



**LIGHTYEAR**  
Network Solutions



**Birch**  
communications

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**  
**REGARDING A CHANGE IN YOUR TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES**

Dear \_\_\_\_\_

Birch Communications ("Birch") and Lightyear Network Solutions ("Lightyear") are pleased to announce that Birch is acquiring Lightyear's local telephone and long distance telephone customers, as well as certain other customers receiving additional types of services from Lightyear. Subject to approval by the Federal Communications Commission and state regulators as necessary, Birch will replace Lightyear as your current telecommunications service provider on or after **[30 DAYS AFTER LETTER DATE]**, 2013 (the "Transfer Date"). As a result of this transaction, Birch will assume responsibility for all services previously provided to you by Lightyear. Birch is excited about the opportunity to provide your telecommunications service(s) and looks forward to a long and mutually rewarding business relationship.

Please rest assured, the transition will have little or no impact on your current services, nor will there be any interruption of your service. The agreement between Birch and Lightyear has been structured so that the transfer of service will be virtually seamless, other than the possibility of a minor change to your voice mail service for which you will receive additional information.<sup>1</sup> There, however, may be other changes to your service plan based on Birch's unique billing systems (e.g., customers currently utilizing a message or measured local service plan may be switched to a flat rate plan). In those cases, Birch will transition you in a neutral manner **with no increase to your regular monthly recurring charges**. You will retain all other service rates, features, terms, and conditions of service and your telephone number. Birch will not impose any charges for the transfer of your services to Birch and **no action is required from you**

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<sup>1</sup> It will be necessary for you to reset your password and re-record your message greeting(s). Additionally, saved messages at the time of the transfer will no longer be retained. Birch will provide further details in a follow-up letter.

**to continue your telecommunications service(s) with Birch.** You will receive your first billing statement from Birch starting with your [MONTH] 2013 or [MONTH] 2013 bill. As in the past, you are responsible for paying all bills rendered to you by Lightyear during the transition of service.<sup>2</sup>

You do have the right to select a different carrier for your telecommunications service(s). If you choose to switch to an alternate carrier for services, you may incur a fee from that alternate carrier for the transfer of services to that alternate carrier. If you select a local telephone service provider other than Birch, you should also contact your current long distance provider to ensure that your current long distance plan is not changed. Please note that if you are a customer of Lightyear on the Transfer Date as set forth above, your account will automatically be transferred to Birch. In addition, should you have a term commitment with Lightyear and you disconnect or transfer services to another carrier prior to the end of that term, you will be liable to Birch for any applicable early termination charges, subject to applicable law. Please note that when your service is transferred to Birch, any preferred carrier "freeze" you have placed on your existing telephone lines to prevent unauthorized transfer of your services to another carrier will be over-ridden for purposes of this transaction and will need to be reinstated by you by contacting Birch after the transfer is complete.

If you have any questions regarding this transaction or questions about your service or billing prior to the Transfer Date set forth above, you should contact Lightyear at: **800-393-7300**.

If you have any questions regarding this transaction, or questions about your service or billing after the Transfer Date set forth above, you should contact Birch at **888-772-4724**.<sup>3</sup>

Lightyear thanks you for your business and Birch looks forward to providing you with quality service for many years to come.

Sincerely,

Lighyear Network Solutions and  
Birch Communications

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<sup>2</sup> Those customers interested in setting up online payments will be pleased to know Birch offers online payments and account updates.

<sup>3</sup> **About Birch Communications** - Headquartered in Atlanta, Georgia, Birch Communications is one of the largest competitive local exchange carriers in its 48-state footprint, serving residential and business customers. Birch was the first in its class to deploy its own private IP network utilizing soft switch technology to deliver innovative, high quality, affordable voice and broadband communications services to small- and medium-sized business customers.