

FILED

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Missouri Public Service Commission Official Case File
Case No. TA-98-380, File No. 9900451
Green Hills Area Cellular Telephone Company Incorporated,
d/b/a Green Hills Telecommunications Services

Missouri Public
Service Commission

FROM: Lisa Mahaney, Telecommunications Department

SUBJECT: Staff Recommendation to Approve the Intrastate Access Tariff of Green Hills Area
Cellular Telephone Company Incorporated, d/b/a Green Hills Telecommunications
Services

Wendy Henderson 1-8-99
Utility Operations Division/Date

Perry Baker 1/11/99 MP 1-8-99
General Counsel's Office/Date

DATE: January 6, 1999

History

On December 22, 1998, Green Hills Area Cellular Telephone Company Incorporated, d/b/a Green Hills Telecommunications Services (GHTS) submitted a proposed tariff (P.S.C. MO. NO. 2) to provide intrastate access services. In its Order Granting Certificate to Provide Basic Local Telecommunications Service, effective July 17, 1998, the Missouri Public Service Commission (Commission):

- granted a certificate of service authority for basic local service conditional upon tariff approval,
- classified GHTS as a competitive telecommunications company,
- waived certain Statutes and Commission Rules, and
- conditioned GHTS' certification and competitive status on the requirement that any increases in switched access service rates above the maximum switched access service rates set forth in the agreement must be cost justified.

GHTS' Interconnection Agreement with GTE Midwest Incorporated and GTE Arkansas Incorporated (collectively GTE) was approved by the Commission on September 22, 1998, in Case No. TO-98-582. GHTS' Master Interconnect and Resale Agreement with Sprint Missouri, Inc., was approved by the Commission on November 17, 1998, in Case No. TO-99-75.

Proposed Tariff

The Telecommunications Department Staff (Staff) has reviewed GHTS' proposed access tariff and finds it conforms to the Commission's standards as set forth in the Orders in Case Nos. TO-99-75 (Resale Agreement Order) and TA-98-380 (Certification Order). GHTS' proposed tariff covers the provision of access services to intrastate interexchange customers. GHTS' proposed tariff contains a list of the approved waivers listed in the Order and sections on access tariff concurrence, carrier common line access service, switched access service, and special access service.

GHTS' proposed tariff is similar to other competitive local exchange company (CLEC) tariffs previously approved by the Commission. GHTS proposes to concur with the access services tariff of Oregon Farmers Mutual Telephone Company, with some exceptions. These exceptions include:

- GHTS will not apply provisions of the minimum monthly charge set out in the Oregon Farmers tariff,
- Switched access local transport will be distance sensitive for all calls in all feature groups,
- GHTS includes nonrecurring charges for specific activities in conjunction with the installation of service (to include engineering), changes to an existing switched access arrangement or activation/deactivation of a Carrier Identification Code (CIC),
- GHTS includes nonrecurring charges for specific work activity (i.e., installation of service or change to an existing service),
- Premium charges will apply all day Sunday and on all GHTS approved holidays,
- GHTS will apply a primary interexchange carrier (PIC) change charge of \$5.00 per occurrence, and
- GHTS includes provisions for Message Inquiry, Inquiry Support Service, and Bulk-billed Service.

GHTS proposes to implement carrier common line access and switched access rates which are no higher than those of the incumbent local exchange carrier, Sprint, per Staff's review of Sprint's access rates.

GHTS includes a section on PIC Change Charge that states if the end user or agent changes the carrier of choice, a PIC change charge and the appropriate local tariff service order charges will be applicable. Initial end user and agent selection of PIC by ballot or appearing on an interexchange carrier (IC) list will not incur a charge. A change of PIC selection prior to the end office conversion will not incur a charge. Notification of a change in the PIC may be coordinated by the end user or agent with either the IC selected or GHTS. Should an end user or agent dispute authorization of the change in PIC assignment and if the IC cannot produce a letter of agency or confirmation from the end user or agent, the IC will be billed one PIC change charge for restoring the end user's or agent's prior IC assignment. If the IC produces the letter of agency or confirmation of choice within 15 days of GHTS' request, the end user or agent will be billed two PIC charges in lieu of charges to the IC. Charges are only applicable if a change in an end user's or agent's IC selection has actually been implemented in the switch. GHTS reserves the right to implement practices and/or procedures that require verification from the end user subscriber before a PIC change service order will be initiated.

Staff Recommendation

On January 6, 1999, GHTS submitted substitute sheets to revise a PIC change written notification requirement, at the request of Staff, and to correct typographic errors. Staff has reviewed these substitute sheets and finds them acceptable. Staff recommends approval of GHTS' proposed tariff, P.S.C. MO. NO. 2, as amended, with an effective date of January 21, 1999. The specific tariff sheets recommended for approval are as follows:

PSC MO. NO. 2 Section 1 Original Sheet 1 through Section 6 Original Sheet 8

Copies: Director - Utility Operations Division
 Director - Research and Public Affairs Division
 Director - Utility Services Division
 General Counsel
 Office of the Public Counsel
 Sondra B. Morgan - Attorney for Green Hills Telecommunications Services