POLICY NO. 23

LINE CHARGES ON T1 and PRI CIRCUITS

The calculation of emergency telephone service charges on T1 and PRI circuits by local exchange carriers is far from uniform, resulting in possible competitive disadvantages in the marketplace. Inasmuch as use of the emergency telephone service charge as a competitive tool contravenes public policy, the Tennessee Emergency Communications Board ("TECB") interprets Tenn. Code Ann. § 7-86-108(a)(1)(A) as authorizing the imposition of such charges on each line in T1 and PRI circuits that can transmit a telephone call. Tenn. Code Ann. § 7-86-108 authorizes the imposition of the emergency telephone service charge on "exchange access facilities."[1] Tenn. Code Ann. § 7-86-103(b) defines "exchange access facilities" as follows:

> "Exchange access facilities" means all lines, provided by the service supplier for the provision of exchange telephone service, as defined in existing general subscriber services tariffs filed by the service supplier with the Tennessee regulatory authority;[2]

The TECB interprets this language to reach "all lines" used to provide exchange telephone service. In the case of a T1 circuit, this would include each of the twenty-four (24) lines available to the subscriber that can transmit a telephone call and, as to a PRI, each of the twenty-three (23) lines used for telephonic purposes that are available to the subscriber.

Adopted 7-16-04

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[1] Tenn. Code Ann. § 7-86-108 (which states in pertinent part):

> (a)(1)(A) The board of directors of the district may levy an emergency telephone service charge in an amount not to exceed sixty-five cents (65¢) per month for residence-classification service users, and not to exceed two dollars ($2.00) per month for business-classification service users, to be used to fund the 911 emergency telephone service. Any such service charge shall have uniform application and shall be imposed throughout the entire district to the greatest extent possible in conformity with the availability of such service within the district. No such service charge shall be imposed upon more than one hundred (100) exchange access facilities per service user per location. . . . .

[2] Tenn. Code Ann. § 7-86-103(7).