Appendix 2

GLOSSARY OF COST TERMS

Forward-looking costs: Costs that an efficient, prospective entrant would consider in investing in an industry, because the entry, exit and expansion decisions of such firms are based on expected costs and revenues.

Joint costs: Costs that derive from the joint production of products in fixed proportions.

Common costs: Costs which must be incurred if any of the firm's products are produced, but are unattributable to individual products on any cost-causative basis. It is a useful convention to limit the term to overhead costs.

Shared costs: Fixed costs that are incurred in the production of a specific subset, or various subgroupings, of all the products of a firm.

Stand-alone costs: Economic costs of producing a product or group of products in isolation from all other products (i.e., on a stand-alone basis).

Embedded costs: Costs of operations that are recorded on the firm's current accounting books.

Fully distributed costs ("FDC"): Cost per unit of output of a product, including directly attributable costs and an allocation of common or shared costs. The allocation of common costs among products is not based on cost causation and is inherently arbitrary.

Overheads: Costs incurred that are involved only indirectly in the production of outputs. Some overhead costs may be fixed and unattributable. Others may be vary with the firm's scale and thus be causatively attributable to the production of particular products.

Contribution: Amounts that, on a forward-looking basis, represent the difference between revenues and TSLRIC for a particular product or group of products. These amounts are intended to "contribute" to the recovery of the firm's common costs and shared-fixed costs.

Residual costs: Costs that represent the difference between the firm's current revenue requirement and the sum of the TSLRICs of all of its regulated services.

5

Model Description

Hatfield Model

Version 2.2, Release 2

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September 4, 1996

TABLE OF CONTENTS

I. INTRODUCTION 1
A. OVERVIEW 1
B. EVOLUTION OF THE HATFIELD MODEL 1
C. PURPOSE OF THIS DOCUMENT 3
II. STRUCTURE OF THE MODEL 3
A. GENERAL NETWORK COMPONENTS DESCRIPTION 3
1. Loop description 4
2. Interoffice network description 6
B. OVERVIEW OF MODEL ORGANIZATION 8
1. BCM-PLUS loop input data file 9
2. Line Converter Module 9
3. BCM-PLUS Data Module 10
4. BCM-PLUS Loop Module 10
5. Wire Center Module 10
6. Convergence Module 11
7. Expense Module 11
C. MODULE DESCRIPTIONS 11
1. BCM-PLUS Input Data File 11
2. Line converter module 12
3. BCM-PLUS Data module 14
4. BCM-PLUS Loop Module 15
5. Wire Center Investment Module 21
6. Convergence module 29
7. Expense Module 33
III. SUMMARY 41

APPENDIX A Summary of Changes Between Releases 1 and 2 of the Hatfield Model, Version 2.2

APPENDIX B Instruction Manual

APPENDIX C Default Values of User-Adjustable Inputs

I. INTRODUCTION

A. OVERVIEW

The Hatfield Model has been developed by Hatfield Associates, Inc. (HAI), of Boulder, Colorado, at the request of AT&T and MCI. Its purposes are: 1) to estimate the forward-looking economic cost of unbundled network elements referenced in § 252(d)(1)(A) and (B) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 based on Total Element Long Run Incremental Cost (TELRIC) principles;[1] and 2) in a separate calculation using consistent procedures and input data, to estimate the forward-looking economic cost of the basic local telephone service that is the target of universal service funding mechanisms.[2]

B. EVOLUTION OF THE HATFIELD MODEL

The original version of the Hatfield Model was developed to produce estimates of the TSLRIC of basic local telephone service as part of an examination of the cost of universal service. This original model was a "greenfield" model in that it assumed all network facilities would be built without consideration given to the location of existing wire centers or transmission routes. When the original Benchmark Cost Model (BCM1)[3] became available, HAI revised the original Hatfield Model to incorporate certain loop investment data

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1 TELRIC is the term used by the Federal Communications Commission to refer to the total service long run incremental cost (TSLRIC) of unbundled network elements.

2 The definition of basic universal service used in the model includes the following functional components:

single-line, single-party access to the first point of switching in a local exchange network;

usage within a local exchange area;

touch tone capability;

a white pages directory listing; and

access to 911 services, operator services, directory assistance, and telecommunications relay service for the hearing-impaired.

Excluded from this definition are many other local telephone company services, such as toll calling, interexchange carrier access, custom calling and CLASS℠ features, and private line services, although the existence of such services is taken into account in developing the cost estimates for unbundled elements.

3 The Benchmark Cost Model is a model of basic local telephone service developed by MCI, NYNEX, Sprint, and U S WEST.

produced by BCM1. As a result, the Hatfield Model became a "scorched node" model that developed efficient, forward-looking network investments and costs for basic universal service based on existing wire center locations. Thus, this new version of the Hatfield Model combined results from BCM1's loop modeling (based on actual population distributions) with the extensive wire center and interoffice calculations from the earlier Hatfield Model.

Early in 1996, an expanded version of earlier Hatfield Models, referred to as the Hatfield Model, Version 2.2, Release 1, was developed to estimate the costs for unbundled network elements. It was submitted to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) in CC Docket No. 96-98 on May 16 and 30, 1996, accompanied by descriptive documentation.[4] On July 3, 1996, this model was placed into the record of CC Docket No. 96-45 to assist the Commission in determining the economic costs of universal service.[5]

The Hatfield Model, Version 2.2, Release 2 (hereafter HM2.2.2), described in this document, estimates the efficient, forward-looking economic cost of both unbundled network elements and basic local telephone service. This release incorporates a number of enhancements over earlier versions.[6] HM2.2.2 derives certain of its inputs and methods from the BCM-PLUS model. The BCM-PLUS model is a derivative of BCM1 that has been developed for and is copyrighted by MCI Telecommunications Corporation.[7] Furthermore, because populated data workfiles now accompany HM2.2.2, Release 2 executes more quickly than Release 1, and without required user intervention.

The Hatfield Model comprises several workbook files in Microsoft Excel 7.0 for Windows 95 or Windows NT. An automated front end interface permits the user to select the study area to be modeled and to enter any desired user-adjustable input assumptions. The entire model will then execute without any

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4 See, Appendix E of the *Comments* of AT&T in CC Docket No. 96-98, In the Matter of Implementation of the Local Competition Provisions in the Telecommunications Act of 1996, and Appendix D of AT&T's *Reply Comments*. In the same proceeding, MCI submitted results based on an earlier "greenfield" version of the Model as Attachment 1 to its *Comments*.

