

Consolidated Communications Wholesale Customer Communication Tariff Notification

Notification Date: **January 28, 2020** Effective Date: **February 2, 2020**

Subject: FCC Forbearance Order

Notification #: **TRF 0025**

Target Audience: IXC, CLEC, Wireless, Reseller

Area Impacted: All Regions

Contact: Consolidated Change Management

at ConsolidatedCMP@consolidated.com

NOTICE OF DISCONTINUANCE OF WHOLESALE DISCOUNT FOR RESALE
SERVICES, UNE ANALOG LOOPS AND UNE DS1/DS3 DEDICATED TRANSPORT
BETWEEN CERTAIN WIRE CENTERS, PURSUANT TO CHANGE OF LAW
PROVISIONS IN THE INTERCONNECTOIN AGREEMENTS

Pursuant to Orders of the FCC, Consolidated Communications of Northern New England Company, LLC and Consolidated Communications of Vermont Company, LLC (collectively "Consolidated Communications") are providing notice that effective February 29, 2020, Consolidated will no longer provide: 1) wholesale discounts on resold services ordered after February 2, 2020; 2) new voice grade analog loops; and 3) unbundled dedicated DS1 and DS3 capacity transport facilities between Competitive wire centers ("Unbundled Dedicated Transport"). Additionally, effective August 22, 2022, Consolidated Communications will no longer provide wholesale discounts on resold services, voice grade analog loops and Unbundled Dedicated Transport.

In an order adopted August 2, 2019 (FCC 19-72) the FCC granted forbearance from the obligation of Price Cap Carriers to offer new voice grade analog unbundled loops and from the obligation to provide a wholesale discount on new resold telecommunications services as of February 2, 2020. The FCC further provided that Price Cap Carriers would have to continue to provide voice grade unbundled analog loops and wholesale discounts on resale service for all services provisioned prior to February 2, 2020 for a three year transition through August 22, 2022. The FCC Ordered that after August 22, 2022, Price Cap Carriers were no longer required to offer voice grade analog unbundled loops and wholesale discounts on resale services.

In an order adopted July 12, 2019 (FCC 19-66), the FCC granted forbearance to Price Cap Carriers from the obligation to provide new DS1 and DS3 unbundled interoffice transport between wire centers that meet a threshold of competition as of January 12, 2020. Additionally, the FCC provided that Price Cap Carriers would have to continue to provide Unbundled Dedicated Transport for all elements provisioned prior to January 12, 2020 for a three year transition through July 12, 2022. The FCC Ordered that after July 12, 2022, Price Cap Carriers were no longer required to offer Unbundled Dedicated Transport.

As a result of these orders, effective 30 days from the date of this notice, Consolidated Communications is exercising its rights under either: 1) an interconnection agreement, in the States of Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont; 2) Consolidated Communications Statement of Generally Available Terms and Conditions in Vermont; and/or 3) Consolidated's Tariff NHPUC No. 2 in the State of New Hampshire, that it will no longer provision new voice grade analog loops, resold services at wholesale discounts or Unbundled Dedicated Transport. If you wish to continue to order new Consolidated Communications services and/or network elements you will need to either order a valid tariffed product (i.e. special access) or contact Consolidated Communication for a commercial agreement. If you continue to order the forborne services after February 29, 2020, upon discovery, Consolidated shall immediately disconnect any improperly ordered service.

<u>Additionally</u>, Prior to August 22, 2022 you will need to either disconnect all voice grade analog loops or convert to a commercial service. As of August 22, 2022, all resold services that are still in service with Consolidated shall have the wholesale discount removed.

<u>Finally</u>, as of July 12, 2022, all Unbundled Dedicated Transport shall either be converted to another offering (i.e. special access or other business data service offering) or shall be disconnected.

This communication provided by the Consolidated Change Management Process (CMP) reachable at: ConsolidatedCMP@consolidated.com

Delivered by - Consolidated Communications 121 South 17th Street Mattoon, Illinois 61938