



COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND CABLE

D.T.C. 13-7

May 1, 2014

Inquiry by the Department on its Own Motion into the Intrastate Intercarrier Compensation Rate Reductions Mandated by the Federal Communications Commission

NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION CLOSING DOCKET

The Department of Telecommunications and Cable (“Department”) notifies commenters and other interested parties that it is closing docket D.T.C. 13-7 and issuing the accompanying Competition Division Notice informing telecommunications carriers (“carriers”) of the Department’s modified tariff-filing requirements specific to the 2014 intercarrier compensation (“ICC”) rate reduction filings scheduled for this summer.

Last June, the Department initiated docket D.T.C. 13-7 as an informal, non-adjudicatory proceeding, and sought input from affected carriers, members of industry, and other interested parties on implementing the revisions. *See Inquiry by the Dept. on its Own Motion into the Intrastate Intercarrier Compensation Rate Reductions Mandated by the Federal Communications Commission, D.T.C. 13-7, Request for Comment and Notice of Technical Workshop* (Jun. 24, 2013), at 1, 2, 4. It opened the docket in response to Federal Communications Commission (“FCC”) reforms mandating ICC rate reductions by carriers over the next several years. *See generally, In re: Connect America Fund, WC Docket No. 10-90 et al., Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, FCC 11-161* (rel. Nov. 18, 2011) (“*ICC Transformation Order*”), as amended, *pets. for review pending sub nom. In re: FCC 11-161*, No. 11-9900 (10th Cir. filed Dec. 8, 2011). These rate reductions require multiple revisions to intrastate tariffs and affect carrier interconnections agreements filed with the Department.

The Department received written comments from AT&T Corp. (“AT&T”) and Verizon New England Inc., d/b/a Verizon Massachusetts (“Verizon”), and several industry members participated in a technical workshop conducted by the Department on August 15, 2013, including representatives from AT&T, BayRing Communications, Charter, Comcast, Granby and CRC Communications d/b/a OTT Communications, Technologies Management, Inc., Verizon, and Windstream Communications. The Department thanks all of these parties for their comments and participation.

Based on input received by the Department from industry and due to appeals of the FCC’s actions currently pending before the 10th Circuit, the Department will take no formal action on intrastate ICC rates at this time. Rather, the Department will address any issues that do arise through the modified tariff-filing requirements set forth in the accompanying Competition Division Notice (“Notice”) or otherwise as needed on a case-by-case basis. The Department notes that any members of industry with questions regarding the modified tariff-filing requirements are free to contact the Department through the process outlined in the Notice.