5 Ex parte submission of L. Sawicki, MCI.

6 Appendix A to this documentation contains a summary of the differences between Release 1 and Release 2 of Version 2.2 of the Hatfield Model.

7 On July 3, 1996, Sprint Corporation and U S WEST presented version 2 of the BCM (BCM2) to the FCC. NYNEX and MCI are not sponsors of BCM2. A careful review by HAI indicates that all of BCM2's relevant enhancements over BCM1 are already present in the Hatfield Model. Furthermore, the Hatfield Model has important attributes and capabilities that are not available in the BCM2.

required user intervention.[8] Although AT&T and MCI typically have run HM2.2.2 for 49 continental U.S. study areas (Bell Operating Companies "BOCs" plus Southern New England Telephone Company), it may be run for any Tier 1 study area.[9]

C. PURPOSE OF THIS DOCUMENT

This document describes: 1) the structure and operation of HM2.2.2, and 2) inputs to the model, emphasizing those that can be changed by the user and their default values. It should be emphasized that the model provides a large number of inputs that can be altered by the user. However, the default values for these inputs are believed to be appropriate based on the experience and engineering judgment of HAI personnel and other subject matter experts.

II. STRUCTURE OF THE MODEL

A. GENERAL NETWORK COMPONENTS DESCRIPTION

This section describes generally the network components modeled in HM2.2.2. Figures 1, 2 and 3 depict the relationships among the network components discussed in the following sections.

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8 Documentation of this automated user interface is provided in Appendix B.

9 AT&T has retained telecommunications consultants from the Deloitte & Touche Consulting Group (and not Deloitte & Touche, LLP as might have been inferred from the prior reference to "Deloitte & Touche" in footnote 7 of AT&T's August 9, 1996 *Further Comments* in CC Docket No. 96-45), to provide additional Hatfield support. Deloitte & Touche Consulting Group personnel have: (1) provided analytical support to Hatfield and AT&T personnel; (2) assisted with data entry, results interpretation, and version and release testing; and (3) worked to improve the Hatfield Model's user interfaces, as well as to identify other areas for improvement with regard to the operation of the model.

1. Loop description

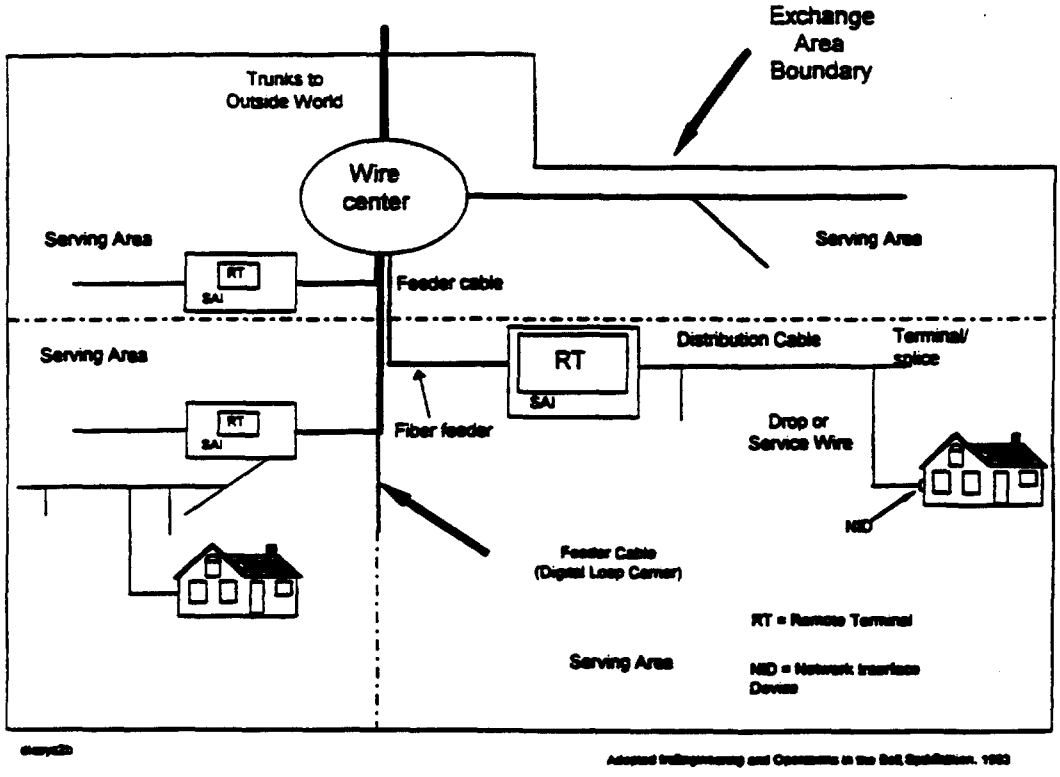

Figure 1 Loop components

a) General loop description

The local loop begins at a physical demarcation frame within the central office building (wire center). Copper cable feeder facilities terminate on the vertical side of the main distributing frame (MDF) in the wire center. Fiber optic feeder cable serving integrated digital loop carrier terminates on a fiber distribution frame in the wire center. At its distant end, the local loop terminates at the Network Interface Device (NID) at the customer's premises.

Loop cables are supported by "structures." These "structures" may be underground conduit, poles, or trenches for buried cable. Underground cable is distinguished from buried cable in that underground cable is placed in conduit, while buried cable comes into direct contact with soil.[10]

[10] While the conduit supporting underground cable is placed in a trench, buried cable may either be placed in a trench or be directly plowed into the earth.

b) Local Loop Components

(1) NID

The demarcation point between the local carrier's network and the customer's inside wiring is known as the Network Interface Device (NID). This device terminates the drop wire and is an access point that may be used to isolate trouble between the carrier's network and the customer's premises wiring.

(2) Drop

A drop wire extends from the NID at the customer's premises to the block terminal at the distribution cable that runs along the street or the lot line.

(3) Block Terminal

The block terminal is the interface between the drop and the distribution cable. With aerial distribution cable, the block terminal is attached to a pole in the subscriber's backyard or at the edge of a road. If the distribution cable is buried, then the block terminal is contained within a pedestal.

