

2.5 CONSTRUCTION CHARGES AND OTHER SPECIAL CHARGES

2.5.1 GENERAL

A. DESCRIPTION

Line extension charges^{/3/} within the suburban area of all exchanges apply in connection with the installation of or changes between all classes, types and grades of service, except farmer line and toll station service when established by means of an extension to the Company's plant consisting of underground cable or wire or pole construction and including extensions by means of poles to be owned by the Company jointly with others and by means of contacts or contact space on poles of others. All line extensions will be owned and maintained by the Company. (C)

B. RATES AND CHARGES

Extensions of plant necessary to provide telephone service:

	<u>Charge</u>	
First 1,000 feet or less, per applicant ^{/1/}	No Charge	(C)
All additional footage ^{/2/}	Based on Cost	(C)

NOTE 1: See Part 2, Section 5.2, Regulation 3 of this Guidebook.

NOTE 2: See Part 2, Section 5.2, Regulations 4 through 13 of this Guidebook.

NOTE 3: Pursuant to the Order by the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada in Docket No. 20-10003 ("Order"), the Company will extend its plant to provide basic network service or business line service upon a customer's request in the areas outside of the exchange boundaries in Elko, Esmeralda, Eureka, Lander, Lincoln, Mineral, Nye, Pershing and White Pine counties that were subject to the Order. The customer will be responsible for the charges pursuant to Part 2, Section 5.1.B. The Company will not extend its plant until the customer accepts the charges. This note expires on February 23, 2023. (N)

2.5 CONSTRUCTION CHARGES AND OTHER SPECIAL CHARGES

2.5.2 CONSTRUCTION ON PUBLIC HIGHWAYS OR OTHER EASEMENTS

A. REGULATIONS

1. Other than in new residential subdivisions, if the applicant so elects, he may set the required poles or provide means suitable to the Company for placing of underground cable or wire in excess of the distance for which there is no charge in accordance with the construction standards of the Company, in lieu of the charges applicable, but in all instances the ownership of facilities shall be entirely vested in the Company. The type of construction, poles or underground, will be determined by the Company.

2. Measurement of Distances

For purposes of this Guidebook, all distance measurements are route distances measured from the Company's nearest facilities to the terminal from which the applicant is service. All routing and type of line extension shall be determined by the Company, over the shortest practical route, subject to the availability or right-of-way. (C)

3. Free Distance Allowances

Each applicant shall be allowed 1,000 feet of free line extension to a premises, regardless of the number of lines or service subscribed to at that premises. Where an applicant requests service at a different premises in the same area, a free line extension allowance will be applicable to each premises served.

4. Collective Application and Grouping of Applicants

When construction is required to serve a new applicant, a survey is made of all prospects who might be served from the new construction or an extension thereof and who might benefit by being included in the project. Allowances are made only for those prospects making bona fide applications for service.

5. Apportionment of Charges

Applicants are divided into two groups. The first group includes all applicants whose collective allowance equals or exceeds the construction required to serve them. No charge is made to such applicants. The second group includes all remaining applicants on the project. The overall charge for the project is divided equally among all applicants in the second group.

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Exception: No applicant is required to pay a higher charge than he would if the project were established for him alone. Any difference between this charge and the average charge for the group is absorbed by the Company.

6. Payment of Charges

All line extension charges are payable in advance. Charges shall be based on cost for construction of the supporting structure i.e. the required poles in the case of aerial facilities and/or trenching and backfill for placing underground cable or wire. Such costs shall include labor, engineering, right-of way, contracting, etc. in excess of the free distance allowance.

When an extension to plant involves the use of joint poles previously acquired by the Company in anticipation of an order for service and on which no exchange service wire or cable has been placed, the estimated construction costs on which charges to the applicant are computed shall not include the costs (original or current) to acquire the joint poles.

7. Charges to Subsequent Applicants

When a request for service is received from a new applicant who can be served from a completed project, within five years from the date service was initially established for such project, the original charges for the entire project are reapportioned to include the new applicant. The new applicant shall pay his proportional share of the reapportioned line extension charge as computed under A. Regulations 1 through 6 preceding and Part 2, Section 5.1 of this Guidebook.

Where additional construction is required for an applicant to be served from a project less than five years old, the charge for the project is recomputed as above providing such recomputation does not increase the charges to those customers served from the existing project. Otherwise, the applicant shall be responsible only for the construction to serve his location.

The minimum charge to the new applicant shall be that for the new construction required to serve his location.

2.5 CONSTRUCTION CHARGES AND OTHER SPECIAL CHARGES

2.5.2 CONSTRUCTION ON PUBLIC HIGHWAYS OR OTHER EASEMENTS (Cont'd)

A. REGULATIONS (Cont'd)

8. Refunds of Charges to Existing Subscribers When Additional Applicants are Connected

When a project is recomputed as described in Regulation 7 above, existing subscribers will be refunded the difference between the original charges and the recomputed charges. Recomputation of charges due to the addition of new applicants made on the premise that there have been no disconnects.

When applicant participation is involved, as provided in Regulation 1 above, such participation shall, for the purpose of determining refunds or charges, be computed under Part 2, Section 5.1.B of this Guidebook.

9. Disconnects

When one or more subscribers on a project disconnect, no refund is made of the line extension charge. Charges to remaining subscribers are not affected by disconnects.

10. Reuse of Facilities

When a subscriber disconnects service or moves off the project and service is established for a new applicant at the same location, any adjustment in charges is a matter for negotiation between the original subscriber and the new applicant.

11. Temporary or Speculative Business

Line extension to provide service to an applicant engaged in temporary or speculative business, will be made on the condition that applicant pays to the Company the total cost of the construction and removal of the line necessary in furnishing the service less the salvage value of the materials used.

