

FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
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MEMORANDUM

AUGUST 28, 1997

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10:57
FPSC - Records/Reporting

TO: DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF RECORDS AND REPORTING (BAYO)

FROM: DIVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS (CORDIANO) *AKS JAVICE*
DIVISION OF LEGAL SERVICES (PELLEGRINI) *GMB*

RE: DOCKET NO. 971080-TL - REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF TARIFF FILING TO ADD ADVANCED DIGITAL SERVICES-PRIMARY RATE INTERFACE ACCESS SERVICE BY NORTHEAST FLORIDA TELEPHONE COMPANY, INC. (T-97-0870, FILED 8/15/97)

AGENDA: SEPTEMBER 9, 1997 - REGULAR AGENDA - TARIFF FILING - INTERESTED PERSONS MAY PARTICIPATE

CRITICAL DATES: 30 DAY SUSPENSION EXPIRES SEPTEMBER 14, 1997

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: S:\PSC\CMU\WP\971080TL.RCM

CASE BACKGROUND

On August 15, 1997, staff received Northeast Florida Telephone Company, Inc.'s (Northeast) tariff filing to add Advanced Digital Services-Primary Rate Interface Access Service (ADS-PRI).

Staff believes the following recommendations are appropriate.

DISCUSSION OF ISSUES

ISSUE 1: Should the Commission approve Northeast's tariff filing to add Advanced Digital Services-Primary Rate Interface Access Service with an effective date of September 14, 1997?

RECOMMENDATION: Yes, the Commission should approve Northeast's tariff filing to add Advanced Digital Services-Primary Rate Interface Access Service with an effective date of September 14, 1997. (Cordiano)

STAFF ANALYSIS: The tariff pages of T-97-0870, shown as Attachment A, were filed on August 15, 1997, with a proposed effective date of

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

08720-AUG 28 97

FPSC-RECORDS/REPORTING

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September 14, 1997, which is consistent with the 30-day filing requirement set forth in Rule 25-4.214, Florida Administrative Code. Northeast has requested approval of this tariff filing to meet the demands of the competitive marketplace. Northeast believes ADS-PRI will enable it to continue to provide rural and business customers with the most advanced telecommunications services available.

ADS-PRI, supported by Integrated Services Digital Network (ISDN) architecture, provides a DS1 (1.544 Megabits per second (Mbps)) access link to the telecommunications network. It also integrates multiple voice and data transmission channels on the same line. ADS-PRI has 23 B-channels plus one D-channel, each with 64 kilobits per second (Kbps) capacity. The B-channels carry information (data, video, voice), whereas the D-channel carries signaling. An advantage over the analog T1 mode of transmission is that ADS-PRI offers digital clear signaling, fast call setup/teardown, and automatic number identification delivery on its D-channel.

Northeast proposes to offer ADS-PRI at the rates and charges in Section A19.1.8, page 22, of tariff filing T-97-0870. Northeast has provided a comprehensive cost study for ADS-PRI and has also reviewed the rates and charges assessed by other local exchange companies within the industry to ensure that its proposed rates are comparable. Upon review of the data provided, including Northeast's Cost of Service Analysis and 1996 Earnings Surveillance Report, staff has calculated that the additional revenue incurred by the offering of ADS-PRI will increase Northeast's return on equity by approximately .2% in 1997 and .65% in 1998. Staff does not believe this will create an overearnings situation. If the additional revenue incurred by the provision of this service results in any overearnings, this would be jurisdictional because Northeast is a rate-of-return regulated LEC.

Staff believes the proposed tariff filing to offer ADS-PRI is appropriate and in the public interest. Therefore, staff recommends that the Commission approve Northeast's tariff filing to add ADS-PRI with an effective date of September 14, 1997.

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ISSUE 2: Should this docket be closed?

RECOMMENDATION: Yes, if the Commission approves staff's recommendation in Issue 1, and if no person whose substantial interests are affected by the Commission's Order files a protest within 21 days of the issuance of the Order, this tariff should become effective on September 14, 1997, and the docket should be closed. If a timely protest is filed, this tariff should remain in effect with revenues held subject to refund pending the resolution of the protest. (PELLEGRINI)

STAFF ANALYSIS: If the Commission approves staff's recommendation in Issue 1, and if no person whose substantial interests are affected by the Commission's Order files a protest within 21 days of the issuance of the Order, this tariff should become effective on September 14, 1997, and the docket should be closed. If a timely protest is filed, this tariff should remain in effect with the revenues held subject to refund pending the resolution of the protest.