(4) Distribution Cable

Distribution cable runs from each of the block terminals to the Serving Area Interface (SAI), also called a "cross box" or Serving Area Concept (SAC) box or connection. Distribution cable connects the feeder cable with all customer premises within a Census Block Group (CBG). The model assumes that each CBG contains one SAI, and that the SAI is placed one quarter of the way into the CBG. Distribution structure components may consist of poles, trenches and conduit. Manholes normally are not used in distribution facilities.

(5) Feeder facilities

Feeder cable may be copper wires or optical fibers. Feeder cables extend from the wire center to the SAIs. The Hatfield Model assumes that there is a standard feeder distance beyond which optical feeder cable will be installed and Digital Loop Carrier (DLC) equipment will be used to serve subscribers.

Feeder structure components also include poles, trenches and conduit. Manholes are also normally installed in conjunction with underground feeder cable. Manhole spacing is a function of population density and the type of feeder cable used. Manholes installed for underground fiber cable are normally farther apart than are manholes used with copper cables because the lightness and flexibility of fiber cable permits it to be pulled over longer lengths than copper cable. The costs of structure components are normally shared among at least three utilities, e.g., electric utilities, local exchange companies (LECs) and cable television (CATV) operators.

2. Interoffice network description

This section describes generally network components at the wire center and interoffice level. Figures 2 and 3 illustrate the relationships among the components described below.

