

**BEFORE
THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO**

In the Matter of the Application of Oakwood)
Telephone Company to Modify the Intrastate)
Applicable Originating Switched Access)
Rates) Case No. 21-0610-TP-ATA

**REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATION
SUBMITTED ON BEHALF OF THE STAFF OF
THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO**

On May 27, 2021, Oakwood Telephone Company (Oakwood) filed an application seeking to revise its intrastate access carrier to carrier tariff to comply with the Federal Communications Commission’s October 9, 2020, 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 \$0.004248. Additionally, the FCC ended double dipping by prohibiting carriers from charging for more than one query per call.

Oakwood has modified its intrastate switched access tariff to establish separate rate elements for intrastate Toll-Free Originating End Office Access Service and set the originating rate to zero. In addition, intrastate Switched End Office rates associated with Toll Free traffic have been reduced to their functionally equivalent interstate rates and all common transport charges associated with Toll Free traffic have been subsumed into a single uniform rate (Joint Tandem Switched Transport) and capped at \$0.001. Finally, Oakwood has capped the Toll Free Query Charge at \$0.004248 per query.

This application is being filed pursuant to Ohio Adm.Code 4901:1-7-14, as adopted in Case No. 16-2066-TP-ORD. Ohio Adm.Code 4901:1-7-14 requires the filing of an ATA application to amend existing carrier to carrier tariffs. Pursuant to Ohio Adm.Code 4901:1-7-14(B), the application is deemed approved 30 days after filing unless suspended or subjected to hearing. The staff has reviewed all documents filed with the application and has determined that the application has satisfied the requirement set forth in the Report and Order. As such, Staff recommends the application be automatically approved on June 26, 2021, with an effective date of July 1, 2021.

This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities

Commission of Ohio Docketing Information System on

6/23/2021 3:32:47 PM

in

Case No(s). 21-0610-TP-ATA

Summary: Staff Review and Recommendation electronically filed by Mrs. Tanika Hawkins on behalf of PUCO Staff