# THE STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF KANSAS

Before Commissioners:

Andrew J. French, Chairperson

Dwight D. Keen Annie Kuether

In the Matter of Brightspeed Companies of Kansas )

Filing Tariff Revisions to Grandfather of MetroPlus )

Docket No. 25-UTDT-546-TAR

## **ORDER APPROVING TARIFF REVISIONS**

The above-captioned matter comes before the State Corporation Commission of the State of Kansas ("Commission") for consideration and determination. Having examined its files and records, the Commission finds and concludes:

- 1. On June 23, 2025, Brightspeed Companies of Kansas ("Brightspeed" or "the Company") filed an application requesting the Commission approve a revision to Brightspeed's Local Exchange Tariff grandfathering MetroPlus, an optional service arrangement available to customers effective July 26, 2025.
- 2. K.S.A. 66-1,190 requires that telecommunications public utilities doing business in Kansas shall:

... publish and file with the commission copies of all schedules of rates, joint rates, tolls, charges, classifications, and divisions of rates affecting Kansas traffic, either state or interstate, and shall furnish the commission copies of all rules and regulations and contracts between such telecommunications public utilities pertaining to any and all jurisdictional services to be rendered by such telecommunications public utilities.

The Commission derives its authority to review Local Exchange Carrier tariffs from K.S.A. 66-117(d), which states in part:

Except as provided in subsection (c), no change shall be made in any rate, toll, charge, classification, or schedule of charges or joint rates, or in any rule or regulation or practice pertaining to the service or rates of any such public utility or common carrier, without the consent of the commission.

- 3. On June 30, 2025, Commission Staff ("Staff") issued its Report and Recommendation ("R&R") recommending that the Commission approve the Application grandfathering MetroPlus in its tariff.<sup>1</sup>
- 4. Based on representations made by the Company, the current subscribers of MetroPlus will continue to receive service and are not affected by this revision. MetroPlus will be limited to current customers' lines in service at existing locations, but future customers will not be able to subscribe to the MetroPlus.<sup>2</sup> Consequently, no customers will be impacted because of this change and there will be no revenue impact.<sup>3</sup>
- 5. Based on Staff's R&R and Brightspeed's Application, the Commission finds the Company's tariff revisions will not impact its existing Kansas customers.<sup>4</sup>
- 6. The Commission finds Staff's R&R, including the analysis and recommendations and attached hereto and incorporated by reference, should be adopted as additional findings.
- 7. The Commission concludes the Company's tariff revisions set forth in its application are just and reasonable and that the application should be granted.<sup>5</sup>

### IT IS, THEREFORE, BY THE COMMISSION ORDERED THAT:

- A. Brightspeed Companies of Kansas' Application filed in this matter on June 23, 2025, is hereby granted with the tariff revisions effective July 26, 2025.
- B. Any party may file and serve a petition for reconsideration pursuant to the requirements and time limits established by K.S.A. 77-529(a)(1).<sup>6</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Report and Recommendation, Docket No. 25-UTDT-546-TAR (June 23, 2025) ("Staff's R&R"), p. 2.

 $<sup>^{2}</sup>$  Id.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> *Id*.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> *Id*.

۶ Id.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> K.S.A. 66-11b; K.S.A. 77-503(c) and K.S.A. 77-531(b).

C. The Commission retains jurisdiction over the subject matter and the parties for the purpose of entering such further order, or orders, as it may deem necessary.

# BY THE COMMISSION IT IS SO ORDERED.

French,	Chairperson;	Keen,	Commissioner;	Kuether,	Commissioner.

Dated:	07/17/2025

Celeste Chaney-Tucker Executive Director

(mses)

**BWB** 

Kansas
Corporation Commission

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Laura Kelly, Governor

Andrew J. French, Chairperson Dwight D. Keen, Commissioner Annie Kuether, Commissioner

### REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION UTILITIES DIVISION

**TO:** Andrew J. French, Chairperson

Dwight D. Keen, Commissioner Annie Kuether, Commissioner

**FROM:** Hemant Bhagat, Senior Telecommunications Analyst

Steve Garrett, Deputy Chief of Telecommunications

Janet Buchanan, Deputy Director of Utilities

Justin Grady, Director of Utilities

**DATE:** June 30, 2025

**RE:** Docket No. 25-UTDT-546-TAR

In In the Matter of Brightspeed Companies of Kansas Filing Tariff Revisions to

Grandfather of MetroPlus.

