

Cincinnati Bell Telephone Company

2004 PRICE CAP REVISIONS

May 2004 Tariff Review Plan Filing

April 30, 2004

## Description & Justification

### Introduction

#### A. Background

This filing represents Cincinnati Bell Telephone Company's (CBT's) May 2004 Tariff Review Plan (TRP) Filing.

This filing is being made in compliance with the following:

- \* Second Report and Order, *In the Matter of Policy and Rules Concerning Rates for Dominant Carriers*, CC Docket No. 87-313, released October 4, 1990 (LEC Price Cap Order);
- \* Order on Reconsideration, *In the Matter of Policy and Rules Concerning Rates for Dominant Carriers*, CC Docket No. 87-313, released April 17, 1991 (Recon. Order);
- \* Report and Order, *In the Matter Of Amendment of Part 36 of The Commission's Rules and The Establishment of a Joint Board*, FCC 97-30, released February 3, 1997;
- \* First Report and Order, *In the Matter of Price Cap Performance Review for Local Exchange Carriers*, CC Docket No. 94- 1, Released April 7, 1995;

- \* Report and Order, *In the Matter of Price Cap Regulation of Local Exchange Carriers, Rate-of-Return Sharing and Lower Formula Adjustment*, CC Docket No. 93-179, released April 14, 1995;
- \* Third Report and Order, *In the Matter of Price Cap Performance Review for Local Exchange Carriers*, CC Docket No. 94-1, FCC 96-488, released December 24, 1996;
- \* Report and Order, *In the Matter of Implementation of Section 402(b)(1) (A) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996*, CC Docket No. 96-187, FCC 97-23, released January 31, 1997;
- \* First Report and Order, *In the Matter of Access Charge Reform*, CC Docket No. 96-262, FCC 97-158, released May 16, 1997;
- \* Fourth Report and Order, *In the Matter of Price Cap Performance Review for Local Exchange Carriers*, CC Docket No. 94-1, FCC 97-159, released May 21, 1997;
- \* Memorandum Order and Opinion, *In the Matter of Access Charge Reform*, CC Docket No. 97-250, FCC 98-106, released June 1, 1998;
- \* 47 C.F.R. § 61.38 and § 61.41 through § 61.49; and 47 C.F.R., Part 61, generally.

Herein referred to collectively as the "Price Cap Rules".

- \* Sixth Report And Order in CC Docket 96-262 And 94-1, Report and Order in CC Docket 99-249, Eleventh Report And Order in CC Docket 96-45.

Herein referred to as the "CALLS Order"

- \* Order In the Matter of July 1, 2004 Annual Access Charge Tariff Filings DA 04-1049, released April 19, 2004.

## **B. Waivers**

CBT lists below all currently applicable Part 69 waivers that permit rate elements different than those specified in Part 69 of the Commission's Rules.

- \* The Commission extended indefinitely the waiver allowing carriers to bill \$25.00 for a special access surcharge. This element is included in CBT's Common Line Basket. See, *In the Matter of Annual 1989 Access Tariff Filings*, Memorandum Opinion and Order, DA 88-1872, released December 2, 1988;
- The Commission granted CBT a waiver allowing it to offer a new Switched Access rate subelement for a proposed Electronic White Pages services, called "ELI". See *in the Matter of Cincinnati Bell Telephone Company Petition for Waiver of Part 69 of the Commission's Rules for Electronic*

*Directory Assistance Service, Order*, DA 91-170, released February 19, 1991;

- \* The Commission waived the requirement that LECs offer both direct-trunked and tandem-switched transport between a specific serving wire center and an access tandem. See, *In the Matter of Local Exchange Carrier Switched Local Transport Restructure Tariffs, Order*, DA 94-693, released June 23, 1994;
- \* The Commission, in its Order, waived Part 69 Rules in order to establish a separate nonrecurring rate element to recover the costs of providing 900 access service. See, *In the Matter of the Bell South Telephone Companies Tariff FCC No. 1; Cincinnati Bell Telephone Company Tariff FCC No. 35; Centel Corporation Tariff FCC No. 1; Rochester Telephone Corporation Tariff FCC No. 1; Petitions for Waiver of Section 69.4 (b) and subparts B and C of Part 69 of the Commission's Rules* released November 18, 1988;

In this filing, CBT files its short form TRP. The Commission, in its Order (DA 04-1049) waived portions of Section 61.49(k) requiring a short form TRP filing 90 days prior to the July 1 annual access filing date. The Commission established April 30, 2004 as the filing date for the short form TRP.

## **PCI Development**

CBT calculated its Price Cap Indices ("PCI") for the Common Line, Traffic Sensitive, Trunking, and Special Access baskets in accordance with the CALLS Price Cap Rules. See TRP Form PCI-1.

### **1. GDP-PI**

In accordance with paragraph 183 of the CALLS Order, the Bureau of Economic Analysis' (BEA's) chain-weighted GDP-PI is being used in this filing. CBT uses a GDP-PI of 1.6252 percent in this short-form TRP filing.

### **2. Productivity Factor**

The Commission's CALLS Order changes the Productivity Factor, or X-factor to a transitional mechanism to target certain rates for switched access and to lower rates for a specified period for special access. The CALLS Order applies the 6.5% X-factor first to residual per-minute TIC until that charge is eliminated, then to the information surcharge until that charge is eliminated, finally to local switching and switched transport charges until the carrier's average traffic sensitive interstate access charges reach a specified target. The Average Traffic Sensitive (ATS) targeted rate for CBT is \$0.0065. This is the rate for "other" price cap LECs specified in paragraph 162 of the CALLS Order. CBT achieved this traffic sensitive average targeted rate in its July 2000 annual access filing. Per the CALLS Order, after a Price Cap LEC reaches the targeted rate, the ATS rate will be recalculated each subsequent Annual Filing. Due to changes in demand,

CBT's ATS for the July 2004, annual access filing is \$0.00724149. Per the CALLS Order, and as noted in the Commission's *Tariff Review Plans*, DA 04-1048 Released April 19, 2004, the X-factor is set to the inflation rate for the Special Access basket. See Forms TGT1 and TGT3.

### **3. Index Changes**

As directed by the Commission, a workpaper identifying the transmittal or letter filing date where the last index changes were implemented for the price cap categories has been included. See Exhibit IND-TM.

### **Payphone Line Counts - TRP CBTC916A**

The Commission exempted payphone lines from Presubscribed Interexchange Carrier Charges (PICC) in its Order On Reconsideration, FCC 03-139, released June 25, 2003. Accordingly, CBT has removed its payphone lines from the PICC Multi-line Business line counts. CBT no longer has a PICC charge therefore there is no revenue impact of the payphone line removal.

### **Exogenous Costs**

#### **1. Excess Deferred Taxes**

CBT calculated the revenue impact of Excess Deferred Taxes as shown on exhibit EXG-EDT. CBT spread the Excess Deferred Tax revenue impact over the Common Line Basket and the Special Access

Basket. See Exhibit EXG-EDT.

## **2. Development of Regulatory Fees**

The Commission released its Notice of Proposed Rule making (NPRM) in the Matter of *Assessment and Collection of Regulatory Fees for Fiscal Year 2004* on March 29, 2004. This NPRM specified a Regulatory Fee factor of 0.00218. This factor was multiplied by CBT's end-user interstate revenue from FCC Form 499 to yield CBT's 2004 Regulatory Fee adjustment of \$165,181. CBT filed Transmittal No. 785, effective October 1, 2003, which adjusted the basket allocation of its 2003 Regulatory Fees pursuant to industry discussions with FCC staff. CBT's 2003 Regulatory Fees reflected in Transmittal No. 785 were \$149,545. CBT's 2004 Regulatory Fee of \$161,581 was subtracted from CBT's 2003 Regulatory Fee of \$149,545 to yield an increase in CBT's Regulatory Fee of \$12,035. CBT adjusted its Common Line Basket and Special Access Basket to reflect the Regulatory Fee adjustment. This adjustment was made based on end-user interstate revenues shown on CBT's FCC 499 Form. See Exhibit EXG-ALLOCATE. CBT reserves the right to modify its filing if the Commission releases a new TRS factor prior to the annual access filing.

## **3. Development of Telecom Relay Support (TRS)**

The Commission released its Order in the matter of *Telecommunications*

*Relay Services and Speech-to-Speech Services for Individuals with Hearing and Speech Disabilities* on June 30, 2003. The Commission proposed a revised TRS factor of 0.0149 to be applied to the tariff year July 2003 to June 2004. CBT used this factor to develop its TRS exogenous adjustments for its Mid-year TRP filing, Transmittal No. 785, effective October 1, 2003. The Commission released its *Order DA 04-465*, on February 24, 2004, which retroactively changed the July 2003 to June 2004 TRS factor to .00220. For this filing, CBT computed the incremental difference for the July 2003 to June 2004 period using the Commission's revised factor, as well as computed the incremental TRS exogenous cost for the July 2004 to June 2005 period. CBT allocated the sum of the July 2003 to June 2004 period and the July 2004 to June 2005 period incremental differences over Common Line and Special Access baskets based on end-user interstate revenues shown on CBT's FCC 499 Form. These calculations are shown on attachment EXG-ALLOCATE. CBT reserves the right to modify its filing if the Commission releases a new TRS factor prior to the annual access filing.

**4. Development of North American Numbering Plan (NANP) Contribution**

The Commission released Public Notice CC Docket 92-237, DA 03-3342 on October 23, 2003. This Public Notice specified a NANP factor of 0.000021 for the period from July 2003 through June 2004. This

factor was multiplied by CBT's end-user revenue from FCC Form 499A to yield CBT's 2004 NANP exogenous adjustment. CBT's 2004 NANP contribution of \$11,622 was subtracted from CBT's 2003 NANP contribution of \$19,933 to yield a decrease in CBT's NANP support of \$8,311. CBT adjusted its Common Line Basket and Special Access Basket to reflect the NANP exogenous decrease. This adjustment was made based on end-user interstate revenues shown on CBT's FCC 499 Form. See Exhibit EXG-ALLOCATE. CBT reserves the right to modify its filing if the Commission releases a new NANP factor prior to the annual access filing.

#### **5. Development of Investment Tax Credit**

CBT calculated the revenue impact of its Investment Tax Credit as shown on exhibit EXG-ITC. CBT spread the Investment Tax Credit revenue impact over the Common Line Basket and the Special Access Basket. See Exhibit EXG-ITC.

#### **492A Forms**

Pursuant to the Commission's *Tariff Review Plans* Order, CBT has included its Form 492A for the calendar years 2002 and 2003.

## **New Services**

CBT has included a listing of new services introduced in 2003. CBT did not introduce any new services in 2003. See Exhibit CBT-NEW.