

DT 10-231

TELECOMMUNICATIONS RELAY SERVICE

**Order Directing Local Exchange Carriers to Adjust Rate Paid to
Telecommunications Relay Service Trust Fund**

ORDER NO. 25,142

September 3, 2010

New Hampshire's Telecommunications Relay Service Trust fund (the Fund) was established by incumbent local exchange carriers (ILECs) to provide funding for the State's telecommunications relay service (TRS) program, pursuant to Order No. 20,236¹. In accordance with a stipulation between the ILECs, other interested parties, and Staff, dated May 28, 1991, and approved by the order, the PUC monitors Fund transactions and sets the rate for monthly contributions.

The most recent change to the contribution rate became effective April 1, 2007, pursuant to Order No. 24,731². That change, recommended by Staff to reduce the balance in the Fund, decreased the monthly rate from four cents to two cents per access line, and from two cents to one cent for inactive seasonal rate lines. At that rate, the fund collects approximately \$15,000 per month. Disbursements from the fund, on average, have been approximately \$45,000 a month.

According to a memo submitted by Staff on August 5, 2010, since the time of the 2007 rate reduction the Fund's balance has continually declined and, by November 1, 2010, the amount in the fund is expected to cover less than 6 months of trust expenditures. In order to prevent the balance from declining below that level and

¹ Order 20,236 in Docket DE 90-225 (September 10, 1991) established TRS in order to comply with telecommunications carrier requirements contained in Title IV of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.

² Order No. 24,731 in Docket DT 07-019 (February 16, 2007).

possibly being depleted, Staff recommends increasing the contribution rate to six cents per access line and three cents for inactive seasonal lines.

We accept Staff's recommendation and set the TRS rate at six cents per access line and three cents per inactive seasonal rate line, effective November 1, 2010. All local exchange carriers are reminded that, pursuant to Puc 412.02 and Puc 432.02, TRS payments must be remitted monthly to the Fund before the twentieth of each month.

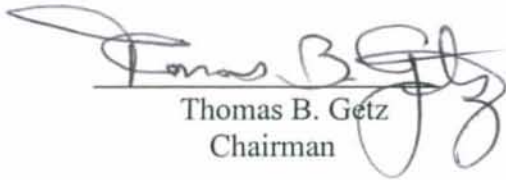
Based upon the foregoing, it is hereby


ORDERED, that remittances paid monthly by local exchange carriers to the TRS Trust fund shall be based on a rate of six cents per access line, and three cents per seasonal rate line during the off-season on all bills rendered on or after November 1, 2010; and it is

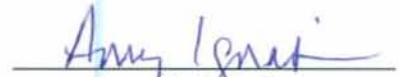
FURTHER ORDERED, that, ILECs shall file revised tariff pages, and competitive local exchange carriers that include TRS charges in their monthly basic service charges shall file revised price sheets, effective for bills rendered on or after November 1, 2010, reflecting the rate change in accordance with N.H. Code Admin. Rules PARTs Puc 400 and 1600; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that local exchange carriers notify customers of this increase with a bill insert or bill message provided concurrently with the increase.

By order of the Public Utilities Commission of New Hampshire this third day of
September, 2010.


Thomas B. Getz
Chairman


Clifton C. Below
Commissioner


Amy L. Ignatius
Commissioner

Attested by:


Debra A. Howland
Executive Director