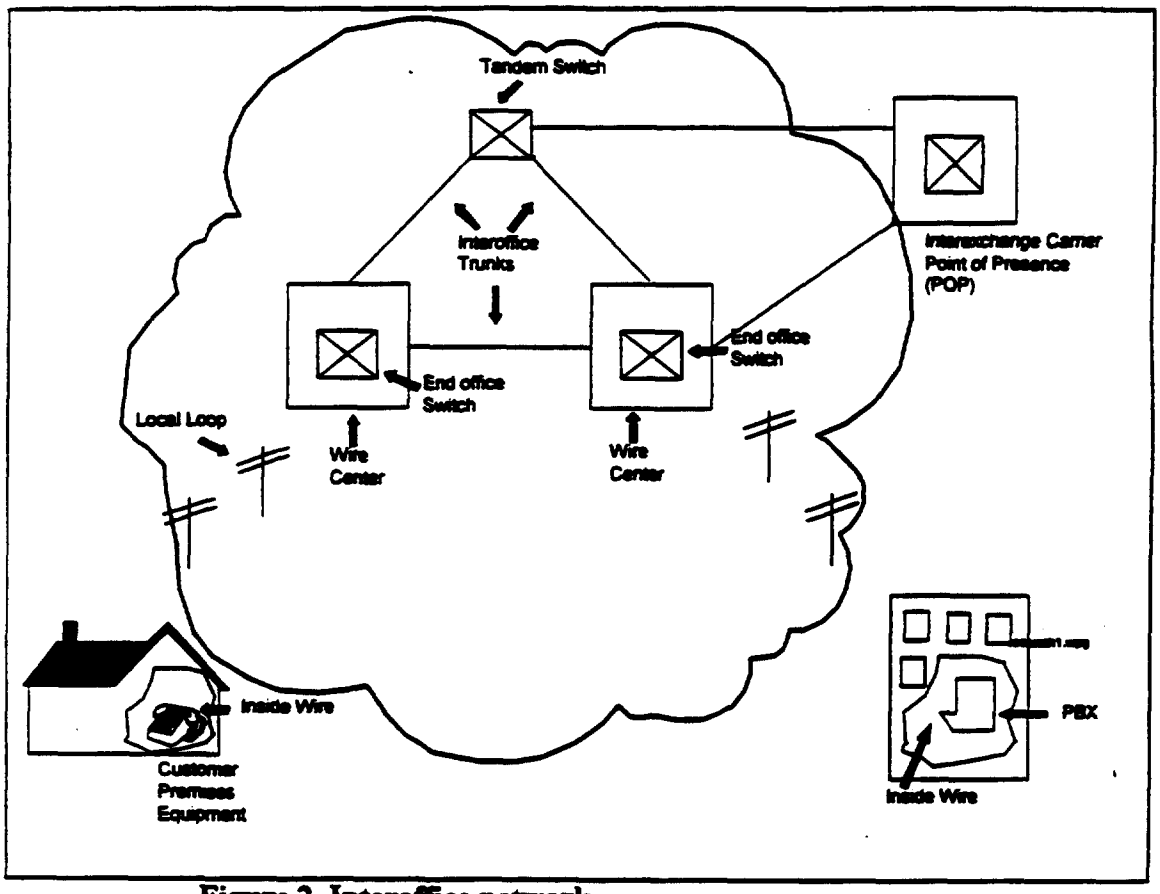

Figure 2 Interoffice network

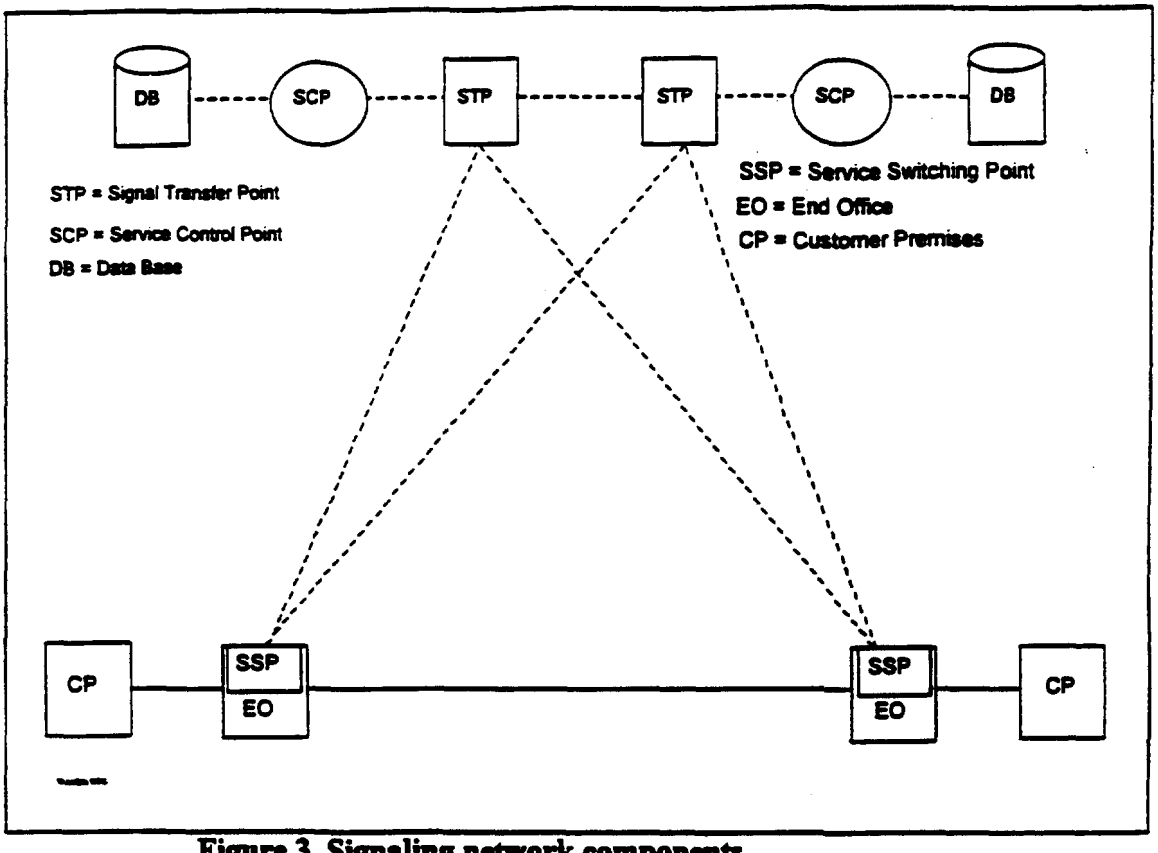

Figure 3 Signaling network components

a) Wire center

The wire center is a location from which local feeder routes emanate. A wire center normally contains at least one End Office (EO) switch and also may contain a tandem office, a Signal Transfer Point (STP), an operator tandem, or any combination of these facilities. Wire center physical facilities include a building, power and air conditioning systems, separate rooms housing switches, transmission equipment, distributing frames and entrance facilities for interoffice and loop cables.

b) End office switch

The end office switch provides dial tone to the switched access lines it serves. It also provides connections to other end offices via direct trunks, to tandem switches via tandem trunks, and to operator tandems via operator trunks. The model computes the numbers of trunks for each route according to input traffic assumptions and the breakdown of business, residential, and public access lines served by each end office switch.

c) Tandem switch

Tandem switches interconnect end office switches via tandem trunks. These trunks provide an alternate route for traffic between end offices when direct routes are unavailable. The tandem also may route access traffic between end offices and interexchange carriers' (IXC's) points of presence (POPs). Tandem switching functions often are performed by switches that also perform end office functions.

d) Signal transfer point

STPs route signaling messages between switching and control entities in a Signaling System 7 (SS7) network via signaling links between STPs and SS7-compatible end offices and tandems (called Service Switching Points "SSPs") as well as Service Control Points (SCPs). STPs are equipped in mated pairs, with at least one pair in each LATA.

e) Service switching points

SSPs are SS7-compatible end office or tandem switches. They communicate with each other and with SCPs through signaling links, which are 56 kbps dedicated circuits connecting SSPs with the mated STP pair serving the LATA.

f) Service control points

SCPs are databases residing in an SS7 network that contain various types of information such as IXC identification or routing instructions for 800 numbers in regional 800 databases and customer line information in Line Information Databases (LIDB).

B. OVERVIEW OF MODEL ORGANIZATION

Figure 4 shows the relationships among the various modules contained within HM2.2.2. An overview of each component module follows.

