Establish and Maintain Account
Key Network and Service Decisions

Network

Network Facility Decisions

Determining which facilities a CLEC provides and which FairPoint (or other provider) facilities the CLEC will use to provide is a key driver not only of CLEC business decisions, but also of the process for becoming a CLEC in the FairPoint region. The steps CLECs take to interconnect with the FairPoint network depends heavily on network facility decisions made by the CLEC. The following examples provide four illustrative strategies for providing local service. For detailed product/service information and ordering information, please refer to the FairPoint Wholesale Web Site at:
http://www.fairpoint.com/business_services/wholesale.html

CLEC Facility Strategy	Switch		CLEC Interaction with FairPoint
	FairPoint	CLEC	
No Facilities "Resale"	X		• Purchases retail telecommunications services at a wholesale discount • Resells service
Partial/ "No" Facilities	X		• Purchases loops and local switching • Collocates in FairPoint's central offices (Partial Facilities) • Combines network elements • Or, purchases UNE Platform
Partial Facilities		X	• Purchases unbundled loops or unbundled switching • Collocates in FairPoint's central offices • Combines network elements • Interconnects a switch with FairPoint's network • Or purchases UNE combinations such as Enhanced Extended Links and Expanded Dedicated Trunk Port
Facilities Based		X	• CLEC owns switch and local loop • Interconnects with FairPoint's network • Originates and terminates traffic to and from FairPoint

A CLEC may elect different strategies. However, the complexity of decisions regarding interconnection and products are far greater than illustrated — these simple examples illustrate the most basic business decisions regarding facilities and interconnection. Aspects

of the network design are important to understand when determining the type of CLEC arrangements to implement, which include, but are not limited to:

1. A preliminary design of the mutually agreed upon network interconnection.
2. Forecasts of volumes (interconnection and Unbundled Network Elements).
3. Operator Services and Directory Assistance platform.
4. Types of signaling used (e.g., Signaling System 7 (SS7), multi-frequency).
5. Understanding of which Local Access Transport Area (LATA) the CLEC is serving.
6. Understanding of 911/E911 requirements.
7. Collocation arrangements.
8. Switching and routing plans.
9. Establishing a point of interconnection.