GENERAL SUBSCRIBER SERVICE TARIFF

NORTHEAST FLORIDA TELEPHONE COMPANY, INC. Twelfth Revised CONTENTS Page 1
Cancels Eleventh Revised CONTENTS Page 1

By: Gladys R. Walker
President

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Seventh Revised CONTENTS Page 2
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NORTHEAST FLORIDA
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TELEPHONE COMPANY, INC.

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A19. ADVANCED DIGITAL SERVICES (ADS)

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A19.1 ADS - Primary Rate Interface Access Service (PRI)

A19.1.1. General

A. ADS-PRI Service, the Company's Primary Rate Integrated Service Digital Network (ISDN), is an IntralATA group of offerings supported by the ISDN architecture.

B. ADS-PRI Service provides a DS1 (1.544 Mbls) access link to the telecommunications network and provides integration of multiple voice and data transmission channels on the same line. The service provides connectivity between an ISDN PBX or other ISDN compatible Customer Provided Equipment (CPE) and a serving central office. The basic channel structure for ADS-PRI is twenty-three 64 Kbps B Channels and one 64 Kbps D Channel. These B Channels may be used to connect the customer's CPE to the Public Switched Telephone Network (PSTN) through outward, inward, or two-way trunks, and/or WATS/800 Service access lines.

The D Channel carries out of band signaling for the B Channels. ADS-PRI provides access to and from the Public Switched Network (PSTN).

C. ADS-PRI service is a service for the transmission of digital signals only. Clear Channel Capability and Extended Superframe Format are inherent to the service.

D. This service is available within properly equipped Company exchanges within the LATA in which those exchanges operate. The calling scope for an ADS-PRI Service is limited to other appropriately equipped exchanges located within the LATA.

E. An ADS-PRI subscriber's premises need not be within the actual ADS-PRI Service serving office area to obtain ADS-PRI service. When a subscriber's serving central office is located outside the ADS-PRI calling scope the subscriber may order ADS-PRI service in one of the two following ways:

1. To obtain ADS-PRI service with a local calling scope that matches the local calling scope of the subscriber's serving exchange, transport of the service to the remote serving central office is provided at no charge to the ADS-PRI subscriber; or

2. To obtain the same local calling scope as the distant ADS-PRI serving office, a subscriber must pay for transport by applying the distance sensitive Foreign Exchange (FX) rates. Extended Local Calling (ELC) Service does not apply for ADS-PRI Circuit-Switched Data Service.

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A19. ADVANCED DIGITAL SERVICES (ADS)

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A19.1 ADS - Primary Rate Interface Access Service (PRI)

A19.1.1 General (Cont'd.)

- F. Directory Listings for ADS-PRI are provided in accordance with Section A6 of this Tariff. Additional directory listing numbers and/or ranges of directory number listings can be added.
- G. Customer requests for ancillary services (such as, Additional Directory Listings) compatible with ISDN-PRI Service will be furnished under the rates and regulations found in other sections of this Tariff.
- H. Extended Local Calling (ELC) Service does not apply for ADS-PRI Circuit-Switched Data Service.
- I. ADS-PRI Service does not include terminal equipment and/or special power arrangements at the customer's premises.

A19.1.2 Definitions

Basic definitions for ADS (ISDN-Based) Services are listed as follows:

