

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

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

**Comparably Efficient Interconnection Plan  
For Audiotext Information Services**

The NYNEX Telephone Companies<sup>1</sup> (NYNEX) hereby submit their Comparably Efficient Interconnection (CEI) Plan to offer Audiotext Information Services (AIS), in accordance with the Commission's Waiver Order.<sup>2</sup> The Waiver Order requires a BOC to file CEI plans for new enhanced services.<sup>3</sup>

I. **INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY**

This plan describes AIS and sets forth the means by which NYNEX plans to provide CEI to other audiotext information services providers (ISPs). NYNEX intends to offer AIS as described herein upon Commission approval of this CEI 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,

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

<sup>2</sup> Bell Operating Companies' Joint Petition for Waiver of Computer II Rules, DA 95-36, Memorandum Opinion and Order released January 11, 1995 by Common Carrier Bureau. (Waiver Order), paras. 2-3.

<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.

either region-wide or in most NYNEX jurisdictions. AIS only uses tariffed network services available to other enhanced service providers and purchases such services at the same tariffed rates, terms and conditions.

NYNEX requests expeditious Commission review and approval of this Plan.<sup>4</sup>

## II. DESCRIPTION OF SERVICE

AIS are computer based audiotext information services that may be provided as stand-alone audiotext databases or audiotext services gateways. End users with a telecommunications capability would access and interact with AIS through the use of a Touch-Tone telephone. NYNEX plans to offer AIS in a number of audiotext service configurations and applications.<sup>5</sup> In all cases, access to AIS will be via tariffed services and enhanced functions will be separate from NYNEX telephone network equipment.<sup>6</sup>

The following generally describes NYNEX's planned AIS applications.<sup>7</sup>

AIS will permit consumers and AIS subscribers to use their telephone and the public switched network to access and/or place audiotext information that is stored in NYNEX

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<sup>4</sup> This CEI Plan proposes enhanced services and CEI arrangements that are substantially the same as those proposed in U S West's Comparably Efficient Interconnection Plan For Audiotext Services and Ameritech's Plan To Provide Comparably Efficient Interconnection To Providers Of Interactive Voice Response Services, both filed with the Commission on March 13, 1995, and therefore warrants expedited Commission action upon Commission approval of either of those CEI Plans. See Amendment of Section 64.702 of the Commission's Rules and Regulations (Third Computer Inquiry), CC Docket No. 85-229, FCC 86-252, Report and Order, released June 16, 1986 (Computer III Phase I Order) (R&O), para. 191.

<sup>5</sup> AIS would encompass the enhanced services to be trialed as part of NYNEX's planned Consumer Tips Market Trial which is scheduled to begin on or after September 1, 1995, pending Commission approval of NYNEX's market trial notice which was filed May 15, 1995.

<sup>6</sup> AIS equipment is not integrated with NYNEX's telephone network equipment and may or may not be physically collocated within NYNEX's network switching centers. AIS equipment interconnects to the network using tariffed network services that are available on the same rates, terms and conditions to all ISPs.

<sup>7</sup> The Commission will be notified prior to the introduction of any new AIS application which constitutes a major change in AIS.

enhanced equipment.<sup>8</sup> Depending on the specific application, consumers would be able to access and interact with a wide variety of audiotext information, including informational messages (e.g., news, weather, sports, horoscope, etc.), topical information placed by AIS advertisers<sup>9</sup> (e.g., description of merchant services or discount programs), and classified ads (e.g., personals, consumer merchandise advertisements, etc.).

To access AIS, AIS customers would dial a standard seven or ten digit number of the form NPA NXX-XXXX. Once connected to AIS, a customer, through the use of a standard Touch-Tone telephone and interaction with audiotext prompts, will be able to navigate through AIS and place or access audiotext messages. Depending on the application, AIS end users may or may not be charged to access AIS other than paying their carrier(s) for a standard telephone call.

### **III. COMPLIANCE WITH CEI PARAMETERS**

This section describes how NYNEX's AIS offering meets the Commission's CEI parameters.<sup>10</sup>

#### **A. Interface Functionality**

The equipment used for AIS by NYNEX is not integrated with NYNEX's telephone network equipment. Depending on the application, AIS equipment may or may not be physically collocated with NYNEX's network switching centers. In either case, AIS equipment interconnects to the network using the same existing standard interfaces

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<sup>8</sup> NYNEX may directly provide the AIS content, in partnership with a non-affiliated content provider, or permit non-affiliated audiotext providers to provide content on NYNEX enhanced equipment such as through an audiotext gateway or utilize NYNEX AIS equipment to provide their own non-affiliated audiotext service.

<sup>9</sup> AIS advertisers would pay fees to NYNEX to be included as advertisers on the AIS audiotext service. Depending on the arrangements with the individual advertiser, a customer may leave a message for an advertiser (e.g., request that the advertiser contact the customer) or have their call redirected to the sponsor in order to speak directly with the advertiser.

<sup>10</sup> See R&O at paras. 154-66.

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 AIS, 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 AIS may avail itself of new basic services when they are made generally available to others. In the event NYNEX AIS 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 AIS 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 AIS uses are under tariff. NYNEX does not use any network functions for its AIS that are not available to all ISPs under the same rates, terms and conditions.

**C. Resale**

NYNEX AIS 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 AIS offerings and to offerings of non-affiliated 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 AIS.

**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 are designed to preclude discrimination in response or intervals for these functions.<sup>11</sup>

**F. End User Access**

NYNEX AIS 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 AIS are available to all other users under the same rates, terms and conditions.

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<sup>11</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).

**G. CEI Availability**

NYNEX only uses tariffed network services to provision AIS service that are available under the same rates, terms and conditions and at the same time to all ISPs.

**H. Recipients of CEI**

The basic services NYNEX uses to access AIS 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 rates for underlying basic services.<sup>12</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 cover: (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>12</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. 32-34 (1988). Price sheets for sample tariffs that illustrate the basic interconnection charge and the distance-sensitive transmission charges are attached as Appendix B.

V. CONCLUSION

For the reasons stated, the Commission should expeditiously approve NYNEX's Plan to provide Comparably Efficient Interconnection to providers of Audiotext Information Services.

Respectfully submitted,

NYNEX Telephone Companies

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Dated: July 28, 1995

**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><u>SERVICE</u></b>	<b><u>TARIFF</u></b>	<b><u>SECTION</u></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*

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