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Department of Commerce

Division of Public Utilities

CHRIS PARKER
Executive Director

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Director, Division of Public Utilities

Action Request Response

To: Public Service Commission of Utah

From: Utah Division of Public Utilities

Artie Powell, Director

Brenda Salter, Utility Technical Consultant Supervisor

Ron Slusher, Utility Technical Consultant

Date: July 20, 2020

Re: **Docket No. 20-087-01**, In the Matter of the Application of AT&T Corp. to Discontinue the Provision of Local Exchange Service for Residential Consumers in the State of Utah.

Recommendation (Approve)

The Division of Public Utilities (“Division”) has reviewed the request by AT&T Corp. (“AT&T”) to discontinue the provision of local exchange service for residential customers within the State of Utah and recommends the Public Service Commission (“Commission”) approve this request.

AT&T will continue to offer local exchange service to businesses and will need to retain its operating authority in its Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (“CPCN”).

AT&T has complied with the rules for exiting as required under Administrative Rule R746-350 so far and the remaining exit plan appears to be in compliance.

Discussion

On or about June 30, 2020, AT&T Corp. filed with the Commission a request to discontinue the provision of local exchange service for its residential customers within the State of Utah. The Division has reviewed this request and found the following:

AT&T Corp. was issued a CPCN to provide telecommunications services in Utah on October 16, 2012 in Docket No. 12-087-01.

AT&T sent out a notification letter to all, approximately 644, Utah residential customers on June 26, 2020 stating that it intends to discontinue residential basic local exchange service on September 30, 2020. AT&T sites that the discontinuance of residential service is due to declining volumes and increased maintenance and administrative costs.

AT&T states that it will continue to provide long distance service to residential customers as well as local exchange and long-distance services to business customers throughout the state in accordance with its CPCN. Therefore, AT&T Corp intends to retain its operating authority in its certificate. Once AT&T discontinues the residential basic local exchange service, a tariff update to eliminate the service offering from its tariff on file with the Commission will be necessary to maintain an accurate current tariff set. It is the Division's understanding that AT&T intends to make such a filing.

It appears AT&T has complied with the rules for exiting as required under Administrative Rule R746-350. The Division recommends that the Commission approve AT&T's Application and order AT&T to update its tariff after the service offering is discontinued.

Cc: Cyndi Gallagher, AT&T Director – Regulatory, AT&T Corp.
Justin Jetter, Assistant Attorney General, State of Utah
Office of Consumer Services, State of Utah