- A. ADS-PRI Line Capacity - (B Channel Inward Only) Twenty-three 64 Kbps B Channels and one 64 Kbps D Channel.
- B. ADS-PRI Service Areas - A geographic local service area for the exchange equipped to provide ISDN service. The ADS-PRI service area does not include any exchanges or parts of exchanges served via Extended Local Calling (ELC) Service Plans.
- C. B Channel (Bearer Channel) - A communications path capable of transmitting information at a speed of up to 64 Kbps. ADS B Channel interconnection through non-ISDN equipped central offices may be converted to analog signal or sub-rated to 56 Kbps. This communications path may be used by a customer for communications (e.g., voice, data, video and image) between customer specified locations.
- D. B Channel Basic Access - Service that provides circuit switching for voice or data transmission at rates up to 64 Kbps.
- E. B Channel Universal Access - Service that provides continuity between the ISDN-PRI circuit and the Public Switched Network (PSN). This termination is equipped with services such as WATS and 800 Common Line Services.
- F. Circuit-Switched Data - Allows the user to originate and receive voice data over a single circuit-switched B Channel.
- G. Circuit-Switched Voice - Allows the user to originate and receive voice calls over a single circuit-switched B Channel.

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A19. ADVANCED DIGITAL SERVICES (ADS)

A19.1 ADS - Primary Rate Interface Access Service (PRI)

A19.1.2 Definitions (Cont'd.)

- H. Clear Channel Capability - A characteristic of the transmission paths on the B Channels that allows the full bandwidth of 64 Kbps to be available to the customer. It is also possible to bridge the two B Channels provided with ADS-PRI Access to achieve data transmission speeds of 128 Kbps.
- I. D Channel (Delta Channel) - A communications path designated to send and receive signaling messages at a speed of 64 Kbps.
- J. Simulated Facility Group (SFG) - A SFG simulates lines and trunks in software. When SFG is accessed, the central office counts the number of paths allowed and checks the availability of a virtual path. If a path is available, the call is routed for access. If none are available, the call is blocked.
- K. Terminal - Customer provided equipment at which an ISDN Access line terminates (e.g., digital telephone sets, computers equipped with ISDN adapters, etc.).

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A19. ADVANCED DIGITAL SERVICES (ADS)

A19.1 ADS - Primary Rate Interface Access Service (PRI)

A19.1.3 Rules and Regulations

The following rules, regulations, and rates for ISDN-PRI Service are in addition to rules, regulations, and rates in this and other provisions of the Company's tariffs:

- A. All components of this service are subject to the availability and operational limitations of the equipment and facilities. In addition, ADS-PRI Service is available only where the customer location is within the provisioning limitations determined by the Company prior to installation. In cases where, at the customer's request, facilities can be extended and/or regenerated to increase transmission limitations to provide a customer location with adequate provisioning for ADS-PRI Service, additional recurring charges may apply.
- B. The Company reserves the right to determine the equipment and facilities used to provide ADS-PRI Service and may change such equipment and facilities at its option.
- C. Digital transmission rates at speeds less than those indicated may be accomplished as a function of the particular CPE furnished by the user.
- D. Centrex Service Stations and/or systems may be equipped for ADS-PRI Service.
- E. Upon subscribing to ADS-PRI, the customer may be required to change his existing telephone number(s) if the Company determines that it is not reasonably feasible for technical or number administration reasons to continue to provide the customer's existing telephone number(s).
- F. Temporary suspension of service does not apply to this offering.
- G. Verification and Emergency Interrupt Services are not available for ISDN-PRI Services.

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A19. ADVANCED DIGITAL SERVICES (ADS)

(N)

A19.1 ADS - Primary Rate Interface Access Service (PRI)

A19.1.3 Rules and Regulations (Cont'd.)

- H. Caller ID is an inherent feature in the offering of ADS-PRI Service. An ADS-PRI customer shall use the Caller ID feature solely for the purposes of call processing, billing and account management and shall not publicize or disclose any Caller ID information without written permission from the party to whom the telephone number has been assigned. By way of illustration, and not limitation, the customer shall not use any Caller ID for telemarketing or list-generation efforts without written permission.

The calling party number will only be displayed when used in conjunction with a properly equipped Caller ID telephone set or adjunct equipment. Calling Number Delivery Blocking is available as specified in Section A16 of this tariff.

