THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

IN THE MATTER OF THE COMMISSION'S INVESTIGATION INTO INTRASTATE CARRIER ACCESS REFORM PURSUANT TO SUB. S.B. 162.

CASE NO. 10-2387-TP-COI

ENTRY

Entered in the Journal on June 7, 2021

I. SUMMARY

{¶ 1} In this Entry, all local exchange carriers are directed to file an application to reduce their intrastate originating toll-free traffic end office access, tandem switching and transport rates, and related data query rates as required by the Federal Communications Commission by July 1, 2021.

II. DISCUSSION

- {¶ 2} Pursuant to R.C. 4927.15, the rates, terms, and conditions for carrier access shall be approved and tariffed in the manner prescribed by the Commission and shall be subject to the applicable laws, including rules or regulations adopted and orders issued by the Commission or the Federal Communications Commission (FCC).
- {¶ 3} On October 9, 2020, the FCC released its Report and Order (Report and Order) in WC Docket No. 18-156, *In re 8YY Access Charge Reform*. In its Report and Order, the FCC capped all originating toll-free end office, tandem switching, and transport rates of the date of the Report and Order. With respect to originating 8YY end office charges, the FCC established a phased down approach to bill and keep over a three-year period. As part of the first phase, effective July 1, 2021, all local exchange carriers are required to bring any intrastate originating 8YY end office access rates that exceed the comparable interstate rates into parity with the comparable interstate rates. In regard to originating 8YY tandem switching and transport access charges, the FCC adopted a single uniform nationwide rate cap of \$0.001 per minute. Relative to database query charges, the FCC reduced the cap to \$0.0002 per query in three steps ending July 1, 2023. As part of the first phase, effective July 1, 2021, the 8YY database query rates are capped at the national average query rate of

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\$0.004248. Additionally, the FCC ended double dipping by prohibiting carriers from charging for more than one query per call.

{¶ 4} In order to allow for the timely review and implementation of the requisite intrastate access rate revisions, all local exchange carriers are directed to file on or before June 18, 2021, the appropriate application reflecting the requisite rate reductions. Unless suspended, the applications will be deemed automatically approved on July 1, 2021. The applications should satisfy the criteria set forth in 47 C.F.R. 51.907, 51.909, and 51.911. For those local exchange carriers that fail to file the requisite application on a timely basis, the current effective intrastate 8YY intercarrier compensation rates will be deemed as unjust and unreasonable as of July 1, 2021, and such carriers will be prohibited from charging for intrastate 8YY traffic until they have Commission-approved tariffs in compliance with this Entry.

III. ORDER

- $\{\P 5\}$ It is, therefore,
- $\{\P 6\}$ ORDERED, That each local exchange carrier should file an application to amend its tariff in accordance with Paragraph 4. It is, further,
- \P ORDERED, That the tariff amendment applications shall be effective in accordance with Paragraph 4. It is, further,

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{¶ 8} ORDERED, That a copy of this Entry be served via the Commission's telephone industry electronic mail listserv, upon all incumbent local exchange carriers, all competitive local exchange carriers, the Ohio Consumers' Counsel, and all other interested persons of record.

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

/s/ Jay S. Agranoff
By: Jay S. Agra Jay S. Agranoff **Attorney Examiner**

JRJ/kck

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Case No(s). 10-2387-TP-COI

Summary: Attorney Examiner Entry ordering that each local exchange carrier should file an application to amend its tariff in accordance with Paragraph 4 and ordering that the tariff amendment applications shall be effective in accordance with Paragraph 4. electronically filed by Kelli C. King on behalf of Jay S. Agranoff, Attorney Examiner, Public Utilities Commission of Ohio