

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

In the matter of Tariff Notice No. 1/94
by the Guyana Telephone and Telegraph
Company Limited regarding tariff for Mobile
Cellular Radio Telephone Service and the
request for grant of temporary rates.

Pamadath J. Menon, A.A.	=	Chairman
Hugh George	-	Member
John Willems, A.A.	-	Member
Errol Hanoman	-	Member
A.M.B. Sankies	-	Member

Representation

Guyana Telephone and
Telegraph Company Limited

- by Mr Joseph Sanders -
Attorney-at-Law

Consumers Advisory Bureau
and Guyana Consumers
Association

- by Mr Dennison Smith

Mr Peter Britton, Senior Counsel, was in attendance to
assist the Public Utilities Commission.

DECISION

Mobile cellular radio telephone service ("cellular
service") was introduced in a limited area in Guyana,
namely, in and around Georgetown, by the Guyana Telephone
and Telegraph Company Limited ("G.T.&T.") early in 1992.
An application was made to the Public Utilities Commission
("PUC") by GT&T for tariff for the cellular service, but it
was later withdrawn.

GT&T submitted a new application for tariff for the cellular service, namely, Tariff Notice No. 1/94, on 28 December 1994. The tariff was to be effective from 28 January 1995. But on that date, GT&T was not in possession of all the licences for providing the cellular service. So the provision of the service was not in accordance with law. The Commission is of the view that it cannot prescribe tariff for a service which is provided not in accordance with law. Hence it is held that Tariff Notice No. 1/94 cannot be acted upon and is therefore rejected.

GT&T was granted the remaining licences with effect from 5 May 1995. On 14 June 1995, GT&T filed two documents - one, Tariff Notice No. 2/95 in respect of cellular service to be effective from 15 July 1995 and the other for grant of temporary rates in respect of the same service. The tariffs requested by both the documents are the same as specified in Tariff Notice No. 1/94 dated 28 December 1994.

We have heard GT&T and the representative for the two consumer organisations. The hearings were held on 13th and 14th June, 1995 at the Bidco Training Centre, Georgetown.

There are two other matters pending before the Commission regarding tariff for various services rendered by GT&T. One is a notice issued by the Commission under section 43(3) of the Public Utilities Commission Act 1990 (No. 26 of 1990) and the other Tariff Notice No. 1/1995 by GT&T. Tariff Notice No. 2/1995 by GT&T, as in the case of the other two matters, would require evidence to be taken and arguments heard. In view of the above, we are allowing temporary rates for cellular service provided by GT&T. The temporary rates will be 70% of the temporary rates proposed by GT&T for cellular service in their letter dated 14 June 1995. For convenience that letter is annexed hereto as Appendix 'A'.

Reference in Appendix A to "Peak Traffic Hours" shall be deemed to be from 7:00 hours to 18:00 hours from Monday to Saturday and the rest of the period will be deemed to be "Off Peak Traffic Hours".

The temporary rates will be effective from 15 July 1995 and until a final decision is taken by the Commission on Tariff Notice No. 2/1995 or until modified or terminated by the Commission, whichever is earlier.

Dated at Georgetown, Guyana,
this 20th day of June, 1995



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PAMADATH J. MENON, A.A.

- Chairman



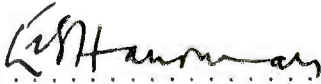
.....
HUGH GEORGE

- Member



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JOHN WILLEMS, A.A.

- Member



.....
ERROL HANOMAN

- Member



.....
A.M.B. SANKIES

- Member

PUC announces temporary rates for cellular phones

FREE local calls on cellular phones come to an end on July 15 when subscribers will begin paying temporary rates ordered by the Public Utilities Commission (PUC).

The commission on June 20 fixed the rates at 70% of that proposed by the company.

According to the PUC

order, cellular phone subscribers will have to deposit \$10,657 and pay an activation fee of a similar amount plus a monthly access charge.

There will be five rate plans available to consumers and the day will be divided into peak and off-peak periods. The peak periods are Monday to Saturday 7am to 6pm.

Plan A has an access charge of \$3,045 per month, \$76.13 per minute during peak periods and \$30.45 per minute for off-peak periods. The cost for 100 minutes is \$9,135, while 200 minutes will cost \$16,747. The plan gives 20 minutes free.

The charges for Plan B are \$8,120 monthly, \$48.72 per minute during

peak periods and \$25.38 during off-peak periods. The cost for 100 minutes is \$10,068.80, and for 200 minutes are given free.

