



Telecom Order CRTC 2006-312

Ottawa, 16 November 2006

Bell Aliant Regional Communications, Limited Partnership

Reference: Tariff Notice 34

Work-Function Structure

1. The Commission received an application by Bell Aliant Regional Communications, Limited Partnership (Bell Aliant), dated 28 August 2006, proposing revisions to General Tariff item 100, Work-Function Structure. In its application, Bell Aliant proposed to introduce a promotion which would waive the residential service connection charge (SCC) for its customers who subscribed to a bundle of features, and to increase the business SCCs.
2. Bell Aliant noted that it had been offering the proposed promotion and started charging the proposed business SCCs, coincident with the approval of Bell Canada's corresponding modifications made to its Work-Function Structure in Telecom Order CRTC 2006-96, 25 April 2006, and Telecom Order CRTC 2006-157, 22 June 2006. Bell Aliant noted that, in addition to seeking approval of these rates, it was seeking Commission ratification, pursuant to subsection 25(4) of the *Telecommunications Act* (the Act), for the charging of the rates for these services prior to the date of the Commission's approval.
3. Bell Aliant indicated that it had filed its application in order to align the Bell Aliant tariffs with the corresponding Bell Canada tariffs.
4. In Telecom Order CRTC 2006-236, 7 September 2006, the Commission granted interim approval to Bell Aliant's application.
5. The Commission received no comments with respect to this application.
6. The Commission notes that the rates, terms, and conditions proposed by Bell Aliant in its application are identical to those in Bell Canada's tariffs for the same services. The Commission considers this to be appropriate.
7. The Commission notes that the company requested ratification, pursuant to subsection 25(4) of the Act, for the charging of the rates for these services prior to the Commission's approval.
8. The Commission notes that subsection 25(4) of the Act states that the Commission may ratify the charging of a rate by a Canadian carrier otherwise than in accordance with a tariff approved by the Commission if the Commission is satisfied that the rate was charged because of an error or other circumstance that warrants the ratification. The Commission notes Bell Aliant's statement that it had been charging the proposed rates since the company was first established.

Given that the rates charged by Bell Aliant were identical to Bell Canada's tariffed rates, the Commission considers that it would be appropriate to ratify the charging of these rates for the period between the establishment of the company and the date this application was granted interim approval.

9. In light of the above, the Commission:

- (i) **approves on a final basis** Bell Aliant's application; and
- (ii) ratifies the charging of the rates approved in this Order from 7 July to 7 September 2006.

Secretary General

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