



URCA UPDATE

Publication of Order re: BTC/SRG Inbound Termination Dispute

URCA today published an Order that it issued under section 95 of the Communications Act to Bahamas Telecommunications Company Ltd. (BTC) and Systems Resource Group Ltd. (SRG, trading as IndiGO) arising from a dispute between them on 23rd June 2010. BTC had threatened to discontinue the termination of SRG's inbound international calls to BTC's network unless SRG paid a charge for such traffic. Consequently, URCA had, on 23rd June 2010, issued an Interim Order under section 96 of the Communications Act directing BTC to refrain from its proposed action until URCA had completed a full investigation into the matter.

After investigating the matter and considering the written submissions from both parties, URCA has now issued its final Order in the subject dispute directing BTC and SRG to seek to agree and pay to each other cost-based charges for the termination of inbound international calls destined for the other party's customers from 5:00 PM on 18th June 2010, being the effective date that the dispute first arose. BTC and SRG are also obliged to exchange billing records and/or call details of all inbound international calls passing between their respective networks since 18th June, pay each other for such calls according to the terms of their Interconnection Agreement, and provide each other with Calling Line Identification (CLI) information when delivering international traffic.

Under section 97 of the Communications Act, URCA is required to promptly publish its orders on its website unless any of the parties raise legitimate reasons of commercial confidentiality. One of the parties has objected to the publication of URCA's Reasons for its Decision on the basis that the Reasons for Decision disclose issues that are commercially confidential. URCA has acceded to this request based on the limited time period that the Order is expected to be in force and for those reasons will not be publishing its Reasons for Decision.

The document can be downloaded from the website www.urbahamas.bs under the tab Publications "Orders Issued".