

Before the  
Federal Communications Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20554

In the Matter of )  
 )  
NYNEX Telephone Companies )  
 )  
Offer of Comparably Efficient )  
Interconnection to Electronic )  
Information Services Providers )

**Comparably Efficient Interconnection Plan  
For Existing Electronic Information Services**

The NYNEX Telephone Companies<sup>1</sup> (NYNEX) hereby submit their Comparably Efficient Interconnection (CEI) Plan to continue to provide Electronic Information Services (EIS), in accordance with the Commission's Waiver Order.<sup>2</sup>

I. INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY

The Waiver Order, requires a BOC to file CEI plans within sixty days of the release date of the Waiver Order for existing enhanced services offered pursuant to an approved ONA plan, but not covered by an approved CEI Plan.<sup>3</sup> BOCs are permitted to continue to provide these services while the Commission reviews the CEI Plan.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> The NYNEX Telephone Companies are New York Telephone and the New England Telephone and Telegraph Company.

<sup>2</sup> Bell Operating Companies' Joint Petition for Waiver of Computer II Rules, Memorandum Opinion and Order, DA 95-36, at para. 2 (rel. Jan. 11, 1995) (Waiver Order).

<sup>3</sup> For purposes of the Waiver Order, the Commission considered "new enhanced services" to include any enhanced service which was not being offered to customers as of the effective date of the Waiver Order. Waiver Order at para. 30, n. 73.

<sup>4</sup> Waiver Order at para 30.

NYNEX offered EIS under its approved ONA Plan as of the effective date of the Waiver Order and will continue to provide its EIS on an unseparated basis, pending Commission review of this Plan. In providing these services, NYNEX will subscribe to a number of existing underlying basic network services. All of these basic network services are now available, either region-wide or in most NYNEX jurisdictions. EIS only uses tariffed network services available to other enhanced service providers and purchases such services at tariffed rates.

Accordingly, NYNEX hereby submits its CEI Plan for EIS. This plan describes EIS and sets forth the means by which NYNEX provides CEI to other electronic information service providers (ISPs). NYNEX requests expeditious Commission review and approval of this Plan.<sup>5</sup>

## II. DESCRIPTION OF SERVICE

EIS are computer based electronic information services that may be provided as stand-alone databases or information service gateways. Customers with a telecommunications capability access and interact with EIS through the use of a personal computer or suitably equipped terminal. NYNEX presently offers two EIS applications: Videotext Information Services Gateway (VIG) and NYNEX Interactive Yellow Pages (NIYP).<sup>6</sup>

A. Videotext Information Services Gateway NYNEX's VIG application gives gateway customers with a personal computer the ability to electronically: (1) access a wide

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<sup>5</sup> This CEI Plan proposes CEI arrangements that are substantially the same as those proposed in Bell Atlantic's CEI Plan to Providers of Gateway Services which was approved by the Commission on September 30, 1988, and therefore warrants expedited Commission action. Amendment of Section 64.702 of the Commission's Rules and Regulations (Third Computer Inquiry), CC Docket No. 85-229, Report and Order, FCC 86-252, released June 16, 1986 (Computer III Phase I Order) ("R&O"), para. 191.

<sup>6</sup> The Commission will be notified prior to the introduction of any new EIS application which constitutes a major change in EIS.

variety of videotext information services provided by affiliated and nonaffiliated ISPs; and (2) create, store, access and send electronic mail messages.<sup>7</sup>

NYNEX's VIG may be accessed via dial access using the public switched network or through the use of private lines.<sup>8</sup> After accessing VIG, an end user may select from a variety of information databases and services. Based on the subscriber's choice, VIG routes the call to the appropriate information service provider or database.<sup>9</sup> The end user may then electronically browse or interact with the selected information service. When finished, the subscriber may either terminate the session or use VIG to select a different information service or database.