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

On June 23, 2025, Brightspeed Companies of Kansas (Brightspeed) filed an application requesting the Kansas Corporation Commission (Commission) to approve revision to grandfathering MetroPlus, an optional service arrangement available to customers with a requested effective date of July 26, 2025.

The filing includes revision to Brightspeed's Local Exchange Tariff language impacting the following sections:

- Table of Contents 1<sup>st</sup> Revised Sheet 1.
- Section 1 1<sup>st</sup> Revised Sheets 12 and 13.
- Section 1 2<sup>nd</sup> Revised Sheet 14.

Staff recommends approval of this Application. Commission action on this matter is required no later than Tuesday July 22, 2025.

### **BACKGROUND:**

K.S.A. 66-117(c), in part, states:

The commission shall not delay the effective date of the proposed change in rate, joint rate, toll, charge or classification or schedule of charges, or in any rule or regulation or practice pertaining to the service or rates of any such public utility or

common carrier, more than 240 days beyond the date the public utility or common carrier filed its application requesting the proposed change. If the commission does not suspend the proposed schedule within 30 days of the date the same is filed by the public utility or common carrier, such proposed schedule shall be deemed approved by the commission and shall take effect on the proposed effective date.

The Commission derives its authority to review Local Exchange Carrier tariffs from K.S.A. 66-117(d), which states in part:

(d) Except as provided in subsection (c), no change shall be made in any rate, toll, charge, classification or schedule of charges or joint rates, or in any rule or regulation or practice pertaining to the service or rates of any such public utility or common carrier, without the consent of the commission.

Pursuant to K.S.A. 66-1,189, the Commission must review rates and terms for every telecommunication public utility to ensure they are "just and reasonable" and the classifications, rules, and regulations regarding the services are not unduly discriminatory or preferential.

Additionally, K.S.A. 66-1,190 requires every public utility doing business in Kansas over which the Commission has control to publish and file with the Commission copies of all schedules of rates, joint rates, tolls, charges, classifications and divisions of rates affecting Kansas traffic, either state or interstate. The Commission has the power to prescribe reasonable rules and regulations regarding the form and filing of all schedules, tariffs and classifications of all rates, joint rates, tolls and charges, and all rules and regulations of such telecommunications public utilities as the Commission determines reasonable and appropriate.

#### **ANALYSIS:**

Brightspeed seeks Commission approval to revise Local Exchange Tariff language relating to an optional service arrangement through MetroPlus that allows customers in one exchange to make calls to and receive calls from customers in designated exchanges for a rate additive. The revision to language essentially grandfathers the optional service arrangement limited to lines currently in service only at existing locations. The grandfathered service will no longer be sold to new customers.

Staff finds Brightspeed's revisions to the Tariff language to grandfather the optional service arrangement to customers will have no revenue impact to the company or service-related issues to Kansas customers; therefore, staff believes the proposed grandfathering of services is reasonable. Additionally, this change does not impact services currently provided on grandfathered accounts.<sup>1</sup>

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends the Commission approve Brightspeed's Local Exchange Tariff revision, grandfathering optional service arrangement for customers with an effective date of July 26, 2025.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Application, p. 1

# **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

### 25-UTDT-546-TAR

	shed Order has been served to the following by means of
electronic service on07/17/2025	
BRETT W. BERRY, LITIGATION COUNSEL KANSAS CORPORATION COMMISSION 1500 SW ARROWHEAD RD TOPEKA, KS 66604 brett.berry@ks.gov	ASHLEY DOUGLAS, ANAYLST-GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS OPERATIONS BRIGHTSPEED OF KANSAS, LLC 1120 SOUTH TRYON STREET SUITE 700 CHARLOTTE, NC 28203 ashley.douglas@brightspeed.com
MADISEN HANE, LITIGATION COUNSEL KANSAS CORPORATION COMMISSION 1500 SW ARROWHEAD RD TOPEKA, KS 66604 madisen.hane@ks.gov	
	/S/ KCC Docket Room
	KCC Docket Room