



PUBLIC NOTICE

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DA 24-455
Released: May 14, 2024

WIRELINE COMPETITION BUREAU REMINDS COMPETITIVE LOCAL EXCHANGE CARRIERS TO FILE REVISED TARIFFS BY JULY 17, 2024

WC Docket No. 24-41

By this Public Notice, the Wireline Competition Bureau (Bureau) reminds competitive local exchange carriers (LECs) benchmarking their tariffed rates to competing incumbent LECs to file interstate tariff revisions, as necessary, by **July 17, 2024**.¹ We encourage competitive LECs to make this filing *after* the competing incumbent LEC's interstate access charge tariffs become effective on July 2, 2024.²

Competitive LECs are prohibited from filing a tariffed rate for interstate switched exchange access services that is higher than “the benchmark rate”—“the rate charged for similar services by the competing [incumbent LEC].”³ If an incumbent LEC to which a competitive LEC benchmarks its rates, lowers its rates, the competitive LEC “must revise its rates to the lower level within 15 days of the effective date of the lowered [incumbent LEC] rate.”⁴ This year, incumbent LEC's rate reductions, which must be filed on 7-days' notice, will be effective on July 2, 2024.⁵ Accordingly, competitive LECs must file tariff revisions in the Electronic Tariff Filing System (ETFS), as necessary, reducing their applicable benchmarked rates on or before **July 17, 2024 by 7:00 p.m. Eastern Time**.⁶ To minimize burdens on filers and to promote administrative efficiency, we encourage competitive LECs benchmarking rates to competing incumbent LECs' rates, to file their tariff revisions *after* the competing incumbent LECs' benchmarked rates become effective on July 2, 2024.

For more information about this Public Notice, please contact Christopher S. Koves, Pricing Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, Christopher.Koves@fcc.gov.

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¹ See 47 CFR § 61.26(c) (“If an [incumbent LEC] to which a [competitive LEC] benchmarks its rates . . . lowers the rate to which a [competitive LEC] benchmarks, the [competitive LEC] must revise its rates to the lower level within 15 days of the effective date of the lowered [incumbent LEC] rate.”).

² Ordinarily, incumbent LECs are required to submit annual access charge tariff filings to be effective July 1. This year, however, because of the way in which the filing deadlines fell on the calendar, we established an effective date of July 2, 2024 for annual tariff filings made on 7- and 15-days' notice. *July 1, 2024 Annual Access Charge Tariff Filings*, WC Docket No. 24-41, Order, DA 24-294, 2-3, paras. 4-5 (WCB Mar. 27, 2024) (*Procedures Order*).

³ 47 CFR § 61.26(c).

⁴ *Id.*

⁵ *Procedures Order* at 2-3, paras. 4-5.

⁶ See 47 CFR § 61.26(c); *Procedures Order* at 3, para. 7.