A19.1.4 Responsibility of the Customer

- A. The customer shall furnish information necessary to permit the Company to design and maintain the ADS-PRI Service and to assure that the service complies with all National Integrated Service Digital Network (ISDN) Standards, FCC and Company regulations.
- B. ADS-PRI Service requires a customer-owned premises data unit which must be compatible with the Company's equipment and facilities. The service is subject to the interface specification in the Bell Communication Research, Inc., Technical References SR-NWT-002343.
- C. Where ADS-PRI Service is used with customer-provided equipment, the operating characteristics of such equipment shall not interfere with any of the services offered by the Company. Such customer-provided equipment shall not endanger the safety of Company employees or the public. Customer-provided equipment shall not: damage; require change in or alteration of the equipment or other services of the Company; interfere with the proper functioning of such equipment or services; impair the operation of the Company's equipment; or otherwise injure the public in its use of the Company's equipment. Upon notice from the Company that the customer equipment is causing, or is likely to cause, such hazard or interference, the customer shall take the necessary steps to remove or prevent such hazard or interference.
- D. The customer shall not rearrange, disconnect, remove, attempt to repair, remote test or interfere with any network equipment installed by the Company without prior written consent of the Company.

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A19. ADVANCED DIGITAL SERVICES (ADS)

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A19.1 ADS - Primary Rate Interface Access Service (PRI)

A19.1.4 Responsibility of the Customer (Cont'd.)

- E. ADS-PRI Service allows the customer to presubscribe to a selected interexchange carrier for long distance traffic. The customer is responsible to insure that the preselected interexchange carrier's network is compatible with the Company's ADS-PRI Service format. Access to other interexchange carriers through the use of 10XXXX or 10XXXXX dialing codes is provided. A separate interexchange carrier may be chosen for packet service, where available.

A19.1.5 Responsibility of the Company

- A. The responsibility of the Company shall be limited to the furnishing of suitable network equipment to offer ADS-PRI Service and to the proper maintenance, operation and repair of such equipment.
- B. The Company shall not be responsible to the customer or user, if changes in any of the equipment, operations, or procedures utilized for ADS-PRI Service render any facilities provided by a customer or user obsolete, or require modification or alteration of such equipment or system, or otherwise affect its use or performance, provided the Company has met any applicable information disclosure requirements.
- C. The Company, by written notice to the customer, may immediately discontinue the ADS-PRI Service without incurring liability upon nonpayment of any sum due to the Company or a violation of any condition governing the furnishing of service.

A19.1.6 Service Components and Features

- A. The customer may choose any number of channels, up to twenty-three per Primary Rate Interface (PRI) to be active with a corresponding number of services (e.g., inward/outward trunks, WATS Lines, 800 Service) selected. The customer may also choose to have more services selected than channels available for specific applications. The total number of communication paths may not exceed the number of channels subscribed.
- B. Required components for ADS-PRI Service are as follows:
1. ADS-PRI Facility - Provides a four-wire access loop from the customer premises to the serving wire center. The transmission characteristics of this loop are Clear Channel Capability and Extended Superframe Format (ESF). It provides multiplexing to support up to twenty-three B Channels at 64 Kbps and one D Channel for signaling also at 64 Kbps. When Non-Facility Associated Signaling (NFAS) is ordered, the Primary Rate Interface can provide up to twenty-four B Channels at 64 Kbps each.

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A19.1.6 Service Components and Features(Cont'd.)

B. Required components for ADS-PRI Service are as follows:
(Continued)

2. ADS-PRI B Channel Access - The customer must choose one option from the following:

(a) B Channel Basic - Provides a circuit switched service that will allow either voice or data transmission at up to 64 Kbps.

I. Monthly rates for B Channel Basic will be billed for local exchange service in accordance with Network Access Trunk (NAT) rates and charges found in this section of the Tariff. Exchange access is provided through the use of Network Access Registers (NARs) as described below. Additional charges will apply for WATS or 800 service. ELC additives will not apply.

ii. Voice calls originating over ADS-PRI Service may be completed to both ISDN and non-ISDN conditioned lines.

iii. Data Transmission on the B Channel Basic will be circuit switched at 64 Kbps within the switch and between ISDN compatible central offices. ISDN interconnection to non-ISDN equipped central offices may be converted to analog transmission signal or sub-rated to 56 Kbps digital signal.

(b) B Channel Universal - Provides continuity between the ADS-PRI and the Public Switched Network (PSTN) using central office equipment. This termination is required with services such as WATS and 800 Service, non-DID Foreign Exchange (FX) Service, and Private Line Services.