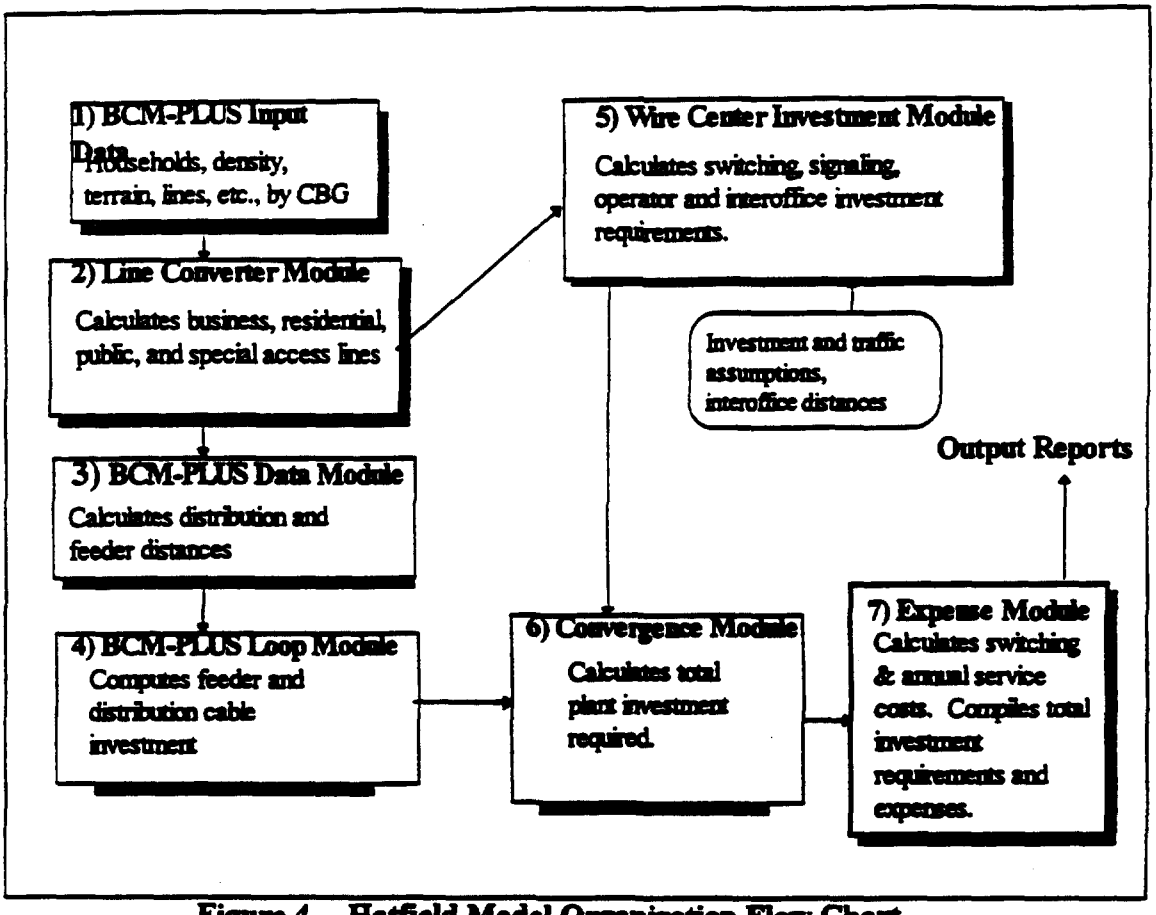

Figure 4 Hatfield Model Organization Flow Chart

1. BCM-PLUS loop input data file

The BCM-PLUS input data for the model generally consist of the original BCM state-by-state worksheets filed with the FCC.[11] The input household counts in each CBG (which in BCM1 were derived from 1990 Census Bureau data) have been replaced with 1995 household counts estimated from more recent Census Bureau data. As the following section discusses, HM2.2.2 modifies these BCM-PLUS data in several significant ways.

2. Line Converter Module

The model calculates all network costs on a per line basis, thus it must first determine the total access lines of all types within each CBG. The Line Converter Module transforms the Census data included in the BCM-PLUS input data files (which contain only household counts for each CBG) into total line counts by

11 These data are for all states except Alaska. While the pertinent data for Alaska are included with BCM2, the BCM2 sponsors have placed more restrictive terms in the BCM2 license agreement that prohibit the use of these data for modeling use here.

customer type. The Line Converter Module performs this function while recognizing that residential subscriber penetration is less than 100%, that some residences contain second lines, and that business, public, and special access lines need also to be added. The module adds these latter line types based on other of its input data that indicate the number of business employees in each CBG. These line number calculations, which are performed on a CBG by CBG basis, are also required to accord with the number of lines that the incumbent LEC (ILEC) reports for the study area in ARMIS.

3. BCM-PLUS Data Module

The Data Module computes the distribution and feeder cable lengths necessary to serve each CBG and determines facilities placement difficulty according to geological parameters included in the BCM-PLUS input data.

4. BCM-PLUS Loop Module

The Loop Module estimates cable investments in each CBG according to the distribution and feeder lengths calculated in the Data Module. The module selects either fiber or copper feeder cable according to a user-adjustable parameter that specifies the feeder distance beyond which fiber is to be installed. The module then determines the size of copper or fiber cable required to serve each CBG according to user-adjustable maximum engineered fill levels for each population density range. Once the module has determined the required types and sizes of cable, it computes the total investment in feeder and distribution cables.[12]

5. Wire Center Module

The Wire Center Module computes investment in wire centers, switching (including end offices, tandems, and operator tandems), signaling, and interoffice transmission facilities. It uses line totals by type across all CBGs served by the wire center, along with user-adjustable traffic inputs, to estimate required switching capacities.

The model determines switching and interoffice capacity sufficient to serve all demand in the service area studied. HM2.2.2 derives its switch investment estimates by using data on typical per-line prices paid by BOCs, GTE and other independents,[13] and data from Table 2.10 of the FCC's *Statistics of Communications Common Carriers*, which provides the average number of access lines served by existing LEC switches.

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12 A later module, the Convergence Module, adds investment for placement and "structure" (conduit, poles, trenching, and manholes), as well as other components, including SAIs, terminals, splices, subscriber drops and NIDs.

13 See *U.S. Central Office Equipment Market – 1994*, McGraw-Hill.

6. Convergence Module

The Convergence Module combines output of the Loop Module (loop cable investments) with that of the Wire Center Module (per-line wire center and interoffice investments). The Convergence Module also adds investment in SAIs, buried, underground and aerial cable placement, terminals and splices, drop wires, NIDs, and structure components including poles, conduit, and manholes. Output from this module contains total investment for all plant categories by density range.

7. Expense Module

The Expense Module uses output from the Convergence Module to produce monthly costs of Unbundled Network Elements (UNEs) and basic local service. These costs include the annual user cost of capital for network investment (e.g., depreciation, return, and tax on return), network operating and maintenance expenses, and other per-line expenses incurred by ILECs in the provision of local service and UNEs. This module uses investment, revenue and expense data relationships that are available from ILEC ARMIS reports and allows the user to set different economic lives for various plant categories as well as adjust capital structure parameters.

C. MODULE DESCRIPTIONS

1. BCM-PLUS Input Data File

BCM-PLUS includes input data files organized by state. Each state file contains a list of that state's CBGs. CBGs are assumed to be served from the nearest existing wire center.[14] Each CBG appears as a separate record in a Microsoft Excel 7.0 spreadsheet, and each record includes a set of geometric parameters describing the physical relationship (distance and direction) between the center of the CBG and the wire center serving it. The data also contain certain geological parameters associated with the CBG that indicate bedrock depth, bedrock hardness, and soil type.[15] The input data file also contains the estimated number of households in each CBG as of 1995.

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14 Because wire centers are associated with specific telephone companies, the model may be run on a company-specific basis.

15 Studies of the effects of these parameters on the estimate of placement difficulty show that the parameters affect overall results only slightly. The HM2.2.2 Convergence Module produces much more accurate estimates of placement investment with user-adjustable inputs than did the original BCM with its undocumented input assumptions. As noted in the text, however, HM2.2.2 (continued)

2. Line converter module

a) Overview

HM2.2.2 engineers loop facilities for residence, business, public and special access lines. As shown in Figure 5, the Line Converter Module calculates total access line counts for each CBG, as well as overall line totals for use in the BCM-PLUS Data Module and the Wire Center Investment Module. The Line Converter Module replaces the household count in each CBG with estimated total access lines, including business, public, special access, and first and second residential lines. This allows the BCM-PLUS Loop Module to calculate the sizes of feeder and distribution cables required to serve the existing demand.

b) Description of inputs and assumptions

The Line Converter module uses access line demand data from the Operating Data Reports, ARMIS 43-08, submitted to the FCC annually by all Tier 1 LECs.[16] HM2.2.2 thus incorporates the following data.

