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## UTAH DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### Division of Public Utilities

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## 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 15, 2023

**Re:** **Docket No. 23-053-T02**, UBTA-UBET Communications, Inc.'s Proposed Tariff Revisions

## 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 June 1, 2023, the Company submitted to the Commission Proposed Tariff Revisions. The filing included a cover letter with a summary of the changes on each page, rate, and rule, including revised tariff sheets and a redlined tariff. The proposed tariff changes revise the tariff rates as required in the FCC's Access Charge Reform, Report and Order FCC 20-143, WC Docket No. 18-156, released October 9, 2020, adopted October 8, 2020, erratum released October 30, 2020, with the second erratum released November 27, 2020.<sup>1</sup> The Commission issued an Action Request to the Division on Jun 1, 2023, to investigate the

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<sup>1</sup> Federal Communications Commission Order 20-143, WC Docket No, 181-156, adopted October 7, 2020. <https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/FCC-20-143A1.pdf>

proposed changes and report its findings and recommendation to the Commission by June 15, 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 filing along with the redline 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 toll-free access and query rates have been adjusted in accordance with the step-down reduction plan and appear to comply with the FCC's Reform Order.

In this docket, the Company revised sheets canceling prior revised sheets in the modified Section Index, which also included housekeeping revisions for page numbers, etc. The Company also revised to eliminate Extension Station, Off-Premise station service and Off-Premise Extension Service. The Company requests modifying the tariff to reduce B1 and PBX outward rates by \$1.00 due to the FCC required increase in Access Recovery Charge (ARC) on multiline businesses at the federal level, which is not included in the Company's redline version. The ARC charge is on the federal tariff and is not included in the state tariff. The change will not result in any change in rates to the customer since the \$1.00 increase in ARC will offset the \$1.00 reduction to the local business rates.

The Division reviewed and analyzed the impact on the revenue because of the rate changes. UBTA-UBET Communications, Inc. decreased B1 & PBX rates by \$1.00 but also increased \$1.00 in ARC Federal Tariff. The overall revenue impact was \$0.00.

## **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.