

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Order No. 3 of 2011

**In the matter of an Application by
Guyana Telephone & Telegraph
Company Limited with respect to
Calling Cards and their Expiry
Dates.**

The Commission has on diverse occasions made Orders, on application by Guyana Telephone & Telegraph Co. Ltd. with respect to the sale of mobile accounts with thresholds of credit life for both scratch cards and electronic top up credit. At present the following are the orders:

- Credit values of SCRATCH CARDS of \$1,000, \$2,000 and \$3,000 have life spans of six months commencing from date of first use.
- Credit values of SCRATCH CARDS of \$5,000 and \$7,000 have life spans of nine months and for SCRATCH CARD of \$12,000, a life span of 12 months.
- For electronic TOP UPS, credits from \$100 to \$30,000 have the same thresholds of credit life.

The Application by GT&T before us now is for a review of the existing Order touching on the credit life of the varying amounts purchased by consumers. We have taken into account that a consumer will not involve a relatively substantial amount to be tied up for a long period of time. This suggests that he/she is very likely to use up the minutes fairly quickly. And on the other hand, we find those who top up with smaller amounts may have limited resources, and purchase those top ups as and when they require the use of the service.

In considering all the factors and doing the best we can, viewing objectively what really in the circumstances of each activity is a subjective exercise of ability we need, we make the following Orders, by a majority decision.

1. **SCRATCH CARDS**

- a) The \$2,000, \$3,000, \$5,000, \$7,000 and \$12,000 will cease for sale.
- b) Cards in denominations of \$100, \$200 and \$1,000 are to be available with credit life of three months commencing from date of first use.

2. **ELECTRONIC TOP UPS**

- a) Electronic top ups will be available for credit from \$100 to \$30,000.
- b) Top ups from \$100 to \$10,000 will have a life span of three months commencing from date of first use.
- c) Top ups from \$10,001 to \$30,000 will have a life span of five months commencing from date of first use.

This Order shall take effect from September 16, 2011.

Dated this 5th day of September, 2011.

Sgd. _____
Prem Persaud

Chairman

Sgd. _____
Maurice Solomon

Commissioner

Sgd. _____
Badrie Persaud

Commissioner