

**Birch Telecom of the South, Inc.
dba Birch Communications
Local Exchange Services Tariff**

This Tariff, filed with the South Carolina Public Service Commission, contains the terms and conditions applicable to local exchange telecommunication services in the State of South Carolina by Birch Telecom of the South, Inc. dba Birch Communications (the "Company"). The Company provides exchange telecommunications services on resale and facilities-based bases. Copies of this Tariff may be inspected during normal business hours at the Company's principal place of business located at:

Birch Telecom of the South, Inc. dba Birch Communications
2300 Main Street, Suite 340
Kansas City, MO 64108
(816) 300-3000

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Wherever in this Tariff or its headings, the term "Company" or the name Birch Telecom of the South, Inc. "Birch Telecom" or "Birch" appears, that shall mean and shall refer to Birch Telecom of the South, Inc. dba Birch Communications.

Inquiries regarding this tariff may be directed to:

Tara Jackson
Sr. Manager, Legal and Regulatory
2300 Main Street, Suite 340
Kansas City, Missouri 64108-2415
(816) 300-1677
Tara.jackson@birch.com

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4. SERVICES AND MAXIMUM RATES (continued)

4.2 General Exchange Services (continued)4.2.16 NAVIGATOR SERVICES (1) (8)

A. Basic Flat Rate Service

1. The following statewide schedule of rates is applicable to basic flat rate exchange access line service. The rates specified herein, with zone charges when applicable to service furnished outside the base rate area of an exchange, entitle subscribers to an unlimited number of messages to all exchange access lines bearing the designations of central offices within the serving exchange and basic service area additional exchanges.

2. Monthly Rates By Rate Group

a. Residence Individual Lines, maximum rates (3)

Rate Groups	Rate Group				Maximum	
	1	2	3	4		
1-4 -Per line	\$17.15	\$17.75	\$18.36	\$18.97	\$60.00	(D)

Rate Groups 5-7 - Per line	Rate Group			Maximum	
	5	6	7		
	\$19.58	\$20.18	\$20.79	\$60.00	(D)

b. Business Individual Lines, maximum rates (4)

Rate Groups	Rate Group				Maximum	
	1	2	3	4		
1-4 -Per line	\$43.94	\$46.23	\$48.55	\$50.83	\$150.00	(D)

Rate Groups 5-7 - Per line	Rate Group			Maximum	
	5	6	7		
	\$53.12	\$55.42	\$57.71	\$150.00	(D)

* See Original Sheet No. 48.41 for Footnotes.

4. SERVICES AND MAXIMUM RATES (continued)

4.2 General Exchange Services (continued)4.2.16 NAVIGATOR SERVICES (continued)

A. Basic Flat Rate Service (continued)

2. Monthly Rates By Rate Group (continued)

c. Rotary Line Service - Business, maximum rates (2)

<u>Monthly Rate</u>	<u>Maximum</u>	(D)
\$14.38	\$50.00	

d. Rotary Line Service – Residence, maximum rates (2)

	Rate Group				Maximum	(D)
	1	2	3	4		
Per Line made rotary	\$9.25	\$9.56	\$9.86	\$10.17	\$50.00	

	Rate Group			Maximum	(D)
	5	6	7		
Per Line made rotary	\$10.46	\$10.77	\$11.07	\$50.00	

