

# State of Utah Department of Commerce Division of Public Utilities

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March 30, 2012

## TO: PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

## FROM: DIVISION OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

Chris Parker, Director Bill Duncan, Manager, Telecommunications and Water Paul M. Anderson, Utility Technical Consultant

Re: Utah Docket No. 12-042-T01, <u>TARIFF</u>: Emery Telephone (Emery) submits for approval a revised Lifeline tariff to be in compliance with FCC Order 12-11.

### **ISSUE:**

The FCC on January 31, 2012, adopted its Lifeline and Link Up Reform and Modernization Order, FCC 12-11 and Emery is filing this modification of its existing Lifeline tariff, to comply with the order. The following changes are proposed:

- 1. ETCs Federal Lifeline Support will equal \$9.25 per month for each eligible non-Tribal Lifeline subscriber, which is a 75 cent reduction in federal support; and
- 2. Remove Link Up from the tariff. It will only be available to Tribal Lifeline subscribers.

Emery's modification of its Lifeline tariff in this filing, therefore, is to comply with the FCC Order FCC 12-11, released February 6, 2012.

### **RECOMMENDATION:** Approve Tariff Modification

The Division has reviewed this filing noting that it phases out federally subsidized Link Up service to carriers for initial connection charges for non-tribal subscribers and toll limitation charges. The Division has reviewed this modification for any rate increase to base rates that would require a rate hearing and has found none. The Division therefore recommends that these changes become effective April 1, 2012 and will be



subject to any action subsequent to the FCC's Connect America Fund & Intercarrier Compensation Reform Order which stays, alters, or reinstates the federal Lifeline and/or Link-Up services or subsidies.

CC: Brock Johansen, CEO/General Manager, Emery Telephone Patricia E. Schmid, Assistant Attorney General, Utah Attorney General's Office Kira M. Slawson, Attorney, Blackburn & Stoll, LC Marialie Martinez, Manager, Customer Service, Utah Division of Public Utilities Eric Orton, Office of Consumer Services