- Residential access lines, both analog and digital. These totals measure all residential switched access lines, including flat rate (1FR) and measured rate (1MR) service.[17]
- Business access lines, including analog single line, analog multiline and digital. These totals include flat rate business (1FB) and measured rate business (1MB) single lines, PBX trunks, Centrex lines, hotel/motel long distance trunks and multi-line semi-public lines.[18]
- Special access lines, including analog and digital. These totals include dedicated lines connecting end users' premises to an IXC POP, but do not include intraLATA private lines.[19]

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increases feeder and distribution cable lengths in the presence of shallow bedrock or rocky soil types for routing of facilities around areas with difficult placement conditions.

16 See, Reporting Requirements for Certain Class A and Tier 1 Telephone Companies (Parts 31, 43, 67 and 69 of the FCC's Rules), CC Docket No. 86-182, 2 FCC Rcd 5770 (1987) (ARMIS Order), modified on recon., 3 FCC Rcd, 6375 (1988). Tier 1 LECs are those with more than $100 million in annual revenues from regulated services. This includes over 50 carriers.

17 Revision of ARMIS USOA Report (FCC Report 43-02) for Tier 1 Telephone Companies and Annual Report Form M, AAD 92-46, DA 92-1405, released October 16, 1992, Appendix C, at FCC Report 43-08 - Report Definition for Table S-3, page 2.

18 *Id.* at 1-2.

19 *Id.* at 2-3.

- Public access lines, which include lines associated with coin (public and semi-public) phones, but exclude customer owned pay telephone lines.[20]

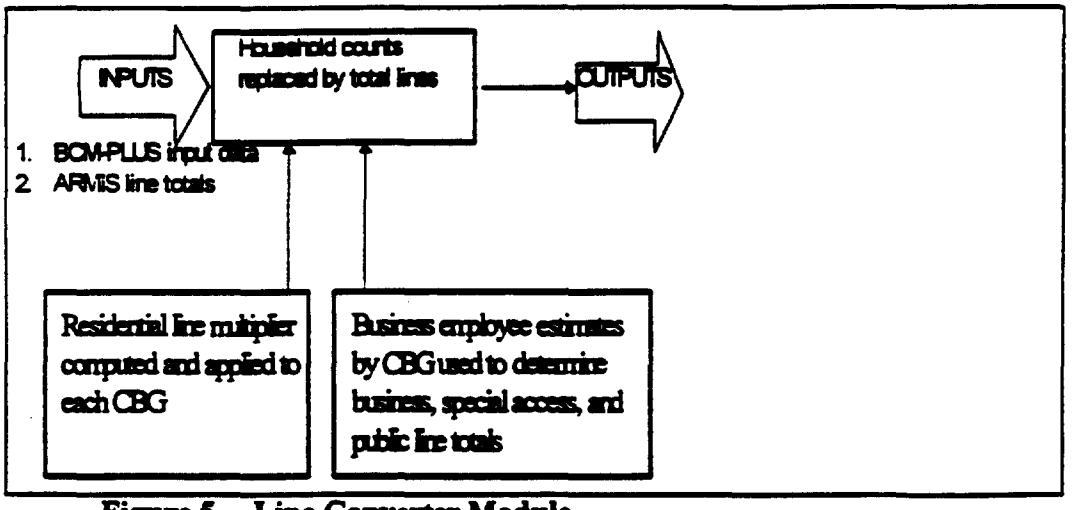

Figure 5 Line Converter Module

c) Explanation of calculations

In order to estimate loop plant investment properly, the model must consider the demand for all services, *e.g.*, business, first and second residential, special access and public access lines, within each CBG. Presumably, these service-specific demand data are known to the ILECs at a wire center or finer level. But because the ILECs have declared these data to be proprietary, absent Commission directive they are not available for incorporation into HM2.2.2.[21]

The Line Converter Module uses ARMIS access line data to assist in estimating total line counts per CBG. To compute residential lines in each CBG, the module multiplies the household count by the ratio of total reported residential access lines to total households. This accounts for total household penetration and multiple residential lines via a single average factor. The module similarly computes business lines in each CBG by multiplying the number of business employees in each CBG by the ratio of total reported business lines to total employees in the study area. Special access and public line calculations also are

20 *Id.* at 2.

21 Some BOCs, notably the Southwestern Bell companies, formerly published this information for use by their interexchange carrier customers, but the practice apparently has been discontinued. See, Southwestern Bell, *Interexchange Customer Information Handbook*, Volume IV (End Office Profile), 1987.

based on business employee counts because both services are closely associated with businesses.

d) Description of module outputs and connection to next module

The primary output from the Line Converter Module is the Input Data File – with household counts in each CBG replaced by total residential, business, special access and public lines. The other data in the Input Data File pass through the module unchanged for eventual use by both the BCM-PLUS Data Module and the Wire Center Module.

3. BCM-PLUS Data module

a) Overview

The BCM-PLUS Data Module uses Line Converter Module output to calculate feeder, subfeeder, and distribution cable lengths. The BCM-PLUS Data Module uses the distance between each CBG and its serving wire center, and the area of each CBG, to estimate feeder and distribution cable lengths. In areas of increased placement difficulty, generally those CBGs with shallow bedrock (within one foot of the surface) or having rocky (*e.g.*, "bouldery") soil types, the Data Module increases the calculated feeder and distribution distances to allow for routing of facilities around these rocky conditions.

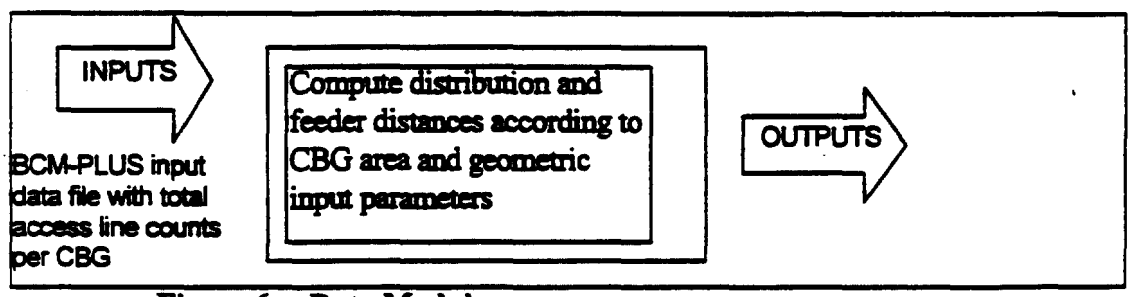

Figure 6 Data Module

b) Description of inputs and assumptions

The Data Module bases its loop length calculations on the following assumptions.