4. SERVICES AND MAXIMUM RATES (continued)

4.2 General Exchange Services (continued)4.2.17 CLEARTEL SERVICES (continued)

4.2.17.3 Prepaid Services (T)

A. Tempo Value Line (T)

1. Tempo Value Line is equipped with: (T)

Basic Residential Line

2. Monthly Recurring Charges:

	<u>Current Rate</u>	<u>Maximum Rate</u>
Per Line	\$37.95	\$80.00

3. This product was formerly known as the following Cleartel product name:

<u>Former Cleartel Product Name</u> SC Basic Service Residential Basic

4. Rules & Regulations:

- Miscellaneous Service Charges will apply – see Section 4.2.17.5 of this tariff.
- Long Distance is unavailable with this product. All Long Distance will be blocked upon setup of this service.
- Features can be purchased at “a la carte” rates – see Section 4.2.18 of this tariff. Features cannot be added/deleted during the prepaid month. Feature changes can only be submitted upon payment of the next prepaid month.
- The availability of certain features depends on ILEC feature availability.
- Caller ID Customers must provide and connect their own compatible CPE.
- Product may not be available in all CLLIs.
- An additional charge will apply when adding Birch Unified Messaging or Birch Voicemail to Tempo Value Line. There is a maximum of 3 extensions per voicemail box. (C)
- Inside Wire Maintenance can be added with this product, but only at time of install.
- There is no pro-ration or de-ration with prepay product, features and services.
- Once payment is made, it will not be refunded if disconnected before the end of the month paid.
- Lifeline is available to qualified prepaid customers – see Section 4.4.11 of this tariff.

4. SERVICES AND MAXIMUM RATES (continued)

4.2 General Exchange Services (continued)4.2.17 CLEARTEL SERVICES (continued)

4.2.17.3 Prepaid Services (continued)

B. Tempo Basic

1. Tempo Basic is equipped with:

Basic Residential Line
 Caller ID Deluxe
 Call Waiting

2. Monthly Recurring Charges:

	<u>Current Rate</u>	<u>Maximum Rate</u>
Per Line	\$42.95	\$80.00

3. This product was formerly known as the following Cleartel product names:

<u>Former Cleartel Product Name</u>
Residential Enhanced
SC Z1 Residential Basic Plus Prepaid
SC Z3 Residential Basic Plus Prepaid
Residential Lifeline

4. Rules & Regulations:

- Miscellaneous Service Charges will apply – see Section 4.2.17.5 of this tariff.
- Long Distance is unavailable with this product. All Long Distance will be blocked upon setup of this service. (1)
- Declining free features does not reduce the package rate.
- Additional features can be purchased at “a la carte” rates – see Section 4.2.18 of this tariff. Features cannot be added/deleted during the prepaid month. Feature changes can only be submitted upon payment of the next prepaid month.
- The availability of certain features depends on ILEC feature availability.
- Caller ID Customers must provide and connect their own compatible CPE.
- Product may not be available in all CLLIs.
- An additional charge will apply when adding Birch Unified Messaging or Birch Voicemail to Tempo Basic. There is a maximum of 3 extensions per voicemail box.
- IW Maintenance can be added with this product, but only at time of install.
- There is no pro-ration or de-ration with prepay product, features and services.
- Once payment is made, it will not be refunded if disconnected before the end of the month paid.
- Lifeline is available to qualified prepaid customers – see Section 4.4.11 of this tariff.

(1) Effective November 11, 2009, Tempo Basic customers will be given an option to purchase a block of LD minutes. See section 4.2.17.4 below.

4. SERVICES AND MAXIMUM RATES (continued)

4.2 General Exchange Services (continued)4.2.17 CLEARTEL SERVICES (continued)

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4.2.17.3 Prepaid Services (continued)

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C. Tempo Essentials

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1. Tempo Essentials is equipped with:

Basic Residential Line
Unlimited Features
2,000 Free Minutes of Inter-LATA Long Distance

2. Monthly Recurring Charges:

	<u>Current Rate</u>	<u>Maximum Rate</u>
Per Line	\$74.95	\$125.00

3. This product was formerly known as the following Cleartel product name:

<u>Former Cleartel Product Name</u> Residential Unlimited

4. Rules & Regulations:

- Miscellaneous Service Charges will apply – see Section 4.2.17.5 of this tariff.
- Customer will be given 2,000 free minutes of Long Distance with this service. The free minutes include Intra-LATA, Intra-State and Inter-State toll. Customer cannot exceed the 2,000 minutes. Long Distance will be unavailable after the allotted 2,000 minute block, until the service is renewed the following month.
- Declining free features does not reduce the package rate.
- Features cannot be added/deleted during the prepaid month. Feature changes can only be submitted upon payment of the next prepaid month.
- The availability of certain features depends on ILEC feature availability.
- Caller ID Customers must provide and connect their own compatible CPE.
- Product may not be available in all CLLIs.
- An additional charge will apply when adding Birch Unified Messaging or Birch Voicemail to Tempo Essentials. There is a maximum of 3 extensions per voicemail box.
- Inside Wire Maintenance can be added with this product, but only at time of install.
- There is no pro-ration or de-ration with prepay product, features and services.
- Once payment is made, it will not be refunded if disconnected before the end of the month paid.
- Lifeline is available to qualified prepaid customers – see Section 4.4.11 of this tariff.

