



May 1, 2023

VIA EMAIL TO PSC@UTAH.GOV

Gary L. Widerburg
Commission Administrator
Public Service Commission of Utah
Heber M. Wells Building
160 East 300 South
Salt Lake City, Utah 84111

RE: Docket No. 23-2201-T01
Bear Lake Communications, Inc.
Intrastate Access Tariff PSC Utah No. 2

Dear Mr. Widerburg:

JSI files the enclosed tariff material on behalf of Bear Lake Communications, Inc. (“Bear Lake”). The proposed revisions bear an effective date of July 1, 2023 and are made in compliance with current Federal Communications Commission (“FCC”) rules governing intercarrier compensation.

National Exchange Carrier Association (“NECA”) interstate switched access rates are expected to increase effective July 1, 2023, thereby increasing certain capped rates which the issuing carriers must match for terminating access by July 1, 2023,¹. Rates are based on the 0.4225% interstate switched access rate increase as announced by NECA on April 6, 2023 (see Exhibit 1). If NECA rates approved by the FCC differ from those proposed in this filing, rates will be adjusted to match the approved NECA rates. Issuing carriers’ interstate terminating switched access rates are contained in NECA Tariff F.C.C. No. 5 which may be found at https://www.neca.org/Tariff_5.aspx.

In addition, revised rate pages reflect compliance with FCC 8YY access reform, discussed following.

¹ See *In the Matter of Connect America Fund, et al.*, WC Docket No. 10-90 *et al.*, Order DA 13-564 (rel. March 27, 2013).



FCC 8YY access charge reform requires all rate-of-return incumbent local exchange carriers (“LECs”) to modify all the originating 8YY rates in the following groups: End Office/Local Switching, Transport, and query charge.

Local Switching:

The FCC order requires LECs to transition their interstate and intrastate toll-free (or 8YY) originating end office access service rates to bill-and-keep over a three-year period. As part of the transition, beginning July 1, 2021, carriers were required to tariff separate rate elements for toll-free and non-toll free interstate and intrastate originating end office access service. In 2021 the intrastate toll-free originating end office access service rates were reduced to interstate levels if intrastate rates exceeded comparable interstate rates. In July 2022, these local switching rates were reduced by 50% and are now at zero in July 2023.

Query Charge:

Finally, incumbent LECs were required to reduce the intrastate and interstate toll free database query charges in their tariffs to no more than \$0.004248 per query in July 2021. Further reductions were made to the query rate in July 2022, with the final transition down to the rate of \$0.0002 in July 2023.

Any questions regarding the filing may be directed to the undersigned at the address and telephone number listed above, or by email at valerie.wimer@jsitel.com.

Sincerely,

Valerie Wimer
Vice President

on behalf of
Bear Lake Communications, Inc.

Enclosures

cc: Mike Plows, Bear Lake Communications, Inc.

Jeffrey Phillips
Vice President
Industry Relations
PH 402-537-1654
FX 800-367-5058
jphillips@neca.org

Eastern
PH 800-228-8398
FX 800-228-8563

Southern
PH 800-223-7751
FX 800-551-3038

Southwestern
PH 800-351-9033
FX 800-774-2481

Western
PH 800-892-3322
FX 800-551-1328

North Central
PH 800-228-0180
FX 800-367-5058

For your information **Switched access rate changes and** **CAF ICC Data Collection reminder**

April 6, 2023

To: General and pool contacts at TS and SW pool members

Switched access rate changes

Commission rules require us to adjust capped interstate switched access rates, other than terminating end office rates and originating toll-free rates specified in the 8YY Access Charge Reform Order, to reflect pool election changes. Pool election changes for the upcoming tariff year resulted in a 0.4225% increase from current rate levels following the methodology specified in 47 CFR §51.909(a)(6). We will adjust switched access rates by this factor for the upcoming tariff year. This increase was reflected in the data shown in the CAF ICC website when it opened on March 14 for data entry.

We will apply the 0.4225% rate increase related to pool election changes to originating non-toll-free end office rates and all non-toll-free transport rate elements. Rates are rounded up to the last significant decimal place for a five or greater and rounded down otherwise.

In the [CAF ICC website](#) (login required), we will modify the following for test period 2023-2024:

- interstate switched access rate levels;
- intrastate switched access rate levels for those companies with intrastate rates at parity with interstate rates;
- interstate terminating end office access service rates remain as bill and keep; and
- switched access revenues.

Proposed interstate and intrastate monthly and nonrecurring switched access rates can be viewed in the CAF ICC Data Collection website in the Study Area Intrastate Data section by selecting the Intrastate Revenues (FCC TRP) Output link. Your company's existing local switching and local transport rate band assignments will remain unchanged in the upcoming filing. **Adjusted intrastate rates will be available on April 13 and need to be filed with state regulatory commissions.**

CAF ICC Data Collection reminder

The CAF ICC Data Collection will remain open for data submission until **midnight ET on Thursday, April 13**. For access, go to our [website](#) (login required) and select Member Services>Data Collections and Tools>CAF ICC Data Collection.

If you have questions, please contact your member service manager.

Sincerely,



Jeffrey Phillips

cc: Authorized consultants

INTRASTATE ACCESS SERVICE

CHECK SHEET

Original Pages 1 to 67 inclusive of this tariff are effective as of the date shown.

