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May 25, 2016

Public Service Commission of Utah Heber M. Wells Building 106 East 300 South 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Salt Lake City, UT 84111

via email: psc@utah.gov

Re:

Docket 16-054-T01, In the Matter of the Petition of Union Telephone Company for an increase in rates to the current Commission Approved Affordable Base Rate

## To the Commission:

In accordance with Utah Code Annotated Section 54-7-12(7) and R746-405 of the Regulations and pursuant to the Public Service Commission's ("Commission's") Notice of Requirement to File a Petition to Amend Tariff or to Deviate from the Utah Affordable Base Rate issued April 18, 2016, Docket No. 16-R360-01 ("Commission's Notice"), Union Telephone Company ("Union") hereby files an electronic copy and (via U.S. Mail) an original and 5 copies of its amended tariff to increase rates for local service to the Approved Affordable Base Rate. The amended tariffs include:

- 1. The 10<sup>th</sup> Revised Sheet No. i, canceling the 9<sup>th</sup> Revised Sheet No. i of Union's Check Sheet for its Tariffs on file with the Commission;
- 2. The 5<sup>th</sup> Revised Sheet No. 3, canceling the 4<sup>th</sup> Revised Sheet No. 4 of Union's Local Service Tariffs on file with the Commission.

Union's management has approved a rate increase for the Basic Residential (R-1) Service from \$12.95 per month to \$18.00 per month; for Basic Business Service from \$21.60 per month to \$27.50 per month and the rate for Pay Station from \$21.60 to \$27.50. The rate increases are necessitated by the FCC's requirement that companies that receive high cost loop support charge a benchmark local rate (including State subscriber line charges, State Universal Support, and mandatory extended area service) of at least \$18.00 beginning June 1, 2016 to continue receiving the same high cost loop support. Additionally, as the Commission is aware, the Commission's Notice requires companies to charge an "Affordable Base Rate" of \$18.00 per month for residential service and \$27.50 per month for business service or file a Petition for Deviation from the Affordable Base Rate to be eligible for State Universal Service Funds.

Union respectfully requests that the Commission waive any notice period and that the tariff become effective June 1, 2016 as contemplated in the Commission's Notice.

Sincerely,

Bruce S. Asay

Enclosures

cc: Bill Duncan, Division of Public Utilities Cheryl Murray, Office of Consumer Services Chris Reno, Union Telephone Company