

BELIZE:

**BELIZE TELECOMMUNICATIONS (TRANSITIONAL TARIFF
FREEZING) REGULATIONS, 2026**

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SCHEDULE

BELIZE:

STATUTORY INSTRUMENT

No. 36 of 2026

REGULATIONS made by the Public Utilities Commission, with the approval of the Minister responsible for telecommunications, in exercise of the powers conferred upon them by section 26 of the Belize Telecommunications Act, Chapter 229 of the Substantive Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2020, and all other powers thereunto them enabling.

(Gazetted 11th March, 2026)

PART I

Preliminary

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Citation.

**BELIZE TELECOMMUNICATIONS
(TRANSITIONAL TARIFF FREEZING)
REGULATIONS, 2026.**

2. In these Regulations, unless the context otherwise Interpretation.
requires –

“Act” means the Belize Telecommunications Act;

“associate” means a subsidiary of, or another body corporate controlled by, the Licensee and carrying on business in Belize;

“bundled service” means any grouping of telecommunication services, or non-telecommunication product or service along with a telecommunication service, into a single package, sold as one unit at a specified tariff;

“public operator” means a licensee who operates a public telecommunication network;

“relevant market” means the market for a telecommunication service, or class of telecommunication services, within a defined geographic area, as determined by the PUC for the purposes of a designation of a dominant operator under section 43 of the Act;

“service provider” means any licensee who operates a public telecommunication network, including a public mobile telecommunication network;

“subscriber” means an end user of telecommunication services;

“tariff” means the rate or any fee or charge levied by a service provider, including the description of the service and terms and conditions of service, as approved, filed or otherwise determined in accordance with these regulations; and

“transitional period” means the period from the date at which these Regulations become effective to the 31st December, 2028 or earlier as expressly replaced and repealed by rate setting regulations to be promulgated by the PUC.

Application
and scope.

3. These Regulations shall apply during the transitional period to any service provider determined as a dominant operator by the PUC under section 43 of the Act and to any associate of such a dominant operator in respect of their telecommunication services and relevant markets to which that determination relates.

PART II

Tariffs for Telecommunication Services

Freezing of
existing tariffs

4.-(1) The tariffs to be charged for telecommunication services supplied by a dominant operator, within a relevant

market, shall be the tariffs prevailing at date on which the PUC declares a service provider dominant and shall not be changed except with the approval of the PUC in accordance with these Regulations.

(2) The PUC shall publish the list of prevailing tariffs during the transitional period on the PUC website.

5. Where the prevailing tariffs apply to bundled services, any variation in the components of the bundled service, including its terms and conditions, without a corresponding reduction in tariff, shall be deemed a tariff increase and shall not become effective except with the approval of the PUC in accordance with these Regulations.

**Changes
to bundled
services**

6.-(1) A dominant operator shall not migrate, transfer or otherwise move any subscriber from a tariff published in the list of prevailing tariffs, except where such migration is expressly requested by the subscriber or approved by the PUC in accordance with these Regulations.

**Migration of
subscribers**

(2) Where the published tariff is withdrawn, restricted or otherwise made unavailable by the service provider, this shall not be deemed as an expressly requested migration by the subscriber.

7. No dominant operator shall introduce any tariff for new telecommunication services or introduce any new bundled services, except with the approval of the PUC in accordance with these Regulations.

**Introduction of
new tariffs or
new services**

8.-(1) Where a dominant operator wishes to change prevailing tariffs or introduce new tariffs or bundled services, the dominant operator shall submit to the PUC a written application no later than ninety days prior to the intended date of introduction of the new tariffs or bundled services.

**Application
procedures**

(2) An application made under sub-regulation (1) shall identify–

- (a) the proposed change to the prevailing tariff for a telecommunication service and the reasons justifying the change;
- (b) the proposed tariff for the new telecommunications service or bundled service and the reasons justifying the proposed tariff;
- (c) the date on which any proposed tariff is to take effect;
- (d) the subscribers or other users to which the tariffs would apply;
- (e) the tariff related terms and conditions for such telecommunication or bundled service; and
- (f) the pricing formula and cost data used to determine the tariff.

(3) The PUC shall review applications submitted under sub-regulation (2) and, within thirty days of the receipt of any such application, shall publish an initial decision on the PUC website and make the decision available at the PUC office.

(4) The dominant operator or interested parties may submit written comments on the initial decision within fourteen days of the date of the publication of the initial decision.

(5) The PUC shall review its initial decision after considering comments received from the dominant operator or interested parties.

(6) In reviewing its initial decision the PUC may request the dominant operator to submit additional information by a specified date.

(7) The PUC shall issue its final decision on the application by the service provider no later than fifteen days prior to the intended date of—

- (a) the proposed change to the prevailing tariffs;
or
- (b) the introduction of the new tariffs or bundled services or.

9. Every dominant operator shall file with the PUC, no later than twenty days after the end of the preceding month, such information related to tariffs and terms and conditions of telecommunication services sold during the preceding month for each month in the calendar year, in the manner and form as specified by the PUC.

**Reporting
Requirement.**

PART II

Transparency and Consumer Protection

10.-(1) Tariffs to be charged by a dominant operator for telecommunication services along with the conditions thereof shall be published in such manner as the PUC may from time to time direct.

**Publication of
tariffs.**

(2) Information of tariffs that a dominant operator may choose to offer to subscribers shall be accompanied by a comparison of financial implications to subscribers under each service offering.

11. No dominant operator shall, in any manner, discriminate between subscribers of the same class and such classification of subscribers shall not be arbitrary.

**Non-
discrimination**

Terms and conditions of service.

12.—(1) A dominant operator shall clearly indicate the terms and conditions of the provision of telecommunication services to subscribers which shall not in any manner be inconsistent with the provisions of these Regulations.

(2) Without limiting sub-regulation (1), the terms and conditions shall include—

- (a) the terms and conditions under which such services may be obtained, utilised and terminated;
- (b) the terms and conditions relating to the use of service, billing, repair, fault rectification and the like;
- (c) the choice of services available to a subscriber and procedure available for revising the choice along with the conditions thereof.

Offence and penalty.

13. A dominant operator who contravenes these Regulations commits an offence and is liable to the penalty specified under section 54 of the Act.

MADE by the Public Utilities Commission this 11th day of March, 2026.



DEAN MOLINA
CHAIRMAN
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

APPROVED by the Minister responsible for telecommunications this 11th day of March, 2026.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michel Chebat', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

HON. MICHEL CHEBAT, SC
Minister of Public Utilities, Energy & Logistics
(Minister responsible for telecommunications)