Date: January 4, 1999

Number: CLECCS99-001

Contact: Pacific Bell Account Manager

Please refer to our prior Accessible Letter CLECCS98-070 dated November 13, 1998 and titled “Access to OSS 90-Day Periods: 90-Day Evaluation and 90-Day Billing Waiver.” The purpose of this Accessible Letter is to provide a revised copy of the earlier document, which provides the detailed description of both 90-day periods.

This revision is designed to correct the title for the first 90-day period, previously referred to as the “90-Day Evaluation” period. Although the intent of this first 90-day period was correctly described in the earlier document, the term “evaluation period” does not accurately represent or match the description provided. Therefore, the earlier document has been updated to change all occurrences of “90-Day Evaluation” to “90-Day Initial Start-Up.” In addition, any reference to “trial period/mode” has been changed to “hands-on practice period.”

These updates do not change in any way the availability or intent of the 90-Day Initial Start-Up Period, nor the CLECs’ eligibility. We hope the changes more clearly define this particular 90-day period.

Please direct any questions you may have to your Pacific Bell Account Manager.

Attachment
INTRODUCTION:

In an effort to stimulate the use of our electronic interfaces and encourage interested CLECs to transition from manual ordering, Pacific Bell offers two distinct 90-day periods at no charge to CLECs during their initial turn-up of OSS interface(s). This initial turn-up occurs only after the CLEC has a signed and approved OSS agreement and physical connectivity has been established.

Pacific Bell’s proposed access to OSS rates filed with the CPUC are applicable on a per-OSS basis. The first 90-day initial start-up period applies each time the CLEC deploys an electronic OSS interface and is considered a “hands-on practice” period. The second 90-day period is currently available as a one-time promotional offer. This offer allows the billing of applicable OSS rates to be waived during the first 90-days of billing. This billing waiver applies only one time and follows the 90-Day Initial Start-Up period the very first time the CLEC deploys OSS. The billing is not waived each time the CLEC deploys additional OSSs.

Should Pacific Bell decide to withdraw this promotional offer at any time in the future, CLECs will be notified via Accessible Letter at least fourteen (14) calendar days in advance of the offer’s cancellation.

90-DAY INITIAL START-UP PERIOD:

Intent: This period is designed to provide ample time for CLECs to become proficient in the use of their new OSS(s) in a hands-on mode. During this time, the CLEC can validate connectivity and User IDs, apply the training, become familiar with the interfaces’ functionality, integrate multiple OSSs (e.g. pre-ordering and ordering), develop M&P, incorporate business rules into their own operational process, and train their employees. Use of this period should ultimately result in accurate requests/orders through the correct and efficient use of the interface and associated business rules.

For certain ordering OSSs, the CLEC may want to coordinate an actual joint trial of the ordering requirements/process using test cases before going live in production. For example, this could apply to LSR-based ordering using the LSR Exchange (LEX) or Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) interfaces. These joint trials could be addressed within the 90-day time frame and would be conducted according to a joint trial plan coordinated between the CLEC and Pacific Bell.

CLEC Eligibility: While this 90-day period is free of charge (i.e. no OSS rates are billed) and allows the CLEC free use of the OSS in a practice mode, it is not considered a “try it before you commit” period. A signed, filed and approved OSS agreement is the prerequisite. Prior to signing an OSS agreement, CLECs will typically select the OSSs that best suit their business needs using such options as OSS Demo Sessions, Technical One-on-One Meetings, review of OSS documentation, etc. to help them make...
that determination. However, pending approval of their OSS agreement, the CLEC may proceed with certain implementation activities in advance (with the help of their Account Manager) such as establish connectivity, request User IDs, schedule training (as required), etc. These steps precede initial turn-up, in preparation for OSS deployment.

**When Applicable:** This *hands-on practice* period typically follows completion of training when the OSS is first turned-up for use. With this offer, CLECs are NOT billed effective with initial turn-up of their electronic OSSs. They are given a maximum of 90 days to either use the actual live OSSs (if no training database exists) or in a training database mode (where applicable) before Pacific Bell will commence billing applicable OSS rates.

Although optional, Pacific Bell strongly recommends that the CLEC take advantage of this "practice period" and incorporate it into implementation plans and timelines. Throughout the implementation process, the CLEC and their Account Manager should maintain close communications regarding OSS deployment timelines and when the *hands-on practice* period will start and end. This information is shared internally to ensure Pacific Bell schedules proper implementation support to coincide with the CLECs *hands-on practice* period and subsequent live production turn-up.

Depending on the OSSs to be deployed and CLEC expertise, a CLEC may choose to use less than 90 days. If this is the case, Pacific Bell recommends a minimum of two to four weeks before the CLEC officially begins operating with the new OSS interfaces in a live business production mode.

The 90-Day Initial Start-Up period applies to Pacific Bell’s current list of electronic OSS interfaces offered for End-User pre-ordering, ordering/provisioning, repair/maintenance, and billing.

**90-DAY BILLING WAIVER**

**Intent:** This is a temporary billing promotion to reduce the CLECs initial billing of applicable OSS rates. The offer is designed to provide additional incentive for CLECs to use Pacific Bells electronic OSS interfaces.

**CLEC Eligibility:** A CLEC becomes eligible for this billing promotion only once. It applies the very first time the CLEC deploys electronic OSS interfaces in a live production mode, whether the CLEC goes live with one OSS interface (e.g. Verigate for pre-ordering) or multiple OSSs at the same time (e.g. Verigate for pre-ordering, LEX for ordering, and PBSM for repair). The 90-Day Billing Waiver does NOT apply each time the CLEC chooses to deploy additional OSS interfaces, subsequent to their first-time initial turn-up or implementation.

**When Applicable:** Once a CLEC completes the 90-day (or less) initial start-up/ *hands-on practice* period, the CLEC can then go "live production" where actual live End User

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requests can be processed. At this point, the CLEC is eligible to be billed applicable OSS rates. Actual billing of OSSs will be effective the first of the month, following the CLECs live production start-up date. However, the 90-Day Billing Waiver promotion is exercised and applies only to those OSS interfaces for which OSS rates apply. Also included in the billing waiver are applicable rates for connection to Pacific Bell's Remote Access Facility, whether by direct or dial-up connect.

The CLEC will be billed for the first 90 days at the applicable OSS rates. However, they will be credited in full for the first 90 days of OSS billing.