



## Telecom Order CRTC 2012-203

PDF version

Ottawa, 3 April 2012

### Northwestel Inc. – Introduction of wholesale connect service

File numbers: Tariff Notices 882 and 883

1. On 6 February 2012, Northwestel Inc. (Northwestel) filed Tariff Notice (TN) 882, in which it proposed to modify its Private Wire Service Tariff by introducing a new wholesale service at item 1123 – Internet Transport Service.
2. On 8 March 2012, Northwestel filed TN 883, in which it proposed to modify its Access Services Tariff for Interconnection with Interexchange Carriers by introducing item 300 – Wholesale Connect Service and withdrew TN 882.
3. In TN 883, Northwestel proposed that interim rates for each element should be set at a nominal level of \$1 per month for recurring charges and \$1 for any non-recurring charges. Northwestel requested that final rates should be approved retroactive to the date of the interim order. Northwestel also indicated that it expects to file revised proposed rates and an associated cost study by the end of March 2012.
4. Northwestel submitted that the proposed service could be operational within six weeks of the date of approval of TN 883.
5. On 8 March 2012, the Commission received a submission from SSi Micro Ltd. (SSi Micro), a competitor in Northwestel's Territory, in which it stated that the service proposed in TN 883 would meet SSi Micro's current terrestrial backbone connectivity requirements from a technical perspective. SSi Micro also submitted that it supported the proposed interim rates.
6. 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".

### Commission's analysis and determinations

7. The Commission notes that SSi Micro indicated that the service proposed in TN 883 meets its technical requirements. Based on the record of this proceeding, the Commission considers that TN 883 is a more appropriate service than the service proposed in TN 882.
8. The Commission notes that, while the rates proposed by Northwestel in TN 883 are nominal, Northwestel proposes to submit a cost study with respect to TN 883 by 31 March 2012. In these circumstances, and to permit Northwestel to implement the service proposed in TN 883 as expeditiously as possible, the Commission considers it appropriate to approve the rates proposed on an interim basis.

9. Accordingly, the Commission approves Northwestel's withdrawal of TN 882 and **approves on an interim basis** Northwestel TN 883 for Wholesale Connect Service effective the date of this order. The Commission notes that final rates may be approved for this service on a retroactive basis.
10. Interested parties may file interventions within 30 calendar days of the filing date of the cost study by Northwestel, and Northwestel may file reply comments within 10 calendar days of the deadline for filing interventions.

Secretary General