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May 27, 2022

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. 22-2201-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, 2022 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, 2022, thereby increasing the capped rates which the issuing carriers must match for terminating access by July 1, 2022,¹. Rates are based on the 1.2714 percent interstate switched access rate increase as announced by NECA on April 6, 2022 (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.

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).

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

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 will be reduced by 50% and then to zero in year three: 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 will be made to the query rate in July 2022 to transition this rate down to the final rate of .0002 in 2023. In July 2022, this rate was moved down 50% of the transition, which resulted in a rate of \$0.002224.

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

Sincerely,



Valerie Wimer
Vice President

on behalf of
Bear Lake Communications, Inc.

Enclosures

cc: Mike Plows, Bear Lake Communications, Inc.

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

April 6, 2022

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 1.2714% 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 1.2714% rate increase related to pool election changes to originating nontoll-free end office rates and all nontoll-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 2022-2023:

- 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.

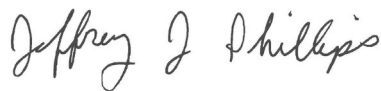
Proposed interstate and intrastate monthly and nonrecurring switched access rates can be viewed in the CAF ICC Data Collection website in the Study Area Intrastate Data section by selecting the Intrastate Revenues (FCC TRP) Output link. Your company's existing local switching and local transport rate 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 Wednesday, 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