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## UTAH DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### Division of Public Utilities

MARGARET W. BUSSE  
Executive Director

CHRIS PARKER  
Division Director

## Action Request Response

**To:** Public Service Commission of Utah

**From:** Utah Division of Public Utilities

Chris Parker, Director  
Brenda Salter, Assistant Director  
Abdinasir Abdulle, Utility Technical Consultant Supervisor  
Doug Wheelwright, Utility Technical Consultant Supervisor  
Shauna Benvegna-Springer, Utility Technical Consultant  
Annette Orton, Utility Analyst

**Date:** June 13, 2023

**Re:** **Docket No. 23-053-T01**, UBTA-UBET Communications Inc.'s Tariff Revisions to the 8YY Access Charges Rates

## Recommendation (Approval)

The Division of Public Utilities (Division) has reviewed the tariff filing and recommends that the Public Service Commission (Commission) approve UBTA-UBET Communications Inc.'s (Company) request to revise its tariff sheets as summarized in its cover letter. The Division, therefore, recommends that the tariff changes become effective on July 1, 2023.

## Issue

On May 31, 2023, the Company submitted to the Commission Docket No. 23-053-T01 Proposed Tariff Revisions. The filing included a cover letter summarizing the changes on each page, rate, and rule, including revised tariff sheets and a redlined tariff. The proposed tariff changes adjust the tariff rates as required in the FCC's 8YY Access Charge Reform, Report and Order FCC 20-143, WC Docket No. 18-156, released and adopted October 9, 2020,<sup>1</sup> and erratum released October 30, 2020. The second erratum order was released

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<sup>1</sup> Federal Communications Commission, 8YY Access Charge Reform, Order 20-143, WC Docket No. 18-156, adopted October 9, 2020. <https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/FCC-20-143A1.pdf>

and adopted on November 27, 2020.<sup>2</sup> The Commission issued an Action Request to the Division on May 31, 2023, to investigate the proposed changes and report its findings and recommendation to the Commission by June 14, 2023. This memorandum represents the Division's response to the Commission's Action Request.

## **Background**

The FCC adopted an order in October 2020 to modernize toll-free (8YY) calling rules. The order steps down 8YY originating access charges to a bill-and-keep system over a transition period beginning July 1, 2022, and ending July 1, 2023. Originating 8YY transport and tandem switching fees were combined to a single transport services rate capped at \$0.001 per minute, effective July 1, 2022. Charges for 8YY database queries will also be transitioned to \$0.0002 over the three-year transition period. Additionally, the order combines separate 8YY transport and tandem switching charges into a single access charge. The Company submitted the previous rate change to comply with the interstate rule order.

## **Discussion**

The Division reviewed the redlined version of the tariff sheets submitted with the Company's filing. The proposed rates for terminating access have been adjusted according to the announced rate order. The step-down reduction plan has changed the toll-free access and query rates and appears to comply with the FCC's 8YY Reform Order. No other rates were affected by the order, and no further rate changes were proposed.

The Division reviewed and analyzed the impact on the revenue because of the rate changes. The switched expected access carrier line rate for UBTA-UBET Communications Inc. decreased to \$0.00. The toll-free database access basic rate per query and the toll-free database access vertical features rate per query were reduced to \$0.0002. The overall revenue impact was nearly zero.

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<sup>2</sup> Federal Communications Commission, 8YY Access Charge Reform, Order 20-143, WC Docket No. 18-156, adopted November 27, 2020. <https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/FCC-20-143A1.pdf>

## **Conclusion**

The Division has reviewed UBTA-UBET Communications Inc.'s filing and has no objections to the proposed revisions. Therefore, the Division recommends that the Commission approve this filing as submitted, effective July 1, 2023, as requested.

cc: Kira M. Slawson, Blackburn & Stoll, LC  
Bruce Todd, UBTA-UBET Communications Inc.  
Jason McKee, UBTA-UBET Communications Inc