



State of Utah
Department of Commerce
Division of Public Utilities

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June 20, 2016

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. 16-040-T03, In the Matter of the Petition of Central Utah Telephone, Inc., for a revision in B1 and R1 Rates that do not include mandatory EAS and State USF surcharges, but with their addition, sum up to meet the current Commission approved Affordable Base Rate rules.

ISSUE:

Central Utah Telephone, Inc. (CUTI) is requesting a revision in its basic business and residential telephone rates that, with the addition of mandatory EAS (Extended Area Service) charges and State USF (Universal Service Fund) surcharges, will add up to meet the current Commission approved "Affordable Base Rate." CUTI's current modification of its rate for Residential (R-1) to accomplish this is shown in the following table:

EXCHANGE	CITY	R1 Rate	State USF	Mandatory EAS	Rate Total
435-427	Fairview	\$11.50	\$0.18	\$6.79	\$18.47 ¹
435-445	Ftn. Green	\$11.50	\$0.18	\$6.79	\$18.47 ²
435-448	Scofield	\$17.82	\$0.18	\$0.00	\$18.00
435-870	Soldier Summit	\$12.82	\$0.18	\$5.00	\$18.00
801-873	Spanish Fork Canyon	\$12.82	\$0.18	\$5.00	\$18.00
435-462	Mt. Pleasant	\$11.03	\$0.18	\$6.79	\$18.00

¹ This total rate reflects the original R1 rate being charged by CUTI prior to May 25, 2016.

² This total rate reflects the original R1 rate being charged by CUTI prior to May 25, 2016.

Additionally, CUTI has modified its tariff to reflect a business (B1) rate that is not inclusive of EAS, State USF surcharge, and State SLC, but whose sum of the B1, EAS, and State USF surcharge is at least \$26.00 as required by the Commission's Order:

EXCHANGE	CITY	B1 Rate	State USF	Mandatory EAS	Rate Total ³
435-427	Fairview	\$23.00	\$0.30	\$6.79	\$30.09
435-445	Ftn. Green	\$23.00	\$0.30	\$6.79	\$30.09
435-448	Scofield	\$25.74	\$0.26	\$0.00	\$26.00
435-870	Soldier Summit	\$23.00	\$0.33	\$10.00	\$33.33
801-873	Spanish Fork Canyon	\$23.00	\$0.33	\$10.00	\$33.33
435-462	Mt. Pleasant	\$19.37	\$0.26	\$6.79	\$26.42

The proposed revisions reflect a modification to the business EAS rate in the Soldier Summit-Spanish Fork Calling area. The rate reflected in the 5th Revised Sheet No. 24 was inaccurate. The mandatory EAS for businesses in that calling area is and has been \$10.00.

CUTI is revising the Emergency Line Rates from \$18.00 to \$17.82. These rates are exclusive of EAS, State USF surcharge, and State SLC, but the sum of the Emergency Line Rate and the State USF is \$18.00:

Exchange	Emergency Line Rate	Mandatory EAS	State USF	Rate Total
All Exchanges	\$17.82	n/a	\$0.18	\$18.00

RECOMMENDATION:

The FCC requires that the companies participating in the Connect America Fund (CAF), such as CUTI bring its rate levels to the CAF-mandated floor each year as a condition of continued participation. For 2016, the FCC rate floor is \$18.00 for residential subscribers.

The above basic rate modifications are also pursuant to the Public Service Commission's Notice of Requirement to File a Petition to Amend Tariff or to Deviate from the Utah Affordable Base Rate Notice, issued April 18, 2016, Docket No. 16-R360-01

Since the requested residential rate increase is mandated by the FCC for CUTI's continued CAF participation, and the rate increases comply with the requirements in the Commission's Notice,

³ With the exception of the Scofield B1 rate, the total rates reflect the original B1 rates being charged by CUTI prior to May 25, 2016.

the Division recommends that the Commission **approve** the new updated tariff sheets for CUTI in Docket No. 16-040-T01 and that the **Commission waive the 30 day notice period** and that the tariff becomes effective July 1, 2016 as contemplated in the Commission's Notices and Order in Docket 16-R360-01.

CC: Eddie Cox, Central Utah Telephone, Inc.
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