8 RATES AND CHARGES**

**6.8.1 SWITCHED RECURRING RATES**

A. Tandem-Switched Transport Usage Rates

	<b>RATE PER ACCESS MINUTE FIXED</b>	<b>PER MILE</b>	
• Tandem Transmission:			
Facility Termination			
- Originating– <b>Non-Toll Free</b> *	\$0.000240	\$0.000030	(C)
- Terminating – Tandem 3rd Party	\$0.000240	\$0.000030	
- Terminating – Tandem End Office	\$0.000000	\$0.000000	

	<b>RATE PER ACCESS MINUTE</b>	
• Tandem Switching Charge		
- Originating– <b>Non-Toll Free</b> *	\$0.002252	(C)
- Terminating – Tandem 3rd Party	\$0.002252	
- Terminating – Tandem End Office	\$0.000000	
• Common Transport Multiplexing		
- Originating– <b>Non-Toll Free</b> *	\$0.000036	(C)
- Terminating – Tandem 3rd Party	\$0.000036	
- Terminating – Tandem End Office	\$0.000000	

\* Pursuant to FCC 20-143, separate rate elements for Toll Free and Non-Toll Free originating transport services were established. The Originating Toll Free rate element for combined transport services is displayed as 8YY Joint Tandem Switched Transport. (N)  
|  
(N)

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**6. SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE**

**6.8 RATES AND CHARGES**

**6.8.1 SWITCHED RECURRING RATES**

A. Tandem-Switched Transport Usage Rates

**RATE PER ACCESS MINUTE**

• **8YY Joint Tandem Switched Transport** (N)

- **Originating-Toll Free \*** **\$0.001** (N)

\* Pursuant to FCC 20-143, separate rate elements for Toll Free and Non-Toll Free originating transport services were established. The Originating Toll Free rate element for combined transport services is displayed as 8YY Joint Tandem Switched Transport. (N)  
|  
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**6. SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE**

**6.8 RATES AND CHARGES**

**6.8.1 SWITCHED RECURRING RATES**

B. Local Switching

**RATE PER ACCESS MINUTE**

- Local End Office Switching:
  - Originating **Toll Free** \$0.001974 (C)
  - **Originating Non-Toll Free** **\$0.001974** (C)
  - Terminating \$0.000000
  
- End Office Shared Port
  - Originating **Toll Free** \$0.000747 (C)
  - Originating **Non-Toll Free** \$0.000747 (C)
  - Terminating \$0.000000

**RATE PER  
CALL/QUERY**

- Toll Free Data Base Access Service
  - Basic Query \$0.0040530
  - Complex Query **\$0.0000000 (R)**

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