



Turks & Caicos Islands – Telecommunications Commission

Request for Quotation (RFQ)

Public Notice 2024-4

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Interconnection Rate Review

Background

The Commission's first review of domestic mobile termination rates (MTR) was completed in January 2011 (Telecom Decision 2011-2). This first Decision established a forward-looking benchmarking approach for setting MTR levels for all operators, a result of which MTR reductions were phased-in from 2011 to 2013.

A second interconnection rate review was completed by the Commission in 2014 (Telecom Decision 2014-4) that covered domestic fixed and mobile termination rates (FTRs and MTRs) and transit rates.

A third interconnection rate review was completed by the Commission in 2020 (Telecom Decision 2020-2) that also covered domestic fixed and mobile termination rates (FTRs and MTRs) and transit rates.

The Commission considers that it is now timely to undertake a fourth interconnection rate review process to ensure that such rates are in line with Caribbean levels and trends.

Request for Quotation

The Commission is requesting quotes for a Consultant to assist the Commission in undertaking a fourth interconnection rate review in TCI. The rate review would cover domestic MTRs, FTRs and transit rates for all operators. It would be based on the application of benchmarking methodology and would include a public consultation process.

Scope of Work

The Consultant will be responsible conducting a review and benchmarking study of domestic MTRs, FTRs and transit rate levels in TCI. Based on the results of the benchmarking study, the Consultant would prepare a Consultation Document that would include proposals for new domestic MTRs, FTRs and transit rates in TCI, including any phase-in process, as found necessary.

Key Deliverables

- **Benchmarking Study:** The Consultant would update and, as necessary, modify the benchmarking analysis used in Telecom Decision 2020-2.
- **Interconnection Rates Proposal:** Based on the results of the updated benchmarking study, the Consultant would develop a proposal for the level of domestic MTRs, FTRs and transit rate, likely in a phased manner over several years, as found necessary.
- **Consultation Document.** The Consultant would prepare a draft Consultation Document that would include the interconnection rate benchmarking analysis (including a description of the methodology) and proposed interconnection rates for the Commission's review. Based on that review, the Consultant would finalize the Consultation Document, which would be issued by the Commission.
- **Review of Comments from Stakeholders.** The Consultant would review all comments received on the Consultation Document and, where found warranted and appropriate, make changes to the benchmarking methodology/results as well as the proposed interconnection rates.
- **Decision:** Based on the input on the Consultation Document, the Consultant would prepare a draft Interconnection Rate Decision that would include, including any changes to the benchmarking methodology/results and/or proposed interconnection rates resulting from the consultation process, for the Commission's review. Based on that review, the Consultant would finalize the Decision, which would be issued by the Commission.

Qualification Requirements

- At least ten years experience in interconnection rate-setting and benchmarking as well as in the preparation of telecommunications regulatory documents, including consultation documents and decisions.
- Experience providing telecommunications policy advisory services to telecommunications regulatory agencies in at least three Caribbean jurisdictions over the course of the last ten years.
- No conflict of interest with TCI operators and any other interested stakeholders.

Proposal Submission

- The deadline date for submission is Monday, November 4, 2024, at 4:30 PM.
- All prices tendered must be in United States Dollars (US\$) including all discounts, applicable fees, and charges (TCI taxes and duties do not apply).
- All proposed prices must be valid for at least ninety (90) calendar days from the proposal submission date.
- Tenderers are required to submit a copy of their current Business Licence Certificate in the appropriate class of business.
- All queries and clarifications regarding this tender shall be submitted in via e-mail, and directed to:

Kenva Williams
Director General
Telecommunications Commission
Providenciales
Turks and Caicos Islands
Email: kenvawilliams@tcitelecommission.tc
Telephone: (649) 946-1900

Please note the Commission reserves the right to accept or reject any tender/ proposal received.