(c) B Channel Inward Only - Provides B Channel circuit termination for inward analog and digital data calls. Originating calls will be denied. Inward data and/or voice calls are not allowed to overflow from B Channel Basic to B Channel Inward Only Service.

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A19.1 ADS - Primary Rate Interface Access Service (PRI)

A19.1.6 Service Components and Features (Continued)

- B. Required components for ADS-PRI Service are as follows:
(Continued)
3. Network Access Registers (NARs) - Customers utilizing the ADS-PRI Service will be billed a Network Access Register (NAR) per capable B Channel. NARs allows B Channels to be configured to simulate lines and trunks in software. When accessed, the central office counts the number of ADS-PRI NARs paths allowed and checks the availability of a virtual path. If a path is available, the ADS-PRI call is routed for access. If none are available, the ADS-PRI call is blocked. Network Access Registers are also referred to as Simulated Facilities.
 4. Standard basic operating features include Direct Inward Dialing (DID), Direct Outward Dialing (DOD), Terminal-to-Terminal Dialing (Intercom), Automatic Identified Outward Dialing (AIOD), Touch Tone and Distinctive Ringing Tone. The ADS-PRI Interface provides ISDN signaling in place of Touch Tone DTMF signaling, and the function of a DID trunk termination is included in the ISDN-PRI interface; therefore, Touch Tone, and DID/DOD trunk termination charges are not applicable.
 5. Calling Number Delivery Information for Caller ID is an inherent feature to ADS-PRI service; therefore, rates for Caller ID Service contained in Section A16 of this Tariff, will not apply.
- C. Optional components and features for ADS-PRI Service, where technically available, are offered at rates specified in paragraph A19.1.8 of this section as follows:
1. Non-Facility Associated Signaling (NFAS) - Provides the capability to serve multiple DSI's over a single D Channel (NB+D). This feature can be ordered where switch capabilities exist. An additional B Channel, per Primary Rate Interface, is available when NFAS is ordered. This B Channel can be purchased at rates and charges as provided later in this section. When a customer subscribes to more than one ADS-PRI circuit, a customer may elect to equip the second multiple with 24 B Channels in place of normal 23 B Channels plus 1 D Channel. In these cases, the single D Channel provides signaling for all B Channels operating in the entire multiple ADS-PRI configuration.

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A19.1 ADS - Primary Rate Interface Access Service (PRI)

A19.1.6. Service Components and Features (Continued)

- C. Optional components and features for ADS-PRI Service, where technically available, are offered at rates specified in paragraph A19.1.8 of this section as follows: (Continued)
2. Each ADS-PRI facility includes an individual directory number. Additional directory numbers and/or ranges of directory numbers can be assigned and added.
 3. Call-by-Call/Dynamic Trunk Allocation - Allows the customer to dynamically allocate the use of channels for the ADS-PRI Service. The customer may also choose voice or data transmission on a per call basis. In addition, the customer may also choose to subscribe to more services than channels and dynamically change the services in use. Offers access via the B Channel to additional services (including Tie Trunks, InWATS and OutWATS) on a per-call basis, in addition to supporting trunk calls to/from the PSTN.
 4. Customer requests for Common Line 800 Service or Outward Wide Area Telecommunications Service (WATS) associated with ADS-PRI Service may be accepted. Dedicated or Common Line 800 WATS access line charges do not apply when these services are associated with ADS-PRI Service, but the appropriate WATS usage charges from Bell South's Wide Area Telecommunications Service Tariff do apply. Interconnection to Common Line 800 Service provides the customer with the capability to complete Common Line 800 Service calls over an ADS-PRI Interface. Interconnection to Outward WATS Service provides the customer with the capability to originate Outward WATS calls over an ADS-PRI Interface.