VIG also provides an electronic messaging or "E-Mail" capability for VIG end users. Electronic messaging permits an end user to create, store, and forward messages to an electronic mailbox for other VIG end users or onto other networks that may be available through VIG such as the Internet. To retrieve a message, an end user accesses his or her electronic mail box and has the general capability to retrieve, redirect, store, reply, and/or delete the message. Messages may also be placed on public "bulletin boards" or directed to specific groups or forums where users may share a common interest.

NYNEX currently uses its INFOPATH Packet Switching Service (INFOPATH),<sup>10</sup> and plans to use its Frame Relay Service,<sup>11</sup> in conjunction with providing VIG. In the case of

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<sup>7</sup> VIG equipment is not integrated with NYNEX's telephone network equipment and may or may not be physically collocated within NYNEX's network switching centers. VIG equipment interconnects to the network using tariffed network services that are available on the same terms and conditions to all ISPs.

<sup>8</sup> As described below, VIG currently uses NYNEX's INFOPATH Packet Switching Service, and plans to use Frame Relay Service, to provide access to and provision VIG.

<sup>9</sup> NYNEX provides the capability for an ISP to use NYNEX's gateway equipment to store its information database rather than procuring and deploying its own equipment.

<sup>10</sup> INFOPATH Packet Switching Service provides basic packet switching data transmission capabilities and furnishes access to enhanced protocol processing capabilities. INFOPATH accommodates both synchronous access based on X.25 protocol and asynchronous access and supports dial access from the public switched network and dedicated access using private lines.

<sup>11</sup> Frame Relay Service provides basic frame relay transport service.

INFOPATH, end users and ISPs may access VIG through INFOPATH by using dial access or dedicated direct access arrangements available as part of the INFOPATH service.<sup>12</sup> Once on the INFOPATH network, INFOPATH routes the call to the appropriate dedicated INFOPATH access port associated with VIG and provides any necessary protocol conversion.<sup>13</sup> VIG directs the call to the selected information service provider, utilizing INFOPATH's Closed User Group<sup>14</sup> and Call Redirection features.<sup>15</sup>

In the case of Frame Relay, end users and ISPs would access VIG through NYNEX's Frame Relay Service by using dial access or dedicated direct access arrangements available as part of Frame Relay Service.<sup>16</sup> VIG would direct the call to the selected information service provider either directly through the use of tariffed private lines or through NYNEX's Frame Relay Service.

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<sup>12</sup> In the case of dial access, the serving central office routes the call to an INFOPATH dial access port based on the called number.

<sup>13</sup> NYNEX provides the necessary asynchronous to synchronous X.25 protocol conversion pursuant to Compliance Plans approved by the Commission under the Protocol Waiver Order. New York Telephone Petition for Waiver of Section 64.702 of the Commission's Petition (Computer II), Memorandum Opinion and Order, AAD 5-1242, Memo No. 6782 (released September 11, 1986); New England Telephone and Telegraph Petition for Waiver of Section 64.702 of the Commission's Petition (Computer II), Memorandum Opinion and Order, 3 FCC Rcd 6167 (1988).

<sup>14</sup> Closed User Group allows users to establish a sub-network among a restricted number of INFOPATH users within the INFOPATH network who can communicate privately with each other.

<sup>15</sup> Call Redirection is a data call forwarding capability that allows a INFOPATH customer to predefine one alternative destination to which calls can be redirected in the event of a failure or busy condition at the primary destination.

<sup>16</sup> At this time, dial access to Frame Relay Service is only available through limited service offerings in state jurisdictions and a specialized arrangement in the federal jurisdiction as there is not sufficient demand to warrant a general tariff offering in any jurisdiction. These arrangements are offered to all similarly situated customers for the same price and same terms and conditions.

B. NYNEX Interactive Yellow Pages

NIYP is an information database that contains NYNEX's classified business listings. It includes the business name, address, telephone number, and general business heading of all business customers who agreed to be included in the NYNEX Yellow Pages, as well as business customers who specifically requested inclusion in NIYP.

The NIYP database also contains customer sponsored advertising. The customer-provided advertising is typically associated with an individual business listing and may include both text and graphic information and displays. The advertising can be electronically searched through the use of a personal computer. The database itself may be queried using a variety of selection criteria, including business name, telephone number, location, and zip code.