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4. SERVICES AND MAXIMUM RATES (continued)

4.2 General Exchange Services (continued)4.2.17 CLEARTEL SERVICES (continued)

4.2.17.4 300 Prepaid Minutes LD

Available only to prepaid residential customers with the Tempo Basic service, this package provides 300 total minutes of Intra-Lata, Intra-State and Inter-State long distance for a monthly recurring charge. The LD will not exceed 300 minutes per month, and will be reset upon payment by the customer. (T)

Rates:

	<u>Current Rate</u>
Per Line	\$8.00

4.2.17.5 Miscellaneous Service Charges

A. Facilities Charges

The Facilities Charge provides for delivery of high quality services, including connecting customers to the network, customer service and network monitoring, updating operational systems, and the construction of a facilities-based network. The Facilities Charge is applied to each line. A Supplementary Facilities Charge is also applied to each line where Birch Long Distance service is used.

<u>Charge (per line)</u>	<u>Current Rate</u>
Facilities Charge	\$8.08

<u>Charge (per line with Birch LD)</u>	<u>Current Rate</u>
Supplementary Facilities Charge	\$4.31

B. Carrier Access Recovery Charge

The Carrier Access Recovery Charge funds a contribution towards higher costs of interconnection with other carriers. This charge is applied to each line.

<u>Charge (per line)</u>	<u>Current Rate</u>
Carrier Access Recovery Charge	\$4.31

4. SERVICES AND MAXIMUM RATES (continued)

4.2 General Exchange Services (continued)

4.2.22 Ernest Communications

The following products of Ernest Communications have been grandfathered and changed their product names to the Birch product listed below.

A. BirchNet Basic Plus – the following products will be billed as BirchNet Basic Plus:

AllenEdmds-BI-2b-21.53	EZ-Z1-SC-37.95	MotionInd-Flat-34.99
AlliedBldgProd-Flat-31.75	Ferrell Gas-BI-2b-34.29	Odyssey-Flat-30.50
APG-BI-2a-27.21	FifthThirdBank-EZPI-42.00	One Point-On Net-34.25
Argos-Z1-BSC-w/3%Dsct-38.75	FleetPride-Flat-30.20	PSC-EZPI-Z1-BSC-42.95
Argos-Z2-BSC-w/3%Dsct-40.69	Flint-BI-2b-26.23	RAC-Flat-29.54
Argos-ZU-VSC-w/3%Dsct-34.87	Fox&Hnd-BI-2d-25.91	RAC-RCF-29.54
AxcFin-EZPI-OnNet-29.00	GameStop-Flat-28.10	Red Rbn-BI-2b-BSC-34.73
BearCrk-EZPI-Z0-VSC-33.95	GCLee-EZPI-Z1-BSC-39.95	Red Rbn-BI-2b-VSC-22.73
Bennett-BI-2b-29.36	GenShale-BI-2d-34.35	RHF-22SC-EZPI-Z1-BSC-38.95
Bus-Spc	Graham-BI-2d-31.63	Securus-EZ-VSC-27.84
Carquest-Flat-30.91	GrtClps-EZ-Z1-SC-34.95	Sm Bus-Z0-VSC-35.95
CarToys-Flat-35.99	HCR-Flat-23.74	Sm Bus-Z1-BSC-39.95
Century Park Assoc-28.09	HealthyAdvice-EZPI-BSC-34.95	SteinMart-Flat-25.45
Chicos (2012)-Flat-30.32	Hooters-EZPI-Z1-SC-26.00	Steris-BI-2d-26.16
Chicos-EZPI-27.87	Hooters-EZPI-Z2-VSC-34.00	Telesphere-BI-2b-28.47
ChmChar-Z1-BSC-w/3%Dsct-38.75	ITT-BI-2d-23.78	TiresPlus-Flat-22.50
Cintas-Flat-31.80	John Deere-Flat-28.00	Titan/WAC-EZPI-Z1-VSC-33.95
CoalBrk-BI-2b-26.77	KrspKrme-EZPI-SC-32.95	Under Armour-On Net-34.49
CPP-2012-SC-18.75	Lennox-BI-2a-25.30	Velocity-Flat-32.99
CSLPlasma-25.17	Limited-BI-2d-29.12	WCS-VSC-42.83
CT NR-EZ-Z1-VSC-33.95	LocalFinance-Flat Rate-39.95	YES Comm-On Net-34.99
CT NR-EZ-Z3-BSC-32.95	MattressFirm-Flat-34.30	Zales-EZPI-Z1-BSC-33.76
CT-2011-Z1-P-BSC-35.95	MattressFirm-VSC-34.30	Zales-EZPI-Z2-BSC-36.49
CTech21-Z1-SC-39.95	MattressFirm-Z1-BSC-34.30	Zales-EZPI-Z3-BSC-32.85
EZPI-Z1-SC-42.95	McJunkin-EZPI-OnNet-31.50	

B. The following products will be grandfathered and will be billed as Remote Call Forward (RCF) or Additional Path (RCA):

Remote Call Forward-BSC-Addl Path-15.95
 Remote Call Forward-BSC-15.95
 Remote Call Forward-BSC-20.55

4. SERVICES AND MAXIMUM RATES (continued)
4.2 General Exchange Services (continued)

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4.2.23 Lightyear Network Solutions

The following products of Lightyear have been grandfathered and changed their product names to the Birch product listed below.

A. BirchNet Basic Plus:

BizValue
BIZValue Commercial
Opportunity Plan

B. BirchLink T PRI :

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4. SERVICES (continued)

4.4 Miscellaneous Services (continued)

4.4.9 Facilities Charge

The Facilities Charge provides for delivery of high quality services, including connecting customers to the network, customer service and network monitoring, updating operational systems, and the construction of a facilities-based network. The Facilities Charge is applied to each line. A Supplementary Facilities Charge is also applied to each line where Birch Long Distance service is used.

<u>Charge</u>	<u>MRC</u>
Facilities Charge	\$12.76 on each Business line \$12.76 on each Residential line
Supplementary Facilities Charge	\$3.00 on each line

4.4.10 Paper Invoice Fee

All customers that do not receive E-bill (Electronic Invoicing) will receive a paper invoice charge of \$1.95 per invoice (\$7.80 maximum) and \$9.95 for elite or large customers (\$19.95 maximum).. This charge represents the costs for printing, postage, mail handling and management of paper invoices. You may avoid this charge by registering for E-bill online or by contacting customer service.

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4.4.11 **Lifeline Services**

A. Description:

“Lifeline” is a federal program that provides for a discount of the recurring monthly rate for the provision of basic local residential exchange service for certain low income customers.

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B. Credit Amount - \$9.25

4. SERVICES (continued)

4.4 Miscellaneous Services (continued)

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4.4.11 **Lifeline Services (continued)**

C. Regulations and Qualifications:

(a) To constitute a qualifying low-income customer:

- (1) Their household income as defined in 54.400 (f) must be at or below 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines for a household of that size; or
- (2) The customer, one or more of their dependents, or their household must receive benefits from one of the following federal assistance programs:

- Medicaid
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
- Supplemental Security Income
- Federal Public Housing Assistance (Section 8)
- Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program
- National School Lunch Program’s free lunch program
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)

(3) The consumer meets additional eligibility criteria established by a state for its residents, provided that such-state specific criteria are based solely on income or other factors directly related to income.

