

Brett N. Anderson
Kristy L. Bertelsen
Michael D. Blackburn
Mark D. Dean
Bret A. Gardner
Matthew V. Hess
Dori K. Petersen
Dena C. Sarandos
Pete B. Sarandos
Kira M. Slawson
Scott R. Taylor

BLACKBURN & STOLL, LC
Attorneys at Law
257 East 200 South, Suite 800
Salt Lake City, UT
84111-2142

Telephone (801) 521-7900
Fax (801) 521-7965

Kira M. Slawson
Direct Phone (801) 578-3578
kslawson@blackburn-stoll.com
Fax (801) 521-7965

August 15, 2022

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING
psc@utah.gov

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

Re: Advice Letter—UBTA-UBET Communications Inc. /Tariff Filing
Docket No. 22-053-T03

To the Commission:

In accordance with R746-405 of the Public Service Commission's Rules, UBTA-UBET Communications Inc. ("UBTA-UBET") hereby electronically files the attached 3rd Revised Sheet No. 1 and 2nd Revised Sheet No. 2 of the UBTA-UBET Communications Inc. Local Tariff P.S.C. Utah No. 1.

As the Commission is aware, on November 16, 2022, UBTA-UBET filed 1st Revised Sheet No. 28 which rolled the federal subscriber line charge ("SLC") in the residential and business rates (\$6.00 and \$9.20 respectively), but did not result in an overall rate increase for the customer. On July 8, 2022, UBTA-UBET filed a reformatted tariff which was approved by the Commission on August 10, 2022. In the July 8, 2022 Tariff (effective August 16, 2022), the 1st Revised Sheet No. 20, which contains the B1 rates, was filed with no substantive changes (B1 Rates (which include the SLC) remained at \$37.50¹ - including the EAS).

As the Commission is aware, FCC rules also include an Access Recovery Charge ("ARC") that providers, such as UBTA-UBET are required to collect from their customers. The ARC for multi-line businesses is capped at \$6.00 per month and cannot be raised by more than \$1.00 in any year². In addition, the multi-line business ARC plus the subscriber line charge may not exceed \$12.20 per line per month. Prior to including the SLC in the B1 rate, UBTA-UBET

¹ The B1 Rate for each exchange is different, but when added to the EAS for that exchange, the total amount paid by the Business Customer is \$37.50.

² 47 CFR §51.917(e).

multi-line businesses were paying a capped rate of \$12.20 per month for the SLC and ARC (\$9.20 SLC and \$3.00 ARC). When UBTA-UBET rolled the SLC into the B1 rate, it was no longer capped at charging \$3.00 per month for the multi-line business ARC. Therefore, effective July 1, 2022, UBTA-UBET should³ have raised its ARC rate on the multi-line business customers by \$1.00 per month to reach the maximum ARC over the next three years.⁴

As the Commission is aware, UBTA-UBET Communications Inc. is a telephone cooperative. Pursuant to Utah Code Section 54-7-12(7), UBTA-UBET's Board of Directors did not approve an overall increase to the B1 Rate, rather they agreed to a modification of the rate elements. Therefore, effective July 1, 2022, UBTA-UBET should have reduced its business B1 Rate in each exchange by \$1.00 to accommodate an increase in the ARC, and to maintain the same overall rate paid by the multi-line business customer, consistent with the UBTA-UBET Board approval and the public meeting held on June 22, 2022. This was an oversight by UBTA-UBET in its previous tariff filing. 2nd Revised Sheet No. 20 reduces the B1 Rate in each exchange by \$1.00 to accommodate the increase in ARC on the Federal side.

UBTA-UBET is also including 3rd Revised Sheet No. 1 because there was a typographical error found in the 2nd Revised Sheet No. 1.

UBTA-UBET Communications Inc. hereby files its tariff revisions reflecting these corrections. The Tariff sheets, as proposed, do not constitute a violation of State law or Commission rule. UBTA-UBET Communications Inc. respectfully requests that the Commission accept the Revised Tariff sheet with the proposed effective date of September 16, 2022.

Very truly yours,

BLACKBURN & STOLL, LC



Kira M. Slawson
Attorneys for UBTA-UBET Communications Inc.

Enclosures

cc: Bruce Todd
Jason McKee

³ Rate of return carriers are not required to charge the full ARC, but it will be imputed against them for federal USF purposes. 47 CFR §51.917(f).

⁴ UBTA-UBET will continue to raise the ARC by \$1.00 per month each year until the maximum of \$6.00 per month is achieved, consistent with 47 CFR §51.917(e).