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Southwestern Bell Seeks Waiver of Part 69 to Establish New Rate Elements

Pleading Cycle Established

CCB/CPD 97-26

COMMENTS: June 23, 1997

REPLY COMMENTS: July 3, 1997

On June 6, 1997, the Southwestern Bell Telephone Company (SWBT) filed a petition for expedited waiver, requesting the Commission to waive Part 69.4(b) and Subparts B and C of Part 69 of the Commission's Rules, 47 C.F.R. § 69.4(b) Subparts B and C. SWBT requests that the Commission, to the extent necessary, permit the establishment of four new rate elements. SWBT states that the proposed new rate elements will enable SWBT to recover the costs incurred in its implementation and provision of Service Provider Number Portability (SPNP) Service.

SWBT states that SPNP Service is a new capability that will provide local exchange and line-side access service customers the ability to maintain the same Directory Number when changing from one local exchange service provider to another while remaining at the same location. SPNP utilizes the Common Channel Signaling/Signaling System 7 (CCS/SS7) Network to query a data base to secure network routing instructions prior to the completion of a call. The data base contains information about an end user's choice of Local Service Provider in the form of a Location Routing Number that will be used to direct the call to the correct serving switch for completion to the end user customer. SWBT states that, pursuant to Section 251(e)(2) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended (Communications Act), it is entitled to recover its costs incurred to fulfill its obligation to provide number portability in accordance with Section 251(b)(2) of the Communications Act. Accordingly, SWBT states that the following proposed rate elements will permit it to recover its costs:

Section 251(b)(2) requires that local exchange carriers provide "number portability" in accordance with requirements prescribed by the Commission. See, In the Matter of Telephone Number Portability, CC Docket No. 95-116, First Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (rel. July 2, 1996), on reconsideration, In the Matter of Telephone Number Portability, First Memorandum Opinion and Order on Reconsideration, FCC 97-74 (rel. Mar. 11, 1997).

- (1) Basic SPNP Service Charge. Monthly recurring charge that will be applied to all SWBT's local service customers, line-side access customers, and resale customers on a per-line basis, beginning on the effective date.
- (2) SPNP Query Service. Usage based charges ("prearranged" and "default") that will be applied to access carrier customers on a per-query basis. The charges include formulating the query in SWBT's switch and transporting the query over SWBT's CCS/SS7 Network.
- (3) SPNP Data Base Query Service. Usage based charge applied to carrier customers on a per-query basis. Designed to recover the costs of querying SWBT's data base and the costs of transport from SWBT's Signaling Transfer Point to its SPNP Data Base.

SWBT filed the proposed rate elements, with full cost support, in its Tariff F.C.C. No. 73 on June 6, 1997, concurrent with its petition for expedited waiver and asks the Commission to grant the waiver prior to the July 21, 1997, effective date of its tariff.

Interested parties may file comments and reply comments on Southwestern Bell's petition for expedited waiver no later than **June 23**, 1997. Reply comments must be filed by **July 3**, 1997. When filing comments and/or replies please reference the internal file number: **CCB/CPD** 97-26.

An original and four copies of all comments must be filed in accordance with Section 1.51(c) of the Commission's Rules, 47 C.F.R. § 1.51(c). In addition, one copy of each pleading must be filed with International Transcription Services (ITS), the Commission's duplicating contractor, at its office at 2100 M Street, N.W., Suite 140, Washington, D.C. 20037 and one copy with the Chief, Competitive Pricing Division, Room 518, 1919 M Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20554.

For further information, contact Wanda M. Harris, Competitive Pricing Division, Common Carrier Bureau, (202) 418-1530.

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