



## Telecom Order CRTC 2012-138

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Ottawa, 7 March 2012

### **Lansdowne Rural Telephone Co. Ltd. – Increase to local residential service rates**

File number: Tariff Notice 13

1. The Commission received an application from Lansdowne Rural Telephone Co. Ltd. (Lansdowne), dated 30 January 2012, proposing to modify item 5 of its General Tariff – Rate Schedules for Primary Exchange (Local) Service.
2. Specifically, the company proposed to raise the monthly rate for residential individual-line service from \$22.75 to \$25.17 to reflect determinations made in Telecom Regulatory Policy 2011-291. In that decision, the Commission determined that the small incumbent local exchange carriers (ILECs) would be allowed to increase their monthly residential rates in three equal increments, to a maximum of \$30, over a three-year period.
3. In a letter dated 6 February 2012, Lansdowne also requested ratification, pursuant to subsection 25(4) of the *Telecommunications Act* (the Act), for charging the current rate of \$22.75 as of 1 January 2002.
4. Lansdowne submitted that Decision 2001-756 had allowed the company to increase its rates for residential individual-line service from \$20.15 to \$22.75, and that revised tariff pages had to be issued by 31 December 2001 in order for these rates to become effective 1 January 2002. The company further submitted that it had issued a revised tariff page and had implemented this rate increase, but that the new rate was erroneously omitted from the tariff page.
5. The Commission approved Lansdowne's application on an interim basis in Telecom Order 2012-99, noting that it would address the company's request for ratification in the final order.
6. The Commission received no comments regarding Lansdowne's application. The public record of this proceeding is available on the Commission's website at [www.crtc.gc.ca](http://www.crtc.gc.ca) under "Public Proceedings" or by using the file number provided above.
7. The Commission considers that Lansdowne's proposed rate increase complies with its direction in Telecom Regulatory Policy 2011-291 regarding increases to the small ILECs' residential individual-line service rates.

8. With respect to Lansdowne's ratification request, the Commission notes that, pursuant to subsection 25(4) of the Act, it may ratify the charging of a rate by a Canadian carrier otherwise than in accordance with a tariff approved by the Commission if it is satisfied that the rate was charged because of an error or other circumstance that warrants the ratification.
9. The Commission is satisfied that Lansdowne charged the rate of \$22.75 without an approved tariff due to an error. The Commission therefore considers that the company's request for ratification is reasonable.
10. Accordingly, the Commission **approves on a final basis** Lansdowne's application to increase its residential individual-line service rate to \$25.17 effective 1 March 2012, and ratifies the rate of \$22.75 charged by the company from 1 January 2002 to 29 February 2012.

Secretary General

### **Related documents**

- Telecom Order CRTC 2012-99, 15 February 2012
- *Obligation to serve and other matters*, Telecom Regulatory Policy CRTC 2011-291, 3 May 2011, as amended by Telecom Regulatory Policy CRTC 2011-291-1, 12 May 2011
- *Regulatory framework for the small incumbent telephone companies*, Decision CRTC 2001-756, 14 December 2001