

MERRIMACK COUNTY TELEPHONE COMPANY

Supportive Narrative for Adding Alternative Serving Arrangement Rates

The Company has received a request for PRI from a customer residing in Hillsborough; however the Hillsborough switch is not equipped with PRI. PRI will be serviced to the customer from the Contoocook switch. The Hillsborough local rate center will be built on the Contoocook switch. The customer will retain the Hillsboro local calling area as part of the service.

Currently the Primary Rate Interface tariff handles these types of requests under Alternative Serving Arrangements (ASA) on Individual Case Basis (ICB) subject to Commission approval. Instead of offering the service on ICB, the Company is adding specific rates for ASA. The Company is revising the ASA language to correlate with addition of specific rates.

The local revenue impact is expected to be \$7,920 in the first year of availability. This impact would equate to less than 1% change in annual revenue.

The additional costs of providing PRI from Contoocook to the Hillsborough customer are minimal. The Fiber Facility investment is \$600.00, and the Fiber Terminating Equipment is a \$626.00 investment.

ADVANCED DIGITAL SERVICES

II. PRIMARY RATE INTERFACE (PRI) (Continued)

D. TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS (Continued)

2. Customer Premise Equipment and Facilities (Continued)

The Telephone Company shall not be responsible if changes in any of the equipment, operations, or procedures of the Telephone Company used in the provisioning of Advanced Digital Services render any facilities provided by the customer obsolete, or require modification of such equipment or system, or otherwise affect its use or performance.

E. REGULATIONS AND CONDITIONS

1. Unless specifically exempted, Advanced Digital Services shall be subject to all general regulations applicable to the provision of service by the Telephone Company as stated in this tariff.

2. Advanced Digital Services PRI are provided at the option of the Telephone Company. These services are furnished subject to central office switching capacity, capability and the availability of outside plant facilities.

a. The availability, functionality and capabilities of Advanced Digital Services PRI may vary, or may not be available, dependent upon the type of serving central office switch, related software controlling that switch and associated outside plant.

Where facilities are not available, or unusual expenditures are involved in making them available, the customer may be required to pay additional charges to cover the unusual expenditure, or to contract for services beyond the normal service term or both.

b. Alternate Serving Arrangements

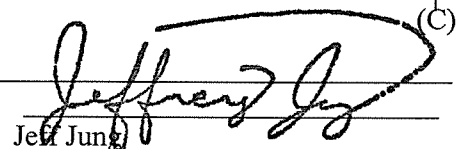
Where the customer's serving central office is not Advanced Digital Services PRI capable, the Telephone Company, may provide service from an alternate serving central office at the rates listed in F.5 if the service can be provided at a reasonable cost to the Telephone Company.

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Title:

Vice President

ADVANCED DIGITAL SERVICES

II. PRIMARY RATE INTERFACE (PRI) (Continued)

E. REGULATIONS AND CONDITIONS (Continued)

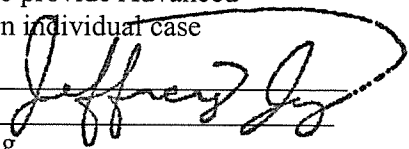
2. Advanced Digital Services PRI (Continued)

b. Alternate Serving Arrangements (Continued)

Prior to providing the service to the customer through an alternate serving arrangement, the Telephone Company will inform any customer taking such service of the estimated costs and service changes (e.g., change in directory number) that the customer may incur in the future. The customer must accept the serving location assigned by the Telephone Company, and must agree to revert to service from the normal serving central office when Advanced Digital Services PRI are available in that office.

- (1) This arrangement may require that the customer accept a directory number change to a number associated with the alternate central office.
- (2) Calls that are originated by and terminated to a customer using this service arrangement may be billed as if the calls were placed from the customer's alternate serving central office. (C)
- (3) When Advanced Digital Services PRI subsequently becomes available from the customer's normal serving central office, the customer will be reconnected to the normal serving central office. This may also require a directory number change. If such changes occur, the nonrecurring charge associated with the change will not be applicable. If the customer does not wish to take service from the normal central office after such service becomes available, but continues to use service from the alternate serving central office, charges for distance extensions (Foreign Exchange Service or special outside facilities) will apply. If Foreign Exchange Service is used, the rates for Foreign Exchange Service will be applied in addition to the Advanced Digital Services PRI rates. Any other special outside plant facilities used to provide Advanced Digital Services will be tarified on an individual case basis.

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II. PRIMARY RATE INTERFACE (PRI) (Continued)

F. RATES AND CHARGES (Continued)

4. Long Term Contract Discounts

The nonrecurring service establishment charges associated with Advanced Digital Services PRI Circuit-Switched Services, Circuit-Switched Features and Packet Switched Services will automatically be reduced according to the following schedule for customers who sign long term contracts:

<u>Contract Duration</u>	<u>Discount on Service Establishment Charges</u>
Monthly	0%
12 Months	20%
24 Months	40%
36 Months	60%
48 Months	80%
60 Months	100%

5. Alternative Service Arrangements

	<u>Service Establishment</u>	<u>Monthly Rate</u>
a. PRI Access – per facility	\$450.00	N/A
b. Circuit-Switched Communications Channels		
-23 B Channels plus D Channel	\$890.00	\$660.00
-Additional 24 B Channels (Multiple PRI Facility Arrangement)	\$890.00	\$660.00
c. D. Channel Backup (Maximum One Per PRI Service Arrangement)	\$100.00	\$50.00

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