- Feeder cable extends from the wire center to an SAI located midway between the edge and the center of the CBG.
- There are four main feeder routes that leave each wire center, with sub-feeder routes placed at 90 degree angles from the main feeder routes.
- Customer premises are spaced uniformly across a CBG.

- Distribution cables extend from the SAI within the CBG to terminals serving several customers' premises.
- A variable number of equal-length distribution cables serve each CBG. The area of the CBG determines the length of each cable, and the CBG line density determines the number of cables.

A more detailed description of the model's feeder route design is contained in the documentation to Release 1.[22]

c) Explanation of calculations

Distribution Distance -- BCM-PLUS uses geometric relationships to calculate distribution distances. The distribution distance is the average distance between a customer premises and the SAI. The module calculates the average distribution distance within a CBG to equal 0.625 times the length of one side of the CBG.

SAI placement -- The Data Module adds sufficient feeder cable to place the SAI at a point midway between the CBG boundary and its center. This approach comports with telephone company outside plant engineering practices.

d) Outputs

The output of the BCM-PLUS Data Module includes total line counts per CBG, along with feeder and distribution cable lengths. Other parameters include "cable multipliers" used in a previous version to estimate combined placement investment. Because HM2.2.2 calculates separately cable placement and structure investments, these values are not used by BCM-PLUS.

4. BCM-PLUS Loop Module

This section discusses inputs and calculations in the BCM-PLUS Loop Module.

a) Module overview

The BCM-PLUS Loop Module estimates loop cable facilities investment for HM2.2.2. The Loop Module employs a "bottoms-up" network design process that uses forward-looking loop plant engineering and planning practices, publicly-available information on component prices, and least-cost cable sizing algorithms to estimate the outside plant investment appropriate to a TELRIC-based analysis.

22 See, note 4, *infra*.

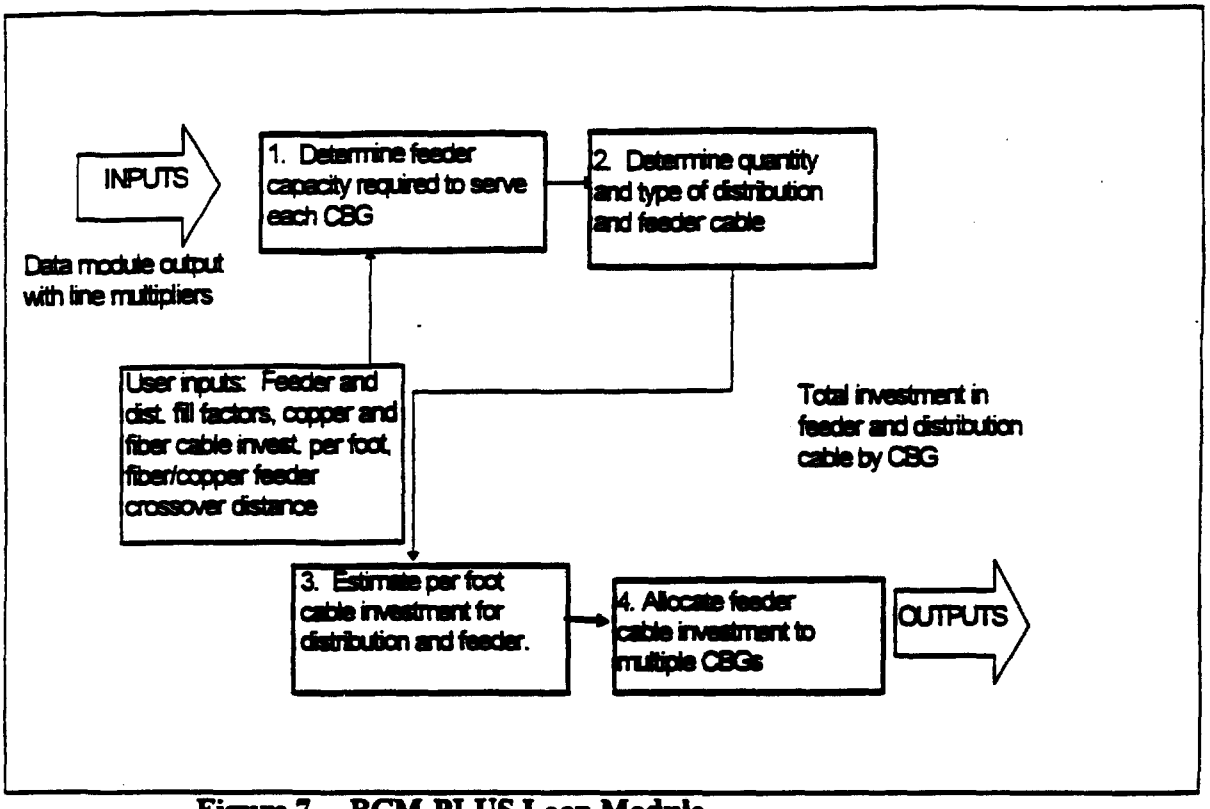

Figure 7 BCM-PLUS Loop Module

b) Description of inputs and assumptions

Inputs to the Loop Module include the per-foot investment cost for copper and fiber cable, the distance at which fiber feeder cable is installed, the number of DS-0s that can be carried on a single fiber, and the number of fibers required to feed a DLC remote terminal. There are separate per-unit investment tables for distribution, copper feeder, and fiber feeder cables. These tables show the assumed per-foot investment for cables having different cross sections. The default numbers in these tables assume discounted cable materials prices, along with per-unit costs for installation, engineering, and delivery.

c) Inputs derived from the Data Module

The following outputs from the Data Module are used as inputs by the Loop Module.