NYNEX provides access to NIYP through selected third party on-line information service gateway providers, such as, Prodigy, with which NYNEX has specifically contracted to provide the NIYP database as an information service on their gateway.<sup>17</sup> Typically, to access NIYP, an end-user "dials into" his/her gateway provider using existing exchange services and a modem.<sup>18</sup> Once connected to the gateway provider, the end-user would select NIYP from a number of ISPs available on the gateway. After having selected NIYP, the end-user is able to conduct an interactive search of the NIYP database.

III. COMPLIANCE WITH CEI PARAMETERS

This section describes how NYNEX's EIS offering meets the Commission's CEI parameters.<sup>19</sup>

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<sup>17</sup> NIYP may be offered as an information service on NYNEX's VIG at some future point.

<sup>18</sup> Providing access to the gateway is the responsibility of the gateway provider. All NYNEX basic services used by a gateway provider to provide end user access or to provision their gateway service are obtained out of the appropriate tariff.

<sup>19</sup> R&O at paras. 154-66.

A. Interface Functionality

The equipment used for EIS by NYNEX is not integrated with NYNEX's telephone network equipment. Depending on the application, EIS equipment may or may not be physically collocated with NYNEX's network switching centers. In either case, EIS equipment interconnects to the network using the same existing standard interfaces and tariffed transmission offerings that are available on the same terms and conditions to all ISPs. A list of the underlying basic services and applicable tariffs that may be used by NYNEX EIS, and are available to competitive ISPs to provide information services, is included in Appendix A. All ISPs can, therefore, connect their equipment to the telephone network through identical standard hardware and software interfaces and access arrangements associated with existing tariffed basic services. These interfaces support transmission, switching and signaling functions, the details of which are currently available to the industry.

In addition to the interfaces for the currently available basic services, NYNEX EIS may avail itself of new basic services when they are made generally available to others. In the event NYNEX EIS uses any new basic services, NYNEX will include such services in an amendment to this plan. NYNEX will offer these services in state and/or federal tariffs as appropriate, and make them available to all users on a nondiscriminatory basis.

B. Unbundling of Basic Services

All basic services and functions used by NYNEX EIS are unbundled to the extent that they are functionally useful to ISPs and end users. They represent the minimum set of network functions that are required for connectivity to the network. All basic services that NYNEX EIS uses are under tariff. NYNEX does not use any network functions for its EIS that are not available to all ISPs under the same terms and conditions.

C. Resale

NYNEX EIS fully complies with the CEI parameter that requires NYNEX enhanced service offerings to take the same underlying basic services at unbundled tariff rates. NYNEX procures CEI elements at the same tariffed rates, terms and conditions as available to other ISPs.

D. Technical Characteristics

Interconnection to NYNEX EIS offerings and to offerings of nonaffiliated ISPs is through the same standard network interfaces. These interconnections are provided under existing tariffs and support all the transmission, switching and signaling functions used in NYNEX EIS.

E. Installation, Maintenance, and Repair

The procedures for ordering, installing, maintaining, and repairing underlying basic services are identical for affiliated and unaffiliated ISPs. The procedures ensure that there can be no discrimination in response or intervals for these functions.<sup>20</sup>

F. End User Access

NYNEX EIS subscribers use the same tariffed services that would be used by any other user -- e.g., dial access, residence and business exchange access lines, Centrex lines, foreign exchange lines -- and all service features and options available under tariff for NYNEX EIS are available to all other users on the same terms and conditions.

G. CEI Availability

NYNEX only uses tariffed network services to provision EIS service that are available on the same terms and conditions and at the same time to all ISPs.

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<sup>20</sup> The Commission approved NYNEX's procedures. See Filing and Review of Open Network Architecture Plans, Memorandum Opinion and Order, 4 FCC Rcd 1 paras 467-73 (1988).

#### H. Recipients of CEI

The basic services NYNEX uses to access EIS are offered under existing tariffs to all ISPs and end users. This satisfies the Commission's requirement that carriers must not restrict the availability of CEI to any particular class of customer or enhanced service competitor.

#### I. Minimization of Transport Costs

The Commission held that this CEI condition is satisfied where, as here, affiliated and unaffiliated enhanced service providers are charged the same rate for underlying basic services.<sup>21</sup>

#### IV. COMPLIANCE WITH NONSTRUCTURAL SAFEGUARDS

In addition to CEI, the Commission has required certain other nonstructural safeguards to ensure nondiscriminatory treatment and to prevent cross-subsidization. These other nonstructural safeguards required by the Commission are: (a) nondiscrimination, (b) protection of Customer Proprietary Network Information (CPNI), (c) allocation of joint and common costs, and (d) disclosure of network interconnection information. NYNEX has complied, and will continue to comply fully with the existing, and any revised, requirements regarding these nonstructural safeguards.

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<sup>21</sup> Amendment of Section 64.702 of the Commission's Rules and Regulations (Third Computer Inquiry), Phase II Reconsideration Order, 3 FCC Rcd 1155, paras 32-4 (1988). Price sheets for sample tariffs that illustrate the basic interconnection charge and the distance-sensitive transmission charges are attached as Appendix B.

WHEREFORE, for the reasons stated herein, the Commission should expeditiously approve NYNEX's Plan to provide Comparably Efficient Interconnection to providers of Electronic Information Services.

Respectfully submitted,

NYNEX Telephone Companies

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**BASIC SERVICES AND TARIFFS**

<b>SERVICE</b>	<b>TARIFF</b>	<b>SECTION</b>
<i>I. Exchange Telephone Service</i>		
New England Telephone		
Maine		
Residence, Business	PUC Me 15	5
Foreign Exchange (FX)	" " "	6
CENTREX, DID	" " "	7, C
ISDN, Digital PBX Flexpath	" " "	C
Massachusetts		
Residence, Business, FX	Mass DPU 10	5*
CENTREX, DID	" " "	7, C
ISDN, Digital PBX Flexpath	" " "	C
New Hampshire		
Residence, Business, FX	NH PUC 75	5
CENTREX, DID	" " "	7, C
ISDN, Digital PBX Flexpath	" " "	C
Rhode Island		
Residence, Business, FX	PUC RI 15	5
CENTREX, DID	" " "	7, C
ISDN, Digital PBX Flexpath	" " "	C
Vermont		
Residence, Business, FX	PUC RI 15	5
CENTREX, DID	" " "	7, C
ISDN, Digital PBX Flexpath	" " "	C
New York Telephone		
Residence, Business	PSC 900	1
FX, ISDN	" "	2
CENTREX, DID	" "	4
Digital PBX Flexpath	" "	4

\* Price sheets for the tariffed basic services are attached.

**BASIC SERVICES AND TARIFFS**

<b>SERVICE</b>	<b>TARIFF</b>	<b>SECTION</b>
<i>II. Private Line Services (PLS)</i>		
New England Telephone		
Maine	PUC Me 15	B, C
Massachusetts	DPU Mass 10	B, C
New Hampshire	NHPUC 75	B, C
Rhode Island	PUC RI 15	B, C
Vermont	PSB VT 20	B, C
New York Telephone	PSC 900 PSC 910	12, 21*
<i>III. INFOPATH</i>		
New England Telephone		
Maine	PUC Me 15	C
Massachusetts	DPU Mass 10	C
New Hampshire	NHPUC 75	C
Rhode Island	PUC RI 15	C
Vermont	PSB VT 20	C
New York Telephone	PSC 900	21*
<i>III. FRAME RELAY</i>		
New England Telephone		
Maine	PUC Me 15	C#
Massachusetts	DPU Mass 10	C
New Hampshire	NHPUC 75	C#
Rhode Island	PUC RI 15	C
Vermont	PSB VT 20	C#
New York Telephone	PSC 900	21*

\* Price sheets for the tariffed basic services are attached.

# Tariffs are planned to be filed in the 2nd quarter 1995.