## BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF UTAH

In the Matter of the Utah Affordable Base Rate for Telecommunications Services

### DOCKET NO 16-R360-01

## **REQUEST FOR COMMENTS**

### ISSUED: March 4, 2016

Effective July 1, 2016, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) will require Utah's rural telecommunications providers to charge a base rate of \$18 in order to remain eligible for subsidization through the Universal Service Fund.<sup>1</sup> The Public Service Commission of Utah requests comments from affected telecommunications providers as to whether Utah's base rate should be changed accordingly and, if so, how the change should be accomplished.

The deadline for comments is **Friday**, **March 25**, **2016**. Comments may be filed as follows:

- in person or by mail: Heber M. Wells Bldg., 160 East 300 South, Fourth Floor, Salt Lake City, Utah 84111
- by electronic mail: psc@utah.gov
- by facsimile: (801) 530-6796

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See the FCC's Report and Order, Declaratory Ruling, Order, Memorandum Opinion and Order, Seventh Order on Reconsideration, and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, issued June 10, 2014 in WC Docket No. 10-90; WT Docket No. 10-208; WC Docket No. 14-58; WC Docket No. 07-135; and CC Docket No. 01-92 at page 29, Section (V)(A)(80): "For the period between July 1, 2016, and June 30, 2017, we waive section 54.318(b) to the extent reported rates are greater than or equal to \$18[.]"

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# DATED at Salt Lake City, Utah, March 4, 2016.

/s/ Thad LeVar, Chair

/s/ David R. Clark, Commissioner

/s/ Jordan A. White, Commissioner

Attest:

/s/ Gary L. Widerburg Commission Secretary dw#272174

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### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I CERTIFY that on March 4, 2016, a true and correct copy of the foregoing was served upon the following as indicated below:

By U.S. Mail:

Albion Telephone Company, Inc. d/b/a ATC Communications 225 West North Street Albion, ID 83311

All West Utah, Inc. 50 West 100 North Kamas, UT 84036-0588

Bear Lake Communications d/b/a CentraCom Interactive 35 South State Street Fairview, UT 84629

Beehive Telecom, Inc. 2000 East Sunset Road Lake Point, UT 84074-9779

Carbon - Emery Telecom Inc. 455 East SR 29 Orangeville, UT 84537

Central Utah Telephone d/b/a CentraCom Interactive 35 South State Street Fairview, UT 84629

CenturyTel of Eagle, Inc. d/b/a CenturyLink 100 CenturyLink Drive Monroe, LA 71203

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Citizens Telecommunications Company of Utah d/b/a Frontier Communications of Utah 1800 41st Street Everett, WA 98201

Direct Communications Cedar Valley, LLC 150 South Main Rockland, ID 83271

Emery Telephone d/b/a/ Emery Telcom 455 East SR 29 Orangeville, UT 84537-0550

Farmers Telephone Company, Inc 26077 Highway 666 Pleasant View, CO 81331

Gunnison Telephone Company 29 South Main Street Gunnison, UT 84634

Hanksville Telecom, Inc. 455 East SR 29 Orangeville, UT 84537

Manti Telephone Company 40 West Union Street Manti, UT 84642

Navajo Communications Company, Inc (UTAH) d/b/a Frontier Navajo Communications Company 1800 41st Street Everett, WA 98201

Qwest Communication, QC d/b/a CenturyLink QC 1801 California Street, Third Floor Denver, CO 80202

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Skyline Telecom d/b/a CentraCom Interactive 35 South State Street Fairview, UT 84629

South Central Utah Telephone Association, Inc. d/b/a South Central Communications 45 North 100 West Escalante, UT 84726

UBTA-UBET Communications, Inc. d/b/a UBTA Communications, Strata Networks 211 East 200 North Roosevelt, UT 84066

Union Telephone Company 850 North Highway 414 Mountain View, WY 82939

### By E-Mail:

Patricia Schmid (<u>pschmid@utah.gov</u>) Justin Jetter (<u>jjetter@utah.gov</u>) Rex Olsen (<u>rolsen@utah.gov</u>) Utah Assistant Attorneys General

By Hand-Delivery:

Division of Public Utilities 160 East 300 South, 4th Floor Salt Lake City, Utah 84111

Office of Consumer Services 160 East 300 South, 2nd Floor Salt Lake City, Utah 84111

Administrative Assistant