Feeder and Distribution Distances – These are the feeder, sub-feeder and distribution lengths calculated for each CBG. The main feeder distance (called the "B" distance in the model) for each CBG is expressed as the incremental distance from the CBG to the CBG served by that feeder that is the next closest to the wire center (the "B segment" length). The formula used to develop B segment length is to first match the CBG with all others served by the same wire center and within the same quadrant (*i.e.*, on the same main feeder route). The module

then calculates the B segment length for each CBG by subtracting from its total B length the total B length associated with the next CBG closer to the wire center. Segmentation of the main feeder in this way allows the Loop Module to simulate the tapering of cable facilities along the feeder route.

The model also computes a "subfeeder" distance (called the "A" distance within the model) which is the distance from the main feeder route to the SAI in CBGs that are not astride the main feeder route.

d) User Specified Inputs

Because the Loop Module simulates the "bottoms up" development of a network, it requires several inputs specifying the type and purchase price for copper distribution cable and copper and fiber feeder cable, as well as maximum engineered cable fill factors that vary by density range. Because the actual prices paid for these components may vary from carrier to carrier, these values may be adjusted, if appropriate, by the user. The model, however, contains HAI's best estimates as default values for cable investment per foot and cable fill factors. These default values for fill factors and cable investment per foot are as follows:

Density (lines/sq. mi.)	Feeder fill	Distribution fill
0 - 5	0.65	0.50
25 - 200	0.75	0.55
200 - 650	0.80	0.60
650 - 850	0.80	0.65
850 - 2550	0.80	0.70
> 2550	0.80	0.75

Fiber feeder cable investment per foot (including engineering, delivery and installation)	
Fiber cable size(strands)	Investment per foot
12	$2.90
18	$3.20
24	$3.50
36	$4.10
48	$4.70
60	$5.30
72	$5.90
96	$7.10
144	$9.50
216	$13.10

Copper feeder cable investment per foot (including engineering, delivery and installation)	
Pairs in sheath	Investment per foot
100	$2.50
200	$4.25
400	$7.75
600	$11.25
900	$16.50
1200	$21.75
1800	$32.25
2400	$42.75
3000	$53.25
3600	$63.75
4200	$74.25

Distribution cable investment per foot (including engineering, delivery and installation)	
Copper cable sizes	Investment per foot
25	$1.19
50	$1.63
100	$2.50
200	$4.25
400	$7.75
600	$11.25
900	$16.50
1200	$21.75
1800	$32.25
2400	$42.75
3600	$63.75

Other user inputs are discussed in the feeder plant section below.

e) Distribution plant

This section examines components of the distribution facilities. The model assumes that all distribution cables serving a CBG are of equal length. The number of distribution cables per CBG varies by density range as shown below.

Density (lines/sq. mi.)	Number of cables
0 - 5	2
5 - 200	4
200 - 650	4
650 - 850	4
850 - 2,550	6
> 2550	8

The larger number of cables serving higher density CBGs reflects the fact that households will tend to be distributed more uniformly across densely populated CBGs than across less dense CBGs. In addition, customer premises plot sizes will be smaller. Lower numbers of cables serving lower density CBGs reflect the fact that customer premises will either be concentrated along a few roads, or clustered in towns rather than being distributed uniformly.

Mix of aerial and underground plant for distribution – Distribution cables typically connect with the feeder network at one or more SAIs and run along streets within a defined area. Distribution plant may be aerial (carried on poles), underground (placed in conduit), or buried (plowed directly in the ground or placed in a trench without conduit). The proportions of aerial, underground and buried cable are user-adjustable variables set in the Convergence Module.

Unit Costs for Distribution Cable – The default cable investment figures shown in the preceding table include discounted materials prices, engineering, delivery to the site, and placement or installation.[23] These costs are added to other loop investments in the Convergence Module, described later.)

Fill Factors for Distribution Cable – The Loop Module permits users to input values specifying the maximum engineered level of plant utilization or "fill" for distribution and feeder cable.[24] Engineered cable fills are always less than 100% in practice, with some spare pairs necessary to accommodate unforeseen growth, breakage and line administration.

The effective fill factors achieved by the Hatfield Model are even lower than the engineered fill factors because the model requires that the next larger available cable size be installed to accommodate the engineered fill.

f) Feeder plant

Feeder cables extend along any of four routes from the wire center to one or more points where they are cross-connected to the distribution network. Depending on required feeder capacity, distance or economics may dictate that feeder be provisioned using various sizes of copper cabling, or fiber cables in conjunction with DLC systems. The Loop Module assumes that a CBG will be served with fiber-fed DLC equipment whenever the feeder length exceeds a user-adjustable threshold value (the default is 9,000 feet); otherwise it assumes copper feeder cable.

The user may specify the number of fibers assigned per DLC remote terminal. The default value is four. Similarly, the number of equivalent voice

23 Placement investment consists of pulling underground cable through conduit and mounting aerial cable on poles. It should not be confused with the actual "structure" investment in poles, conduit and manholes, or in the installation of structure components.

24 A cable fill factor represents the ratio of working lines (measured in terms of voice grade equivalent channels or copper wire pairs) to minimum installed line capacity.

circuits (DS-0s) that may be carried on this fiber may be set by the user. The default value is 2016, or 3 DS-3s.

Mix of aerial and underground plant for feeder -- These values are set in the Convergence Module, as they are for distribution cable.

g) Explanation of calculations

The Loop Module's calculations include the following:

- Selection of copper or fiber feeder cable to serve each CBG according to the user-adjustable threshold feeder distance (default is 9,000 ft).
- Sizing of main feeder segments to accommodate the cumulative capacity requirements along the route.
- Determination of the type and quantity of feeder facilities and distribution cables to meet each CBG's capacity requirements.

Applying unit investment costs to estimate total investment in loop cables -- The fundamental feeder length calculations, including the sharing of feeder sheath by multiple CBGs lying on a common route, are essentially unchanged from those described in the Release 1 documentation. The BCM-PLUS Data Module does, however, extend the SAI location into each CBG halfway to its center.

The BCM-PLUS Loop Module computes distribution cable lengths as 0.625 times the length of a side of the CBG. The number of cables serving a CBG varies according to the CBG's density range, as described in the Data Module discussion above. The Loop Module sizes the distribution cables according to the specified fill factor and number of cables in each CBG.

h) Description of model outputs

The Loop Module produces total investment by CBG for distribution and feeder cable. The Loop Module's "costing" worksheet contains these investments and is sent to the Convergence Module to determine overall network investment.

5. Wire Center Investment Module

a) Overview

This Module produces network investment estimates in the following categories: