

Recalculate their 1992 and 1993 earnings and rates of return, making an add-back adjustment; (2) determine the appropriate sharing or lower formula adjustment to their PCIs for the subsequent tariff year; (3) compute the amount of any resulting access rate decrease; and (4) submit a plan for refunding the amounts owed to customers plus interest as a result of any such rate decrease.

In the *Add-Back Refund Order*, DA 05-719, released on March 17, 2005, the Wireline Competition Bureau (Bureau) disapproved the original refund plan filed by Verizon on behalf of certain Bell Atlantic and GTE incumbent LECs. Verizon filed a Modified Refund Plan on April 18, 2005 and determined that refunds are due to interstate access customers of the following GTE incumbent LECs for the tariff periods noted:

- Contel Pennsylvania (GTE North, Inc.) (1993, 1994)
- GTE Alaska, Inc. (1993, 1994)
- GTE Idaho (GTE Northwest, Inc.) (1994)
- GTE Indiana (GTE North, Inc.) (1993, 1994)
- GTE Michigan (GTE North, Inc.) (1993)
- GTE Missouri (GTE Midwest, Inc.) (1993)
- GTE Montana (GTE Northwest, Inc.) (1994)
- GTE Wisconsin (GTE North, Inc.) (1994)

(the GTE LECs). In the *Supplemental Add-Back Refund Order*, DA 05-2029, released July 15, 2005, the Bureau approved Verizon's Modified Refund Plan and directed Verizon to make refunds as further specified in that Order and in the *Add-Back Refund Order*. The Bureau recognized that, due to factors such as bankruptcy, changes in ownership, or simple passage of time, some customers of the GTE LECs may no longer be readily identifiable. Further, the Bureau did not require Verizon to identify and notify customers that may be due refunds of less than \$100. Customers that Verizon cannot identify and customers due refunds of less than \$100 may, however, obtain refunds through the following procedure, as specified in paragraph 22 of the *Add-Back Refund Order*: For at least 60 days after this notice is published in the **Federal Register**, Verizon must post this notice on its company web sites that are most often consulted by its interstate access customers. Verizon must also provide an address to which former access customers may submit refund claims by a specified date that is at least 60 days after the refund notice is first posted.

Federal Communications Commission.

Thomas J. Navin,

Chief, Wireline Competition Bureau.

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

[CC Docket Nos. 93-193, 94-65; DA 05-2197]

Wireline Competition Bureau Approves Plan To Refund Interstate Access Customers of BellSouth for 1993 and 1994 Tariff Periods

AGENCY: Federal Communications Commission.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This document provides notice that the Wireline Competition Bureau has approved the plan to refund interstate access customers of BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. (BellSouth) for refunds associated with its 1993 and 1994 annual interstate access tariffs. It also provides information as to how refunds may be obtained by BellSouth interstate access customers that are either no longer readily identifiable or that are due refunds of less than \$100.

DATES: Former interstate access customers may submit refund claims to BellSouth through October 24, 2005.

ADDRESSES: See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for address postings.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

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SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On July 30, 2004, the Commission released the *Add-Back Tariff Investigation Order*, FCC 04-151, in CC Docket Nos. 93-193 and 94-65. In that Order, the Commission concluded its investigation of the 1993 and 1994 interstate access tariffs of price cap local exchange carriers (LECs) that implemented a sharing or lower formula adjustment. The Commission found unjust and unreasonable the 1993 annual access tariffs of price cap LECs that implemented a sharing or lower formula adjustment in their 1992 Price Cap Indexes (PCIs) and that failed to apply add-back in computing their 1992 earnings and rates of return and resulting 1993 PCIs. The Commission made the same findings for the 1994 interstate access tariffs of price cap LECs that implemented a sharing or lower formula adjustment in their 1993 PCIs. Finally, the Commission ordered affected price cap LECs to: (1) Recalculate their 1992 and 1993

earnings and rates of return, making an add-back adjustment; (2) determine the appropriate sharing or lower formula adjustment to their PCIs for the subsequent tariff year; (3) compute the amount of any resulting access rate decrease; and (4) submit a plan for refunding the amounts owed to customers plus interest as a result of any such rate decrease.

On August 30, 2004, BellSouth filed the refund plan required by the *Add-Back Tariff Investigation Order*. In the *Add-Back Refund Order*, DA 05-719, released on March 17, 2005, the Wireline Competition Bureau (Bureau) disapproved BellSouth's refund plan. BellSouth provided a further explanation of its refund plan calculations. Upon review of this explanation, the Bureau approved BellSouth's refund plan in the *Supplemental Add-Back Refund Order*, DA 05-2029, released July 15, 2005, and directed BellSouth to make refunds as further specified in that Order and in the *Add-Back Refund Order*. The Bureau recognized that, due to factors such as bankruptcy, changes in ownership, or simple passage of time, some BellSouth customers may no longer be readily identifiable. Further, the Bureau did not require BellSouth to identify and notify customers that may be due refunds of less than \$100. Customers that BellSouth cannot identify and customers due refunds of less than \$100 may, however, obtain refunds through the following procedure, as specified in paragraph 22 of the *Add-Back Refund Order*: For at least 60 days after this notice is published in the **Federal Register**, BellSouth must post this notice on its company web sites that are most often consulted by its interstate access customers. BellSouth must also provide an address to which former access customers may submit refund claims by a specified date that is at least 60 days after the refund notice is first posted.

Federal Communications Commission.

Thomas J. Navin,

Chief, Wireline Competition Bureau.

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