**Reservation of Rights:** *All draft Provider of Choice (POC) contract language presented by BPA for discussion is subject to ongoing review and revision. Prior to finalizing the POC contract templates, BPA will publish complete contract templates for public review and comment. BPA acknowledges that failure to offer edits or comments on this document does not preclude a stakeholder from offering edits or comments during the formal public review.*

**Summary of Changes** **For 9/18 Workshop**

The Billing and Payment section has already been approved to move to the master POC template. However in section 16.1, BPA wanted to add clarification that it will include any applicable charges and credits on a bill, not just charge for products and services. If customers find this change acceptable, then at the 9/18 workshop, BPA will propose to move section 16.1 to the master POC template.

**Edits of Particular Note**

Areas highlighted in gray reflect language were approved for template at the 7/16/24 workshop and are outside of the scope of review of this section at this time.

**Reservation of Rights**

The following draft language has not been agreed to by NRU or any NRU member and is provided for discussion purposes only. The draft Provider of Choice contract red-lines, including this section, are subject to NRU’s ongoing review and recommended revision. NRU reserves the right to subsequently object to, and if necessary, reject the language below, in whole or in part, and/or propose alternative language, including the right to reject or propose alternatives to the edits proposed by NRU in this draft.

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**16. BILLING AND PAYMENT*(XX/XX/XX Version)***

16.1 **Billing**

BPA shall electronically bill «Customer Name» monthly for all products and services, including any charges and credits incurred, provided during the preceding month(s). However, if electronic transmittal of the bill is not possible, then BPA shall mail a physical copy of the bill to «Customer Name». BPA may send «Customer Name» an estimated bill followed by a final bill. The Issue Date is the date BPA sends the bill to «Customer Name».

*Option 1: Include the following for all customers except Federal customers utilizing IPAC*

16.2 **Payment**

«Customer Name» shall pay all bills electronically in accordance with instructions on the bill. Payment of all bills, whether estimated or final, must be received by the 20th day after the Issue Date of the bill (Due Date). If the 20th day is a Saturday, Sunday, or federal holiday, then the Due Date is the next Business Day.

If «Customer Name» has made payment on an estimated bill then:

(1) if the amount of the final bill exceeds the amount of the estimated bill, then «Customer Name» shall pay BPA the difference between the estimated bill and final bill by the final bill’s Due Date; or

(2) if the amount of the final bill is less than the amount of the estimated bill, then BPA shall pay «Customer Name» the difference between the estimated bill and final bill by the 20th day after the final bill’s Issue Date. If the 20th day is a Saturday, Sunday, or federal holiday, BPA shall pay the difference by the next Business Day.

16.3 **Late Payments**

If «Customer Name» has not paid its bill in full by the Due Date, BPA shall apply a daily interest charge to any unpaid balance equal to the higher of:

(1) the Prime Rate (as reported in the Wall Street Journal or successor publication in the first issue published during the month in which payment was due) plus four percent, divided by 365; or

(2) the Prime Rate times 1.5, divided by 365.

*End Option 1*

*Option 2: Include the following for Federal customers utilizing IPAC*

16.2 **Payment**

«Customer Name» shall pay all bills electronically in accordance with instructions on the bill. Payment of all bills, whether estimated or final, must be received by the 20th day after the Issue Date of the bill (Due Date). If the 20th day is a Saturday, Sunday, or federal holiday, then the Due Date is the next Business Day. Subject to the availabity of funds, BPA shall collect the amount due by the Due Date from «Customer Name» through Intra-Governmental Payment and Collection (IPAC) system, or its successor.

16.3 **This section intentionally left blank.**

*End Option 2*

16.4 **Failure to Pay**

If «Customer Name» has not paid its bill in full by the Due Date, then BPA shall notify «Customer Name» of nonpayment. «Customer Name» shall have 45 days after receipt of the written notice to cure its nonpayment by making payment in full. If «Customer Name» does not provide full payment within the 45-day cure period, then BPA shall send an additional written notice of nonpayment to «Customer Name». «Customer Name» shall then have three Business Days after receipt of the additional written notice to provide payment. If «Customer Name» has not provided payment within three Business Days after receipt of the additional written notice and BPA determines in its sole discretion that «Customer Name» is unable to make the payments owed, then BPA may terminate this Agreement pursuant to section 25.1. Written notices sent under this section 16.4 must comply with Exhibit I.

16.5 **Disputed Bills**

16.5.1 If «Customer Name» disputes any portion of a charge or credit on «Customer Name»’s estimated or final bills, «Customer Name» shall provide written notice to BPA with a copy of the bill noting the disputed amounts. Notwithstanding whether any portion of the bill is in dispute, «Customer Name» shall pay the entire bill by the Due Date. This section 16.5.1 does not allow «Customer Name» to challenge the validity of any BPA rate.

16.5.2 Unpaid amounts on a bill (including both disputed and undisputed amounts) are subject to the late payment charges provided above. Notice of a disputed charge on a bill does not constitute BPA’s agreement that a valid claim under contract law has been stated.

*Option 1: Include the following for all customers except Federal customers utilizing IPAC*

16.5.3 If the Parties agree, or if after a final determination of a dispute pursuant to section 22, «Customer Name» is entitled to a refund of any portion of the disputed amount, then BPA shall make such refund with simple interest computed from the date of receipt of the disputed payment to the date the refund is made. The daily interest rate shall equal the Prime Rate (as reported in the Wall Street Journal or successor publication in the first issue published during the month in which payment was due) divided by 365.

*End Option 1*

*Option 2: Include the following for Federal customers utilizing IPAC*

16.5.3 If the Parties agree, or if after a final determination of a dispute pursuant to section 22 it is determined, «Customer Name» is entitled to a refund of any portion of the disputed amount, then BPA shall make such refund available to «Customer Name» through the IPAC system, or its successor.

*End Option 2*