

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

In the Matter of Tariff Revisions to)	DOCKET UT-141369
)	
Establish Individual Company Originating)	ORDER 01
Carrier Common Line Access Rates to be)	
Billed and Kept by Each Company, filed)	
on behalf of its members by the)	ORDER GRANTING INDIVIDUAL
)	COMPANY RATES REFLECTING
WASHINGTON EXCHANGE)	CLOSURE OF THE ORIGINATING
CARRIER ASSOCIATION)	CARRIER COMMON LINE POOL
.....)	
.		

BACKGROUND

- 1 On June 30, 2014, the Washington Exchange Carrier Association (WECA) on behalf of its members filed with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) revisions to WECA Tariff WN U-1 to establish individual company originating carrier common line (CCL) access rates to be billed and kept by each company, reflecting the closure of the originating carrier common line pool.
- 2 The Commission recently authorized the termination of WECA’s administration of the Washington Carrier Access Plan (WCAP).¹ The WCAP had originally included three pools, but two have since been terminated.² WECA and its members have determined that administration of this last remaining and smallest pool should no longer be pooled due to the high administrative costs. Therefore, in this filing WECA proposes to replace the intrastate originating pool rate with individual company rates that will be billed and kept by each company. The stated effective date of these tariff revisions is August 1, 2014.
- 3 Each company’s originating CCL access rate was developed using the 2010 individual originating CCL revenue objectives set in Docket UT-110891, effective November 1, 2011. The companies calculated their proposed originating CCL access rates in this filing by dividing each company’s approved revenue objective by its annual access minutes for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014. Staff and WECA agreed that each

¹ Docket UT-971140, Order 10, paragraph 15; *served on May 23, 2014.*

² The Traditional USF pool was terminated effective July 1, 2014 (*Order 10, paragraph 11.*) and the Interim Terminating Access Charge pool (ITAC) was effectively terminated in July of 2013 by Step Two of the FCC’s preemption of intrastate terminating access charges, in compliance with FCC Order 11-161 (*released November 18, 2011*).

company could use the existing WECA rate of \$0.01788 or could calculate a new rate to achieve its revenue objective. Eleven companies will continue to charge the current rate of \$0.01788 per minute, on an individual company basis. Nine companies have proposed new rates ranging from \$0.01823 to \$0.04464.

- 4 Commission Staff has reviewed the proposed tariff revisions and has confirmed the companies have used the appropriate methodology to develop their new CCL rates. For those companies who chose to use the existing WECA rate of \$0.01788, it did not materially increase their access revenues. The result of these filings on a combined basis will generate approximately \$583,000 in annual revenues from originating access revenues for the WECA companies. The aggregate result of these filings is approximately \$126,000 lower than the approved 2010 revenue objective for these companies. In the future, individual company revenue objectives will no longer be a relevant measure for the individual intrastate access revenues, but the WCAP revenue objective along with an earnings review is a reasonable measure for this Docket. Commission Staff recommends that the proposed originating CCL rates are fair, just, and reasonable and should therefore be granted.

DISCUSSION

- 5 The Commission concurs with Staff's recommendation. The purpose of the pool was to help meet the revenue objectives of WECA's members. The companies have provided sufficient information to enable the Commission to make a determination that the proposed rates are not excessive. Accordingly, the filing in this docket is consistent with the public interest and the individual company rates should be granted.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

- 6 (1) The Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission is an agency of the State of Washington vested by statute with the authority to regulate the rates, rules, regulations, practices, and accounts of public service companies, including the telecommunications companies that are members of the Washington Exchange Carrier Association.

- 7 (2) The members of the Washington Exchange Carrier Association are engaged in the business of providing telecommunications services within the state of Washington and are public service companies subject to Commission jurisdiction.
- 8 (3) The Washington Exchange Carrier Association is subject to the requirements of WAC 480-120-352.
- 9 (4) This matter came before the Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting on July 24, 2014.
- 10 (5) It is in the public interest to allow the revisions to WECA Tariff WN U-1 filed on June 30, 2014, to become effective on August 1, 2014.

O R D E R

11 **THE COMMISSION GRANTS:**

- (1) The Washington Exchange Carrier Association's request for individual company originating carrier common line access rates to be billed and kept by each member company, as filed on behalf of its member companies in Docket UT-141369 on June 30, 2014.
- 12 (2) The tariff revisions to WECA Tariff WN U-1 effective August 1, 2014.

The Commissioners, having determined this Order to be consistent with the public interest, directed the Secretary to enter this Order.

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective July 24, 2014.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

STEVEN V. KING, Executive Director and Secretary