(b) A consumer who lives on Tribal lands is eligible for Lifeline service as a “qualifying low-income consumer” as defined by 54.400(a) and as an “eligible resident of Tribal lands” as defined by section or if the consumer, one or more of the consumer’s dependents, or the consumer’s household participates in one of the following Tribal-specific federal assistance programs:

- Bureau of Indian Affairs general assistance
- Tribally administered Temporary Assistance for Needy Families
- Head Start (only those households meeting its income qualifying standard)
- Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations

(c) In addition to meeting the qualifications provided in paragraph (a) or (b) of this section, in order to constitute a qualifying low-income consumer, a consumer must not already be receiving a Lifeline service, and there must not be anyone else in the subscriber’s household subscribed to a Lifeline service.

The discount is available only to qualifying Tempo Communications Prepaid customers and their principle residence line.

A qualifying customer shall receive a reduction to their monthly listed residential local exchange access line rate and federal subscriber line charge.

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1. Business Services

4.2.11 BirchNet Miscellaneous Charges

			(D)
			(D)
			(D)
Line Installation incl. jack/ wiring	\$165.00 1 st hour		(I)
Line Installation incl. jack/wiring	\$60 ea. add'l 1/2 hour		(C)
			(D)
Feature Add or Change	\$10.00 per Order		
Basic Service Change	\$10.00 per Order		
Establishing or Re-arranging Hunting	\$10.00 per Order		
Directory Listing Change	\$10.00 per Order		
Invoice Change	\$50.00 per Order		(I)
Transfer of Service	\$50.00 per Order		(I)
TN Change	\$25.00 per Order		
Line Signaling Change	\$25.00 per Order		
Vanity Number Search	\$25.00 per Order		
Establishing Dual Service	\$50.00 per Order		(I)
Expedite Service Charge (LWC/UNE)	\$50.00 per Order		(I)
Expedite Service Charge (Facilities)	\$200.00 per Day per Line		(I)
Expedite Service Charge (T1 Circuits)	\$595.00 per Day per Circuit		(I)
 Maintenance Visit Charges			
	Residential	Business	(I)
Premise Work Charge	\$139.00	\$139.00	(I)
Initial Hour (time & materials)	\$165.00	\$165.00	
Trouble Determination (per request)	\$110.00	\$110.00	
Each Additional 30 minute increment	\$60.00	\$60.00	(I)
Initial Jack & Wiring (existing customer)	\$130.00	\$130.00	
Each Additional Jack & Wiring (existing customer)	\$65.00	\$65.00	

1. Business Services

4.2.14 Home Connection and Home Essentials Miscellaneous Charges

Nonrecurring charges for installation of Business lines are:

		(D)
		(D)
Line Installation incl. Jack/ wiring	\$165.00 1 st hour	(I)
Line Installation incl. jack/wiring	\$60 ea. add'l 1/2 hour	(C)

Service Order Charges

Charge	Maximum Price	
Feature Add or Change	\$10.00 per Order	
Basic Service Change	\$10.00 per Order	
Establishing or Re-arranging Hunting	\$10.00 per Order	
Directory Listing Change	\$10.00 per Order	
Invoice Change	\$50.00 per Order	(I)
Transfer of Service	\$50.00 per Order	(I)
TN Change	\$25.00 per Order	
Line Signaling Change	\$25.00 per Order	
Vanity Number Search	\$25.00 per Order	
Establishing Dual Service	\$50.00 per Order	(I)
Expedite Service Charge (LWC/UNE)	\$60.00 per Order	(I)
Expedite Service Charge (Facilities)	\$200.00 per Day per Line	
Expedite Service Charge (T1 Circuits)	\$595.00 per Day per Circuit	

Maintenance Visit Charges

	Residential	Business	
Premise Work Charge	\$139.00	\$139.00	(I)
Initial Hour (time & materials)	\$165.00	\$165.00	
Trouble Determination (per request)	\$110.00	\$110.00	
Each Additional 30 minute increment	\$60.00	\$60.00	(I)
Initial Jack & Wiring (existing customer)	\$130.00	\$130.00	
Each Additional Jack & Wiring (existing customer)	\$65.00	\$65.00	