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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 Shauna Benvegnu-Springer, Utility Technical Consultant

Date: June 3, 2025

Re: Docket No. 25-2201-T01, TARIFF Bear Lake Communications d/b/a CentraCom.

Proposed Tariff Revisions

Recommendation (Approve Tariff Sheets)

The Division of Public Utilities ("DPU" or "Division") has reviewed the tariff filing and recommends the Public Service Commission ("PSC" or "Commission") approve Bear Lake Communications d/b/a CentraCom's ("Bear Lake" or "Company") proposed revisions to tariff rates to comply with the Federal Communications Commission's ("FCC") intercarrier compensation rules. The Division recommends the tariff changes be approved with an effective date of July 1, 2025.

Issue

On May 20, 2025, Bear Lake submitted revised tariff sheets, which follow the current FCC rules governing intercarrier compensation. The Commission issued an Action Request on May 20, 2025, for the Division to investigate the proposed changes and report its findings and recommendations by June 3, 2025. This memorandum represents the Division's response to the Commission's Action Request.



Background

Issuing carriers must match terminating access by July 1, 2025, by decreasing specific capped interstate switched access rates. It is expected that the FCC will approve the National Exchange Carrier Association's (NECA) proposed rate change filing, effective July 1, 2025. The rates are based on an 18.4483% rate decrease, as announced by NECA on April 10, 2025.

Discussion

The Division reviewed the redlined version and final versions of the tariff sheets submitted with the Company's filing. The proposed rates have been adjusted in accordance with the announced NECA rate proposal dated April 10, 2025. Bear Lake is requesting a decrease in twenty Local Transport rates, with the rate difference per month as follows:

- Entrance Facility: Voice Grade Two Wire \$9.03
- Entrance Facility: Voice Grade Four Wire \$14.45
- Entrance Facility: High Capacity DS1 \$44.03
- Entrance Facility: High Capacity DS3 \$402.04
- Entrance Facility: Optical OC3 \$409.96
- Entrance Facility: Optical Channel OC12 \$437.70
- Direct Trunked Transport Direct Trunked Facility: Voice Grade \$0.64
- Direct Trunked Transport Direct Trunked Facility: High Capacity DS1 \$3.02
- Direct Trunked Transport Direct Trunked Facility: High Capacity DS3 \$26.28
- Direct Trunked Transport Direct Trunked Facility: Optical Channel OC3 \$28.13
- Direct Trunked Transport Direct Trunked Facility: Optical Channel OC12 \$35.30
- Direct Trunked Termination: Voice Grade \$6.47
- Direct Trunked Termination: High Capacity DS1 \$15.65
- Direct Trunked Termination: High Capacity DS3 \$100.51
- Direct Trunked Termination: Optical OC3 \$104.65
- Direct Trunked Termination: Optical OC12 \$227.86
- Multiplexing: DS3 to DS1 \$91.70
- Multiplexing: DS1 to Voice \$35.41
- Tandem Switch: Terminating \$0.000083
- Tandem Switch: Terminating \$0.000429

The Division received information from the Company regarding the number of times a rate was billed in the last 12 months. The Division reviewed and analyzed the impact on revenue due to the rate changes. Bear Lake is not using any of these rates, nor has it billed them in the past 12 months, and is only holding them as placeholder rates unless necessary.

Thus, the decrease in rates has no effect on revenue, as no revenue was generated by the rates previously.

Conclusion

The Division reviewed Bear Lake's filing and had no concerns with the proposed revisions. The Division recommends the Commission approve the filing as submitted, effective July 1, 2025, as requested.

cc: Ryan Denzel, JSI Chad Wray, Bear Lake Telecom Bawb Nielsen, Bear Lake Telecom