12. Minimum Time Period

Agreements, covering periods of not to exceed five years of telephone service, may be required by the Company as a condition precedent to the establishment of the service when line extensions are necessary.

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2.5.2 CONSTRUCTION PUBLIC HIGHWAYS OR OTHER EASEMENTS (Cont'd)

A. REGULATIONS (Cont'd)

13. Excessive Costs

When the revenue to be derived from the service to be served by a particular line extension is not, in the opinion of the Company, sufficient to warrant the Company assuming the costs of providing the necessary construction, the applicant or applicants may be required to pay all or a portion of such costs in lieu of the line extension charges set forth in this schedule, the amount depending upon the circumstances in each case. Arrangements, other than those provided for in the foregoing schedule, may also be made when a line extension involves submarine cable, underground crossing of railroads, highways, or power lines, or long river crossings or other unusual or disproportionately large construction expenditures as compared with the usual type of plant construction.

14. Replacement of Aerial Facilities with Underground Facilities

- a. The Company will convert its aerial facilities in specified service districts established for the purpose of conversion, in accordance with the provisions set forth in Chapter 704 of Nevada Revised Statutes.
- b. Upon the request of an individual applicant, aerial facilities may be replaced with underground facilities, providing the applicant requesting the change pays, in advance, a nonrefundable sum equal to the estimated cost of construction less the estimated net salvage value of the replaced aerial facilities.
- c. The Company may initiate the replacement of sections of its aerial facilities with underground facilities at Company expense for structural design considerations or its operating convenience.

15. Potential customers in the areas in which rural improvement projects will be implemented as a result of the Commission's Order in Docket No. 91-2068 may apply for and receive telephone service without the necessity of paying otherwise applicable line extension charges if such customer or customers' applications are received by the company at least 30 days prior to the date on which the company begins construction of the project to provide service to the specific rural improvement area in which the customer is requesting service. Specific areas that have been identified and authorized for rural improvement pursuant to the Commission's decision in Docket No. 91-2068 are: Nyala, Smokey Valley, Osgood toll region, Desert Valley toll region, Denio toll region, Currie, and Lages.

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2.5.2 CONSTRUCTION PUBLIC HIGHWAYS OR OTHER EASEMENTS (Cont'd)

A. REGULATIONS (Cont'd)

In addition, customers in the aforesaid areas who apply for service after the company commences construction to the area in which the customer is requesting service may also receive an extension of service without the necessity of paying applicable line extension charges if the extension of service to such customer can be accomplished without unduly interfering with the company's construction schedule or the extension of service to other customers within the area, and does not unreasonably increase the cost of providing service. Any dispute regarding the implementation of this tariff provision or terms of service may be referred to the Commission for resolution.

(C)

2.5.3 LINE EXTENSION AND SERVICE CONNECTION FACILITIES IN SUBURBAN AREAS

A. REGULATIONS

The Company shall not be obligated to provide trenching and backfilling for the service connection (drop) for new or additional service(s). The Company shall furnish wire or cable for the service connection (drop) from distribution facilities whether aerial or underground, at the Company's expense.

Aerial service connection facilities from aerial distribution facilities are furnished at the Company's expense. Aerial service connection facilities from underground distribution facilities are not provided unless an applicant specifically requests such an arrangement. See Part 2, Section 5.5 for special service arrangements.

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2.5.4 UNUSUAL INSTALLATION

2.5.4.1 EXTENSION FOR NEW REAL ESTATE ADDITIONS

A. REGULATIONS

1. Extensions of Facilities to New Residential Subdivisions

The Developer shall advance to the Company in cash 50% of the cost of that part of the extension of telephone facilities, which is more than 100 feet from the boundary of the subdivision. The Company will refund this advance in the manner provided by Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) 704A.550 "Refunds of advances."

The extension means the transmission path between the customer's premise and the exchange carrier's main distribution frame or other designated frame or panel in a wire center which service the customer. The main distribution frame means the distribution frame in a wire center that is used to interconnect loop cable pairs and line and trunk equipment terminals on a switching system. The developer's advance will include the cost of such connections as may be necessary to terminate the line extension on the main distribution frame.

2. Extension of facilities within New Residential Subdivisions subject to NAC 704A

Extensions of telephone facilities with new residential subdivisions and within 100 feet of their boundaries that are required to be made underground by local ordinance, by the rules and regulations of a local governmental body, or by mutual agreement between the Utility and the real estate developer, shall be made in accordance with NAC 704A.350 to NAC 704A.520, inclusive.

3. Extensions of Facilities within New Residential Subdivisions not subject to NAC 704A

A developer of new residential subdivisions other than those set forth in Part 2, Section 5.4.1.A.2 of this Guidebook above may advance to the Utility in cash 50% of the estimated cost of the extension of telephone facilities in accordance with NAC 704A.350 to NAC 704A.570, inclusive. Any such advance shall be refunded by the Utility in accordance with the conditions set forth in NAC 704A.550 "Refunds of advances."

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2.5.5 SPECIAL SERVICE ARRANGEMENTS

A. REGULATIONS

Aerial service connection facilities from aerial distribution facilities are furnished at the Company's expense. Aerial service connection facilities from underground distribution facilities are not provided unless an applicant specifically requests such an arrangement. Such an arrangement must be feasible and permissible, in which case applicant will be required to pay in advance a nonrefundable amount equal to the estimated total cost of arranging the distribution facilities to accommodate an aerial service connection.

2.5 CONSTRUCTION CHARGES AND OTHER SPECIAL CHARGES

2.5.5 MISCELLANEOUS

A. REGULATIONS

1. When a customer desires special equipment for which provision is not otherwise made, an installation and monthly charge may be made, based upon the total cost of the equipment furnished or of the special work required.