



Fee Schedule

ECS 12/2009

1 September 2009

UTILITIES REGULATION & COMPETITION AUTHORITY

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Introduction

Under Part XVI of the Communications Act (“Comms Act”), which came into force on 1 September, URCA has the power and duty to collect certain fees from licensees for itself and on behalf of other bodies.

This document contains the level of the **fees applicable from 1 September**, as follows:

- Under section 113(7) of the Comms Act licensees may have to pay transitional fees to URCA (these are set out in Table 1).
- Under Section 92 of the Comms Act, URCA may determine one or more charges (these are set out in Tables 2 and 3 respectively), and subject of a public consultation (ECS 03/2009, see www.urcabahamas.bs). Until a final determination is made, these fees are preliminary.
- Under Section 91 of the Comms Act, licensees may be required to pay a communications licence fee to the Government but collected by URCA (these are set out in Table 4).
- There may be an obligation for licensees to pay other fees, such as under the Utilities Tribunal Act (these are set out in Table 5).
- Under Section 93 of the Comms Act, URCA may impose charges for radio spectrum (these are set out in Table 6).
- Under Section 76 of the Comms Act, URCA can, by regulation, require the payment of a fee for processing merger control applications and making an adjudication and, if applicable, an order, in the exercise of its merger control functions. A regulation on merger control fees will be published on the URCA website in the forthcoming weeks.

Under section 92(2) of the Comms Act, fees levied by URCA must, amongst other things, be proportionate and be published in an appropriate and sufficiently detailed manner, so as to be readily accessible; and be set to cover URCA’s annual budgeted costs of performing URCA’s functions and exercising its powers under this Act and the URCA Act and to recover any deficit from previous years.

The fees detailed in Tables 2 and 3 have been set to cover URCA’s annual budgeted costs of performing its duties. URCA intends to publish as soon as possible towards the

end of the current calendar year an Annual Plan including its proposed objectives and target activities for the following year and setting out URCA's budget based upon its activities for the year. This is a requirement under section 41 of the Utilities Regulation and Competition Authority Act 2009.

The spectrum fees in Table 6 are the same fees that the legacy regulator, the PUC, charged for spectrum and need to be considered in conjunction with the Radio Spectrum Statement (ECS 13/2009) which was published on 1st September 2009. These will be reviewed at the time when a new spectrum plan is published in accordance with section 31 of the Comms Act.

In addition to the fees specified below, URCA may levy other fees and charges under section 92(1)(a) of the Communications Act for particular services rendered by URCA in the performance of its functions and the exercise of its powers under the Communications Act. Licensees requesting specific services will be notified of the amount of these charges.

This Fee Schedule will be kept under review and updated from time to time.

Table 1 - Transition Application Fee

Licence Type	Application Fee	Notice of Objection Fee
Amateur Radio	\$10	\$20
Ships Radio (Under 1600 tons)	\$10	\$20
Ships Radio (Over 1600 tons)	\$100	\$200
Private Landbase	\$100	\$200
Broadcast License (Spectrum)	\$100	\$200
Wireless Local Loop	\$1000	\$2000
Ship radio – Pleasure	\$10	\$20
VSAT	\$100	\$20
Spectrum Broadband	\$1000	\$2000
Private Port	\$10	\$20
Fixed Wireless Service	\$1000	\$2000
Telecommunications	\$5000	\$10000
Aeronautical Fixed Ground	\$100	\$200
Public Paging	\$100	\$200
Public Trunking	\$100	\$200
Internet Service Provider	\$100	\$200
Private Paging	\$10	\$20
Private Trunking	\$10	\$20
Broadcast Radio	\$100	\$200
Broadcast Television	\$100	\$200
Pay TV/Cable TV	\$5000	\$10000

Please refer to the Licensing Guidelines, available on the URCA website (www.urbahamas.bs) and the Communications Act 2009 for further information relating to application fees and notice of objection.

Table 2 - Operating Licence - URCA Fee

See the public consultation ECS 03/2009 which is available at www.urbahamas.bs

Licence Type	URCA Fee ¹ (per annum)
Individual Operating Licence	
Less than \$0.5m annual relevant turnover	\$3000
Greater than or equal to \$0.5m annual relevant turnover	1.472% of annual relevant turnover
Registrable Class Operating Licence	
Less than \$0.5m annual relevant turnover	\$3000
Greater than or equal to \$0.5m annual relevant turnover	1.472% of annual relevant turnover

Table 3 - URCA Publications

See the public consultation ECS 03/2009 which is available at www.urbahamas.bs

	Fee
Copy of URCA Publications	\$5

Table 4 - Communications Fee

	Communications Fee (per annum)
Every person required to pay an URCA fee pursuant to section 92(1)(c) of the Communications Act	3% of annual relevant turnover

Table 5 - Utility Appeals Tribunal Fee

	UAT Fee (per annum)
Every person required to pay an URCA fee pursuant to section 92(1)(c) of the Communications Act	
Utility Appeals Tribunal Fee	TBD ²

¹ Payable under s 92(1)(c) of the Communications Act 2009

² UAT fees will be available following the set-up of the UAT.

Table 6 - Annual Spectrum Fees

The fees below are the fees charged by the legacy regulator, PUC. These fees will be reviewed by URCA in relation to a new spectrum plan to be published in accordance with section 31 of the Comms Act.

Spectrum Allocation	Spectrum Fee (per annum)
<u>Aeronautical</u>	
Aeronautical Fixed Ground Station Licence	\$300
Aircraft Radio Station Licence (Aircraft Based)	\$60
<u>Marine</u>	
Fixed - Private Port Station - Marina	\$150
Ship Radio Telephone Station - Pleasure Craft	\$30
Ship Radio Telephone Station - under 1600 tons	\$75
Ship Radio Telephone Station - over 1600 tons	\$150
<u>Land Mobile</u>	
Fixed:	
Private Land Base Station Licence (single frequency assignment) – per frequency allocation	\$250
Private Land Base Station Licence (duplex frequency assignment) – per frequency allocation	\$500
<u>Others</u>	
Private Trunking – per 5 frequency pair	\$390
Public Trunking - per 5 frequency pair	\$1300
Public Paging	\$1300
Private Paging	\$100
Broadcast Licence	\$500
Amateur Radio Station	\$25
Experimental Radio Station	\$100
VSAT systems with dishes less than 3.8 meters with one 64 kbs channel	\$500
VSAT systems with more than one 64 kbs channels – per channel	\$500
Earth Stations with dishes larger than 3 meters, with multiple channels	\$4500
<u>Fixed Stations Operating Above 1 GHz</u>	
Bandwidth Per Radio Link (Spectrum Usage) (Point-to-Point)	
Bandwidth Per Radio Link - Up to 50kHz (per radio link)	\$450
Bandwidth Per Radio Link - 50kHz to 3.5MHz (per radio link)	\$620
Bandwidth Per Radio Link - 3.5 MHz but less than 30 MHz (per radio link)	\$800
Bandwidth Per Radio Link - 30MHz or more (per radio link)	\$1200
<u>Cellular Mobile</u>	
800 MHz Cellular Band (per 30kHz channel)	\$300
1900 MHz Cellular Band (per 10MHz of bandwidth)	\$50,000
<u>Broad Band Wireless Access</u>	
1.7/2.1/2.3 GHz Bands (per 5MHz block)	\$3000
<u>Fixed Radiocommunications (Point-to-Multipoint)</u>	
2.5 GHz Band (per 6MHz channel)	\$800