



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS
NATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR
No. 06-10-2008

SUBJECT: RULES ON THE MANDATORY INTERCONNECTION OF CABLE LANDING STATIONS TO BACKHAUL NETWORKS

WHEREAS, the 1987 Constitution fully recognizes the vital role of communications in nation building;

WHEREAS, the promotion of competition in the telecommunications market is a key objective of Republic Act No. 7925 (RA7925, for brevity), otherwise known as "The Public Telecommunications Policy Act of the Philippines", which mandates that "a healthy competitive environment shall be fostered, one in which telecommunications carriers are free to make business decisions and interact with one another in providing telecommunications services, with the end in view of encouraging their financial viability while maintaining affordable rates."

WHEREAS, RA7925 further defines the role of the government to "promote a fair, efficient and responsive market to stimulate growth and development of the telecommunications facilities and services";

WHEREAS, the existing authorized cable landing stations are connected to the national networks through the backhaul facilities of the operator of the cable landing stations, that is, PLDT cable landing station in Nasugbu, Batangas is connected to the national networks through the backhaul facilities of PLDT, Globe Telecom cable landing station in Nasugbu, Batangas is connected through Globe Telecom backhaul network, and Digitel cable landing station in Cavite is connected through the backhaul network of Digitel;

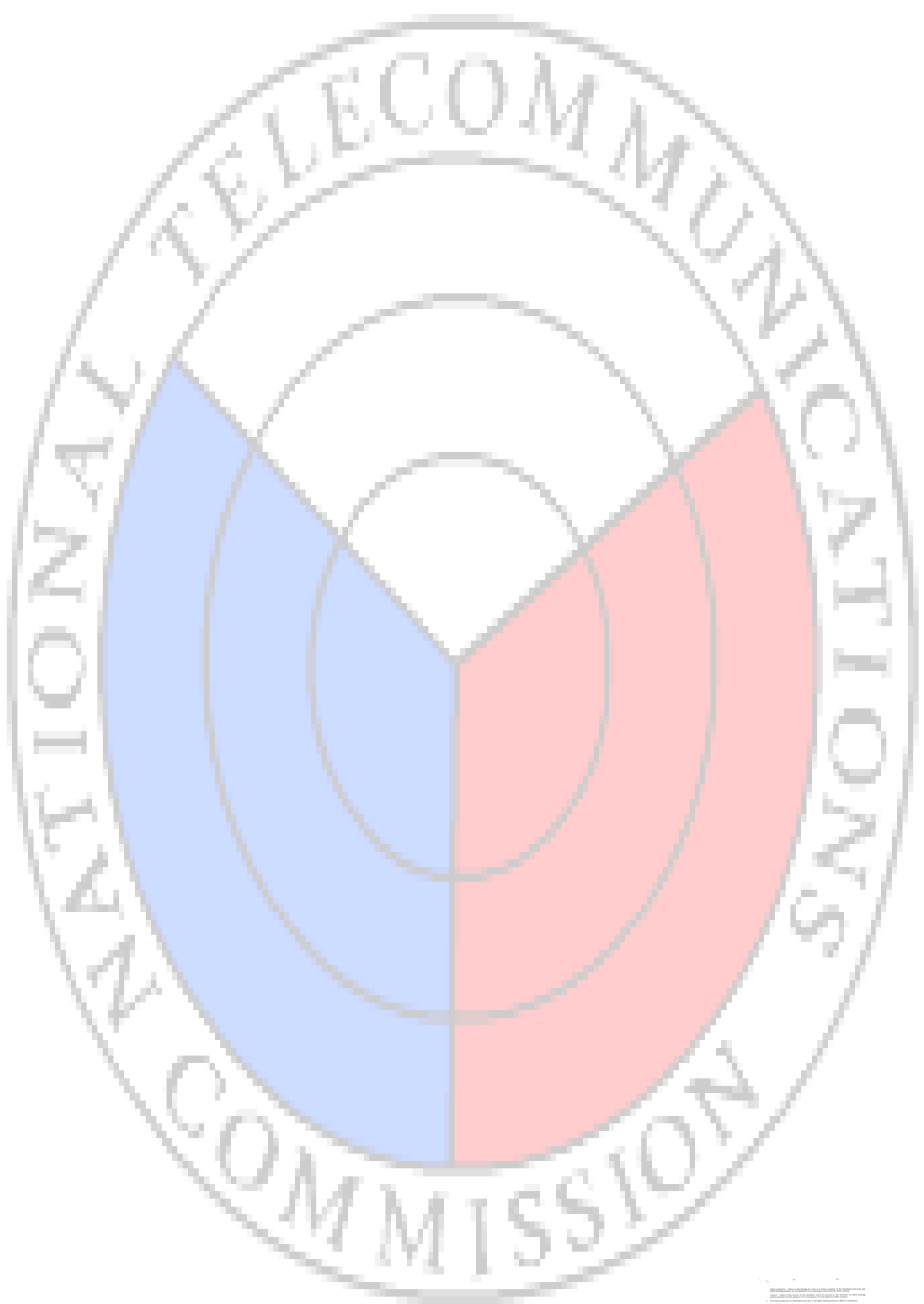
WHEREAS, traffic passing through the international optical submarine cable systems landing in the PLDT cable landing station is transmitted to the national networks through PLDT's own backhaul network. Similarly, traffic passing through the international optical submarine cable systems landing in the Globe Telecom cable landing station is transmitted to the national networks through Globe Telecom's own backhaul network and traffic passing through the international optical submarine cable systems landing in the Digitel cable landing station is transmitted to the national networks through Digitel's own backhaul network. Since the backhaul networks are necessary to bring traffic to and from the international optical submarine cable systems, the cost of the backhaul networks is part of the prices of international circuits;

WHEREAS, opening the backhaul network service to other suppliers will bring prices to market level to the benefit of the consumers;

NOW THEREFORE for and in consideration of the above premises and pursuant to the powers vested upon the National Telecommunications Commission (Commission) by EO546 series of 1979, EO59 series of 1993 and RA7925 the following guidelines are hereby promulgated.

1. The following terms as used in this Circular shall mean:
Backhaul Network Operator – refers to duly enfranchised and authorized inter-exchange carriers or international gateway facilities or international carriers.





Copyright © 2013 by National Telecommunications Commission. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted, in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or by any information storage and retrieval system, without the prior written permission of the National Telecommunications Commission. This document is the property of the National Telecommunications Commission and is loaned to you. It and its contents are not to be distributed outside your organization. If you have any questions regarding this document, please contact the National Telecommunications Commission. Printed in the Philippines.

[Signature]

NTC Web Files