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UTAH DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Division of Public Utilities

MARGARET W. BUSSE
Executive Director

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Division Director

Action Request Response

To: Public Service Commission of Utah

From: Utah Division of Public Utilities

Chris Parker, Director
Brenda Salter, Assistant Director
Abdinasir Abdulle, Utility Technical Consultant Supervisor
Trevor Jones, Utility Technical Consultant

Date: September 11, 2024

Re: **Docket No. 24-051-01**, Review of 2023 Annual Report for Beehive Telephone Company, and Recommendations for Utah Universal Service Fund assistance for Calendar Year 2025

Recommendation (Approve)

The Utah Division of Public Utilities (“Division”) recommends the Public Service Commission of Utah (“Commission”) adjust the annual Utah Universal Service Fund (“UUSF”) amount payable to Beehive Telephone Company (“Beehive” or “Company”) to \$2,503,095 annually, or \$208,591 monthly, effective January 1, 2025. This represents an increase of 4.3%, \$104,325 annually or \$8,694 monthly, from the 2024 UUSF distribution.

Discussion

Commission Rule R746-8-401 requires the Division to make annual recommendations to the Commission for adjustments to the monthly UUSF distribution to each provider based on an established Federal Communications Commission (“FCC”) rate of return and the provider’s financial information from its last Annual Report filed with the Commission. On March 27, 2024, the Company filed its annual report of operations in compliance with this rule. The Commission issued an Action Request on March 27, 2024, for the Division to review the filing and make recommendations by September 3, 2024. This memo is the

Division of Public Utilities

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Division's response to the Commission's Action Request. Included with this memo is a comprehensive Review with details of the Company's 2023 operations and recommended changes to the UUSF distribution for the Company.

Conclusion

Based on the comprehensive Review completed by the Division, the Division recommends the Commission adjust the UUSF distribution payable to Beehive to be \$2,503,095 annually, or \$208,591 monthly, effective January 1, 2025.

cc: Larry Mason, Beehive Telephone Company