

IMPORTANT NOTICE

The Depository Trust Company



B#: 7137-10
Date: August 31, 2010
To: All Participants
Category: Dividends
From: International Services
Attention: Operations, Reorg & Dividend Managers, Partners & Cashiers
Subject: TaxRelief - Country: Canada
TELECOM HOLDRS CUSIP: 87927P200
Paid on BCE Inc., a component of the HOLDR
R/D: 09/15/10 P/D: 10/19/10 **EDS CUT-OFF: 10/06/10**

DTC has been notified by The Bank of New York Mellon, the depository bank for the TELECOM HOLDRS that a dividend has been declared for BCE Inc. (**CUSIP 05534B760**), a component of the TELECOM HOLDRS. BCE Inc. dividends are covered under the Tax Convention between the United States and Canada. Qualifying U.S. beneficial owners are entitled to a reduced tax treaty rate of 15% and/or exempt rate of 0% rather than the withholding tax rate of 25%.

NOTE: THE DEADLINE FOR CERTIFYING OVER EDS IS: OCTOBER 6, 2010.

Participants can use DTC's Elective Dividend System (EDS) function over the Participant Terminal System (PTS) or TaxRelief option on the Participant Browser System (PBS) web site to certify all or a portion of their position entitled to the applicable withholding tax rate. Participants are urged to consult the PTS or PBS function TAXI or TaxInfoSM respectively before certifying their elections over PTS or PBS.

Important: Prior to certifying tax withholding elections, participants are urged to read, understand and comply with the information in the Legal Conditions category found on TAXI or TaxInfo in PTS or PBS respectively.

Questions regarding this Important Notice may be directed to Sylvia Antonio at (813) 470-1559 or Peter Joe at (212) 855-4363 of DTC's International Services .

Non-Confidential

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Participants making elections for a favorable or exempt rate certify that they have in their possession certification from their beneficial holders that the securities described above are beneficially owned by the entity types as described below:

A - 1) trust(s), company(s) or other organization(s) exempt from Canadian withholding tax on interest and dividends by virtue of Article XXI of the Canada-United States of America Income Tax Convention (1980) who has filed with them a letter of exemption from Revenue Canada; and/or **2)** eligible Canadian resident(s) as defined in DTC Procedures.

Or

B - Beneficial owners who are non-residents of the U.S. or Canada and who are residents eligible for treaty benefits in treaty jurisdictions where the applicable rates of Canadian withholding tax are the same as the rates specified in the U.S. – Canada tax treaty are eligible to elect and claim treaty benefits through the EDS program; in accordance with the guidelines of their jurisdiction. For a list of applicable rates for countries with which Canada has a tax convention, please refer to the Department of Finance Canada (DoF) website at the following address: www.fin.gc.ca

IF PARTICIPANTS DO NOT CERTIFY THROUGH EDS FOR THE FAVORABLE / EXEMPT RATE, THEY WILL RECEIVE THE DIVIDEND WITH 25% WITHHELD.

Important: Prior to certifying over EDS, participants are reminded to read, understand and comply with the information in the Legal Conditions category of TAXINFO-Canada under the PTS function TAXI.

Important Legal Information: *The Depository Trust Company (“DTC”) does not represent or warrant the accuracy, adequacy, timeliness, completeness or fitness for any particular purpose of the information contained in this communication, which is based in part on information obtained from third parties and not independently verified by DTC and which is provided as is. The information contained in this communication is not intended to be a substitute for obtaining tax advice from an appropriate professional advisor. In providing this communication, DTC shall not be liable for (1) any loss resulting directly or indirectly from mistakes, errors, omissions, interruptions, delays or defects in such communication, unless caused directly by gross negligence or willful misconduct on the part of DTC, and (2) any special, consequential, exemplary, incidental or punitive damages.*

To ensure compliance with Internal Revenue Service Circular 230, you are hereby notified that: (a) any discussion of federal tax issues contained or referred to herein is not intended or written to be used, and cannot be used, for the purpose of avoiding penalties that may be imposed under the Internal Revenue Code; and (b) as a matter of policy, DTC does not provide tax, legal or accounting advice and accordingly, you should consult your own tax, legal and accounting advisor before engaging in any transaction.