



NOTICE

Review of Wholesale Fixed Broadband Resale Offer Industry Questionnaire

The Utilities Regulation and Competition Authority (URCA) is reviewing the wholesale fixed broadband resale obligations imposed on operators with Significant Market Power (SMP) in The Bahamas. As part of this review, URCA is issuing a questionnaire to industry stakeholders. This questionnaire will be used to assess the demand for these wholesale services and any need to potentially amend the current service offers.

In 2010, URCA imposed the obligation for The Bahamas Telecommunications Company Limited (BTC) and Cable Bahamas Limited (CBL) to offer a resale/wholesale fixed broadband product. This obligation seeks to provide a route for alternative providers to enter the broadband market, enabling licensed Internet Service Providers (ISPs) to offer retail broadband services without having to deploy their own network infrastructure.

Both SMP operators have developed their resale/wholesale broadband offers and made them available to interested parties. However, URCA understands that there has been no take-up of the resale/wholesale broadband services to date. Furthermore, URCA is aware that other ISPs have a number of concerns about the nature of the current offers. For these reasons, URCA is reviewing the fixed broadband resale/wholesale obligation imposed on BTC and CBL.

To facilitate its review, URCA wishes to confirm, by means of a questionnaire (ECS 39/2016), whether there is currently any demand for resale fixed broadband services or any other wholesale broadband services in The Bahamas. If so, the questionnaire further seeks to assess why the resale/wholesale service has not been taken up to date and the nature of any concerns regarding the current offers. Responses are required irrespective of whether the licensee is currently active.

Responses to the questionnaire are due **November 25, 2016** and can be sent via email to jlighthouse@urcabahamas.bs or via fax to 393 0188.

URCA thanks its licensees for their cooperation in this regard.

ECS 39/2016
November 4, 2016