

1. CONSTRUCTION CHARGES APPLICATION OF RATES

- A. Construction charges are nonrecurring charges made to customers under certain conditions, as hereinafter set forth, to cover all or a portion of the unusual costs involved in the establishment or continuation of service and are in addition to the rate for the class of service furnished and any service connection charges, mileage charges or other charges that may apply in accordance with the Local Exchange and General Exchange Guidebooks.

A one-time *Engineering Work Preparation Fee* will apply for the preparation of a quotation for custom work which may require construction charges. This fee is applicable prior to preparation of an estimate for custom work requiring construction charges and will be applied regardless of whether or not the work is ultimately performed for the customer. The Engineering Work Preparation Fee is nonrefundable; however, should the customer proceed with the custom work the fee will be applied against the special construction charges. If work is determined not to be a custom work order after the field visit by the engineer, the fee will be refunded to the customer. (C)

The Engineering Work Preparation Fee provides for the development and preparation of a detailed estimate of cost including any appropriate engineering costs incurred in the preparation of this quotation. The customer will be advised of this charge and must agree to pay it before development of the quotation will commence. Preparation of the quotation will begin after the Engineering Work Preparation Fee is received by the Company.

Payment of the Engineering Work Preparation Fee does not assign, confer, or transfer title or ownership rights to proposals or equipment, designed or furnished by the Company. Title and ownership rights for any item developed at the customer's request remains with the Company except as specifically provided by an agreement between all parties.

The Company has the right to apply more applicable engineering preparation fees for any large, complex and/or unique projects that will require excessive engineering hours to develop a detailed cost quote.

- B. Payment of construction charges will be required prior to the commencement of the work with which such construction charges are associated.
- C. Except as otherwise provided herein, the rules and regulations in this Section contemplate usual construction, i.e., the type of construction which the Company would provide for the area and for the quantity and class of service involved if the decision rested solely with it.
- D. Any poles, conduit, cable or other plant provided at the expense of the customer, on either a public highway or on private property, are the property of the Company, are maintained and replaced by the Company, and shall not be used by the customer for any purpose other than service furnished by the Company or the support of crossarms, cable, wire or other apparatus of the Company except upon approval of the Company.
- E. The provisions of this Section do not apply where installation, replacement and/or other charges are made to customers for construction on private property, when such charges are in lieu of mileage charges that would otherwise apply. (Cable Charges Based On Cost.)