Plan C has an access charge of \$13,702.50 per month. The peak period rate is the same as for Plan B, while the off-peak rate is \$30.45 a minute. 250 minutes are given free.

Plan D or Government Plan requires payment of \$1,015 per month access charge and \$40.60 per minute. The cost for 100 minutes is \$5,075 and for 200 minutes \$9,135.

The Daily Rate Plan has an access charge of \$507.50 per day and \$91.35 per minute. The charge for 100 minutes is

\$9,642.50 and for 200 minutes \$18,777.50.

Mobile cellular phone service was introduced here in 1992. GT&T says there are approximately 1,280 subscribers who enjoy the service without charge for domestic usage.

GT&T is preparing to re-register current subscribers. Any subscriber that fails to re-register by

July 14 will have their service terminated. Subscribers are requested to report to 69 Brickdam.

The company says that new applications will be processed on completion of the re-registration exercise, when it would be determined what lines are left available on the system.

"A"



Guyana Telephone & Telegraph Company Ltd

P.O. Box 10628, 55 Brickdam, Georgetown, Guyana, S.A.

June 14, 1995

Chairman
Public Utilities Commission
Public Buildings
Georgetown.

Dear Mr. Chairman,

Re: Tariff Notice No. 2/95
Mobile cellular radio-telephone service.

The company is requesting the institution of temporary rates as per the attached schedule of rates (tariffs) by the Commission pending the final decision in this matter.

Under subsection 43(2) of the PUC Act, the Commission has authority to fix the effective date of the temporary rates.

In order to assist the Commission and, in the public interest, the Company would suggest that the effective date be July 15, 1995.

Yours sincerely,

C. F. A. Hordatt
General Manager.

Attachment: Schedule of temporary rates.

PROPOSAL FOR TEMPORARY CELLULAR RATES AND TARIFFS

SUBSCRIBER ACCESS USAGE CHARGES

1. DEPOSIT	\$15,225.00
2. ACTIVATION FEE	\$15,225.00
3. RE-ACTIVATION FEE	\$2,900.00
4. ACCESS USAGE CHARGES	

	ACCESS CHARGE	USAGE RATES PER MINUTE	
		Free Minutes	Additional Minutes
PLAN A	\$4,350.00 per month	20	\$108.75
Peak Traffic Hours			\$43.50
Off-Peak Traffic Hours			
PLAN B	\$11,600.00 per month	60	\$69.60
Peak Traffic Hours			\$36.25
Off-Peak Traffic Hours			
PLAN C	\$19,575.00 per month	250	\$69.60
Peak Traffic Hours			\$43.50
Off-Peak Traffic Hours			
PLAN D - GOVERNMENT PLAN	\$1,450.00 per month	0	\$58.00
Peak Traffic Hours			\$58.00
Off-Peak Traffic Hours			
DAILY RATE PLAN	\$725.00 per day	0	\$130.50

Additional plans and alarm lines, cellular fax lines, and corporate discounts may be negotiated with interested parties

5. DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL LONG DISTANCE

- Usage charges will be waived on incoming international calls.
- For outgoing international calls, usage charges will be added to the regular GT&T long distance rates, plus a 25% surcharge on the current collection rate
- Usage charges for domestic calls will be independent of the distance between the originating and terminating points.

6. INSTALLATION AND REPAIR OF INSTRUMENTS

- Hourly Labour Rates of \$580.00 plus Landed Cost, Cost of Installation Material and Overhead Cost.

7. Rates will be adjusted monthly based on the Bank of Guyana exchange rate of the previous month.

8. The 1st 20 minutes of Plan A, the 1st 80 minutes of Plan B and 1st 250 minutes of Plan C are free.



Guyana Telephone & Telegraph Company Ltd

P.O. Box 10628, 55 Brickdam, Georgetown, Guyana, S.A.

June 14, 1995

Chairman
Public Utilities Commission
Public Buildings
Georgetown.

Dear Mr. Menon,

TARIFF NOTICE No. 2/95

As advised by the Commission and in compliance with the requirements of subsection 41(1) and clause 41(2) (ii) of the Public Utilities Commission Act No. 26 of 1990 (as amended), the Guyana Telephone and Telegraph Company Limited (GT&T) hereby applies for approval of the following tariff:

Description: *Mobile cellular radio-telephone service.*

Proposed Effective Date: *July 15, 1995.*

On December 28, 1994 the Company had submitted six copies of a Memorandum of Explanation about the cellular service and the proposed tariffs for the service. These documents should be treated as pertinent to this Tariff Notice.

Yours sincerely,


C. F. A. Hordatt
General Manager.