<u>Page</u>	<u>Revision</u>	<u>Page</u>	<u>Revision</u>	<u>Page</u>	<u>Revision</u>
1	Original	30	Original	59	Original
2	5th*	31	Original	60	Original
3	Original	32	Original	61	Original
4	Original	33	Original	62	Original
5	Original	34	Original	63	Original
6	Original	35	Original	64	Original
7	Original	36	Original	65	Original
8	Original	37	Original	66	Original
9	Original	38	Original	67	Original
10	Original	39	Original		
11	Original	40	Original		
12	Original	41	Original		
13	Original	42	Original		
14	Original	43	Original		
15	Original	44	Original		
16	Original	45	Original		
17	Original	46	3rd*		
18	Original	47	Original		
19	Original	48	5th*		
20	Original	49	3rd*		
21	Original	50	5th*		
22	Original	51	Original		
23	Original	52	Original		
24	Original	53	Original		
25	Original	54	Original		
26	Original	55	Original		
27	Original	56	Original		
28	Original	57	Original		
29	Original	58	Original		

* Issued May 1, 2023

ACCESS SERVICE

17. Rates and Charges – Bear Lake Communications, Inc.

17.1 Common Line Access Service

17.1.1 Common Line Access Service–Non - LTR

Rate

Regulations concerning Carrier Common
Line Access are set forth in Section 3 preceding.

Terminating Per Access Minute
Originating Per Access Minute
Non-Toll Free
Toll Free

N/A
\$0.0200
\$0.0000

(R)

ACCESS SERVICE

17. Rates and Charges - Bear Lake Communications, Inc. (Cont'd)

17.2 Switched Access Service (Cont'd)

17.2.2 Local Transport-LTR

	<u>Monthly Rate</u>	<u>Tariff Section Reference</u>	
(A) <u>Entrance Facility</u> Per Termination		6.1.3(A)(1)	
Voice Grade Two Wire	\$ 47.77		(I)
Voice Grade Four Wire	\$ 76.44		(I)
High Capacity DS1	\$ 232.88		(I)
High Capacity DS3	\$2,126.32		(I)
Optical OC3	\$2,168.20		(I)
Optical Channel OC 12	\$2,314.95		(I)
(B) <u>Direct Trunked Transport</u> <u>Direct Trunked Facility</u> Per Mile		6.1.3(A)(2)	
Voice Grade	\$ 3.40		(I)
High Capacity DS1	\$ 15.96		(I)
High Capacity DS3	\$ 138.99		(I)
Optical Channel OC3	\$ 148.78		(I)
Optical Channel OC12	\$ 186.72		(I)
(C) <u>Direct Trunked Termination</u> Per Termination			
Voice Grade	\$ 34.20		(I)
High Capacity DS1	\$ 82.78		(I)
High Capacity DS3	\$ 531.56		(I)
Optical Channel OC3	\$ 553.48		(I)
Optical Channel OC12	\$1,205.10		(I)
(D) <u>Multiplexing</u> Per Arrangement		6.1.3(A)(5)	
DS3 to DS1	\$ 485.00		(I)
DS1 to Voice	\$ 187.25		(I)
(E) <u>Tandem Switched Transport</u> <u>Tandem Switched Facility*</u> Per Access Minute Per Mile		6.1.3(A)(3)	
Terminating - All	\$0.000437		(I)
Originating - All	*		
(F) <u>Tandem Switched Termination – All*</u> Per Access Minute Per Termination			
Terminating	\$0.002271		(I)
Originating - All	*		
(G) <u>Joint Tandem-Switched Transport*</u> Toll Free Only			
Per Originating Access Minute	\$0.001		

*The Joint Tandem Switched Transport rate element applies per tandem to originating toll free minutes only in lieu of the Tandem Switched Facility, Tandem Switched Termination and Tandem Switching rate elements as of July 1, 2021. The Joint Tandem Switched Transport rate is only billed by the tandem company that performs the tandem switching function.

ACCESS SERVICE

17. **Rates and Charges - Bear Lake Communications, Inc. (Cont'd)**

17.2 **Switched Access Service (Cont'd)**

17.2.2 <u>Local Transport-LTR (Cont'd)</u>	<u>Monthly Rate</u>	<u>Tariff Section Reference</u>
(H) <u>Network Blocking Per Blocked Call</u> Applies to FGD only	\$ 0.0153	6.8.6
(I) <u>Toll Free Data Base Access Service Queries</u> Per Query		
Basic	\$ 0.0002	(R)
Vertical Feature	\$ 0.0002	(R)
17.2.3 <u>Local Transport-Non -LTR</u>	<u>Monthly Rate</u>	<u>Tariff Section Reference</u>
(A) <u>Local Transport Facility</u>		6.1.3(A)(3)
<u>Non-Mileage Sensitive</u> Per Access Minute		
Terminating	N/A	
Originating, Non-Toll Free	\$0.0203	

ACCESS SERVICE

17. Rates and Charges–Bear Lake Communications, Inc. (Cont'd)

17.2 Switched Access Service (Cont'd)

Monthly <u>Rate</u>	Tariff Section <u>Reference</u>
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17.2.4 Reserved for Future Use

17.2.5 End Office- Non-LTR Intrastate

(A) Local Switching

Terminating Per Access minute	N/A	
Originating Per Access minute		
Non-Toll Free	\$0.0205	
Toll Free	\$0.00000	(R)

(B) Information Surcharge

Terminating Per 100 Access minutes	N/A
Originating Per 100 Access minutes	
Non-Toll Free	N/A

17.2.6 Transitional Rate-LTR-Intrastate

Per End Office minutes of use	
Terminating	\$0.000000
Originating, Toll Free Only	N/A