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STATE OF MARYLAND



PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

July 1, 2015

In the Matter of De-Tariffing of Certain *
Telecommunications Services Pursuant to *
Maryland General Assembly House Bill 472 *
- Telephone Companies Streamlined *
Regulatory Requirements *
*
*

Case No. 9384

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NOTICE AND ORDER ON DE-TARIFFING CERTAIN TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES

To: All Regulated Local Exchange Carriers In Maryland

During the 2015 legislative session, the Maryland General Assembly passed House Bill 472 (“Bill”) entitled “Telephone Companies – Streamlined Regulatory Requirements.” On May 12, 2015, Governor Hogan signed the Bill into law. The Bill de-tariffed certain services for all local exchange carriers in Maryland effective September 1, 2015. Specifically, the Bill de-tariffed the services identified in Verizon Maryland, LLC’s (“Verizon”) Price Cap Plan as “Discretionary Services” (Basket 4) and “Competitive Services” (Basket 5).¹ Additionally, the Bill de-tariffed all services provided by all non-Verizon local exchange carriers that are similar to those in Baskets 4 and 5 of Verizon’s Price Cap Plan. Finally, the Bill directed the Maryland Public Service Commission (“Commission”) to determine which services provided by non-Verizon local exchange carriers are similar to Basket 4 and 5 services. The requirement that carriers file and update tariffs with the Commission remains in force for all other services.

Through this Notice and Order, the Commission is making the determination that all services provided by non-Verizon local exchange carriers that are functionally equivalent to Basket 4 and 5 services shall be de-tariffed effective September 1, 2015.² For reference, a list of

¹ De-tariffed services are services for which no official tariff is required to be filed at the Commission. De-tariffed services continue to be regulated otherwise, and carriers that provide de-tariffed services must continue to comply with all statutory and COMAR rules and regulations, as well as with Commission Orders. Additionally, pursuant to PUA § 3-102, the Commission retains authority over the complaint process for de-tariffed services.

² “Functionally equivalent services” are services that serve the same purpose as, and are similar (but not necessarily identical) to, services in Baskets 4 and 5.

all Verizon Basket 4 and 5 services is attached to this notice. Carriers who are unsure whether a service they provide is functionally equivalent to a Basket 4 or 5 service should consult with the Commission's Staff prior to making the required filing, as referenced below.

Tariffs for Basket 4 and 5 services and all functionally equivalent services shall be withdrawn from tariffs on file with the Commission, since the Commission will not allow for the passive tariffing of de-tariffed services.³ Affected carriers are directed to file for withdrawal of all Basket 4 and 5 services, and all functionally equivalent services, by September 1, 2015 with 30 days Notice.

All affected carriers are directed to maintain up-to-date pricing guides of all de-tariffed services in the carrier's publicly available website coincident with the effective date of their tariff filing withdrawing such services. Carriers shall provide the web address of that public website to the Commission Staff prior to the effective date of their tariff filing. The Commission will publish links to the pricing guides on its own website. Carriers are also directed to notify the Commission in writing of any changes to website URLs and pricing guide cites, as they occur. Finally, carriers are directed to keep records of all pricing guide changes for three years from the time the pricing guide change was made.

Failure to comply with the requirements contained in this Notice and Order will result in your company being out of compliance with the Public Utilities Article and Commission orders, and may result in enforcement actions by the Commission.

Questions regarding these requirements should be directed to Jeff Pongsiri at (410) 767-8053. Tariff filings should be addressed to David J. Collins, Executive Secretary, Maryland Public Service Commission, William Donald Schaefer Tower, 6 St. Paul Street, 16th Floor, Baltimore, Maryland 21202.

By Direction of the Commission,

/s/ David J. Collins

David J. Collins
Executive Secretary

³ "Passive tariffing" is the practice of allowing carriers to maintain tariffs on file for de-tariffed services for informational or practical purposes.

Basket 4 and 5 Services

The following services are classified as “discretionary” and “competitive” services in Verizon’s price cap plan.

Basket 4 – Discretionary Services
Additional alternative number
Apartment Door Answering Service
Automatic Customer Trunk Testing
Business Traffic Study Service
Fixed Call Forwarding
Break Rotary Hunt
Call Gate
Call Mover
Central Office Data Sets
Centrex/DID Intercept
Concentrator-Identifier Equipment
Conference Service
Construction Charges
Custom Calling Services Residence and Single Line Business (other than speed dialing and repeat call)
Do Not Disturb
Duplicate Bill Charge
Easy Number Call Routing Service
Extended Basic Referral Service
Foreign Directory (including other Telco)
Four Wire Service Arrangements
Hot Line
Identified Outward Dialing
List Service
Long Distance Message Restriction (Business)
Make Busy Arrangements
Messaging Services Interface
Non-public, Non-List, Directory Service (Residential and Business)
PBX Night, Sunday and Holiday Service
Public Data Network Service
Remote Call Forwarding
Special Billing Numbers
Special Telephone Numbers
Split Referral Intercept Service
Suspend Service
Switched 56 Kilobit Service
Switched Redirect Service
Transfer Arrangements
Uniform Call Distribution
Warm Line

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Basket 5 – Competitive Services
Access Number Single Rate Service
ATM Cell Relay
Billing and Collection
Business Unlimited Local Usage
Business Service Charges associated with more than 4 Business Dial Tone Lines at a single location
Centrex Extend Service
Centrex Services (including Exchange Access)
Connect Request Service
Custom Call Services for multi-line businesses
Dedicated Wavelength Ring
DID Service
Distance Learning Service
Enhanced Dedicated SONET Service
Fast Packet Services
FlexGrow
Foreign Exchange Service (Residence and Business) ⁴
High Capacity and DDS Special Access
High Capacity Private Lines and DDS Service
High capacity for Direct Transport Switched Access (includes Entrance and Direct Trunk Transport)
Internet Protocol Routing Services
ISDN (BRI & PRI)
Local and Toll Package
Local Directory Assistance (Residence and Business)
Lo-Cap Private Line
Lo-Cap Special Access
Message Toll Services
National 411
Operator Handled Charges
Packages/Bundled services
PBX Trunks
Preferred Telephone Number Service
Residence Service Charges associated with non-standalone service
Repeat Call
Shared Tenant Service Lines and Trunks
Speed Dialing
Standalone Business Dial Tone (more than 4 lines at a particular address)
WATS Service
Unlimited Local and Toll Usage for Business
Virtual Private Network Services

⁴ Residential Contiguous Foreign Exchange with unlimited intraLATA toll service is subject to specific pricing constraints in Verizon's AFOR.

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