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A19.1 ADS - Primary Rate Interface Access Service (PRI)

A19.1.7 Payment Options and Charges

- A. The minimum billing period is one month. If service is discontinued after the first month, charges will be for the actual number of days the service is furnished. For administration of this regulation, every month is considered to have 30 days.
- B. ADS-PRI is also available under Term Payment Plans for terms of 24-48 months and 49-72 months under these conditions:
1. ADS-PRI rates under any Term Payment Plan will reflect tariff rates in effect at the time the service is installed or the application date, whichever is less. At the expiration date of the customer's payment period option, the customer may elect to renew the Term Payment Plan at the current rates or subscribe to ADS-PRI service on a month-to-month basis.
 2. If a Term Payment Plan customer disconnects any portion of the ADS-PRI Service prior to completion of the service period, the customer shall be obligated to pay a termination liability charge. The charge is calculated by multiplying the monthly rate by the remaining months in the Term Payment Plan times 50%.
- C. Nonrecurring Charges for ADS-PRI include all usual and applicable Service Connection Charges and Nonrecurring Charges as specified in Section A4 of this Tariff. These charges apply to the activation, move or change of channel equivalents within ADS-PRI Service packages, as well as for installation of the basic system, and are in addition to charges found herein.
- D. A customer may request a 90 day Deferred Payment Plan for payment of Nonrecurring Charges in conjunction with ADS-PRI Service. Under the ADS-PRI Deferred Payment Plan, a customer makes equal payments over the initial three (3) month period that ADS-PRI is in service, until the balance due for Nonrecurring Charges is paid in full. If a customer disconnects ADS-PRI Service prior to completion of the 90-day Deferred Payment Plan period, the balance due of the Nonrecurring Charges must be paid in full on the final billing statement.
- E. At the Company's discretion, all or part of the Nonrecurring Charges associated with ADS-PRI Service may be reduced or waived during promotional campaigns and/or as a part of customer negotiations.

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A19.1 ADS - Primary Rate Interface Access Service (PRI)

A19.1.8. Rates and Charges

<u>RATE ELEMENTS</u>	<u>MONTH- TO-MONTH</u>	<u>24-48 MONTHS</u>	<u>49-72 MONTHS</u>	<u>NON- RECURRING CHARGE^{5,6}</u>
<u>Required Features:</u>				
ADS-PRI Facility ^{1,3}	\$280.00	\$260.00	\$240.00	\$1200.00
ADS-PRI B Channel Access ¹				
(a) B Channel Basic	\$375.00	\$350.00	\$325.00	\$ 300.00
(b) B Channel Universal	\$375.00	\$350.00	\$325.00	\$ 300.00
(c) B Channel Inward Only	\$375.00	\$350.00	\$325.00	\$ 300.00
Network Access ^{1,2,4}	\$ 20.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 15.00
Register (NAR), per B Channel				
<u>Optional Features:</u>				
NFAS Signaling per ADS-PRI	\$ 50.00	\$ 40.00	\$ 35.00	\$ 150.00
Additional Directory Numbers				
(a) First group of 20 numbers	\$ 4.00	\$ 4.00	\$ 4.00	\$ 100.00
(b) Each additional group of 20 numbers	\$ 4.00	\$ 4.00	\$ 4.00	\$ 15.00
Call-by-Call/Dynamic Trunk Allocation, per NAR ⁷	\$ 25.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 50.00
<u>Moves and Changes⁸:</u>				
(a) Inside move or change requiring redesign of transmission facilities				\$ 150.00
(b) Change involving central office translations, record orders, and all other types of changes				\$ 75.00

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A19.1 ADS - Primary Rate Interface Access Service (PRI)

A19.1.8. Rates and Charges (Continued)

Notes:

- (1) ADS-PRI Facility, ADS-PRI B Channel Access, and Network Access Register (NAR) are only available in combination with each other.
- (2) The NARs rate is in lieu of the Local Exchange Access Line rates found in Section A13 of this Tariff and provides access to the same calling scopes as the corresponding services located in other sections of this Tariff. Rates will be charged for each B Channel activated.
- (3) Does not include Customer Premises Equipment (CPE) required to support ADS-PRI Service.
- (4) Does not include Company concurred ELC charges as set forth in Section A3 of this Tariff and End User Common Line charges set forth in BellSouth's Access Services Tariff (in which Northeast concurs).
- (5) Does not reflect promotional and/or negotiated discounts as described in this Section.
- (6) Additional Nonrecurring charges as described in Section A4 of this Tariff apply.
- (7) Call-by-Call/Dynamic Trunk Allocation is only available in connection with ADS-PRI B Channel Universal Access.
- (8) These charges apply to moves and changes after ADS-PRI is installed.

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