

- BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF UTAH -

2024 Annual Report of Direct
Communications Cedar Valley, LLC

DOCKET NO. 25-2419-01
ORDER APPROVING 2026 DISTRIBUTION

ISSUED: December 16, 2025

BACKGROUND

On April 16 and May 1, 2025, Direct Communications Cedar Valley, LLC (“Direct”) filed its Annual Report and Amended Annual Report, respectively, for Calendar Year 2024 (together, the “Report”) with the Public Service Commission (PSC). On September 3, 2025, the Division of Public Utilities (DPU) filed its initial recommendation for the 2026 Utah Universal Public Telecommunications Service Support Fund (“UUSF”) calendar year distribution. On September 5, 2025, the PSC issued a Notice of Filing and Comment Period, allowing intervention as provided therein and seeking comments on DPU’s initial recommendation on or before October 6, 2025. No intervention was sought and no comments were filed.

On October 28, 2025, DPU filed its final comments which included final recommended UUSF annual disbursements, consistent with Utah Admin. Code R746-8-401(10)(e). On November 4, 2025, the PSC issued a Notice of Comment Period establishing November 17, 2025, as the closing date for challenges to DPU’s final recommendation, in accordance with Utah Admin. Code R746-8-401(10)(f). No challenges to that final recommendation were filed.

FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Utah Admin. Code R746-8-401 requires DPU to make annual recommendations to the PSC for adjustments to the monthly UUSF distribution to each provider based on an established Federal Communications Commission rate of return and the provider's most recent financial information reflected in its annual report filed with the PSC. DPU recommends an increase of \$1,487,748 to the prior year's UUSF distribution for Direct (i.e., \$2,355,173). Specifically, in calculating Direct's eligibility for the UUSF distribution, DPU's analysis included, but was not limited to, operating costs and revenues, rate of return, state and federal income taxes, depreciation, federal USF excluded costs, UUSF eligibility, accumulated deferred income taxes, and federal USF assistance. DPU recommends a 2026 UUSF calendar year distribution for Direct in the amount of \$3,842,921¹ to be distributed in twelve monthly payments of \$320,243.² As illustrated in Exhibit A, the 2026 UUSF distribution for Direct is a 63.17% increase from its 2025 distribution.

Based on the Report and DPU's review, investigation, analysis, and uncontested final recommendation, we find Direct's costs reasonable and DPU's recommended 2026 UUSF disbursement reasonable, and conclude that Direct is eligible to receive

¹ See *Miscellaneous Correspondence and Reports Regarding Telecommunications Utility Services; 2025*, Docket No. 25-999-03, Comments from the Division of Public Utilities filed October 28, 2025, DPU Exhibit 1.

² Monthly payments are substantially equal with the twelfth payment used to true-up the amount to the ordered annual distribution.

DPU's recommended 2026 UUSF calendar year distribution in the amount of \$3,842,921, pursuant to Utah Code Ann. § 54-8b-15.

ORDER

The PSC approves a 2026 UUSF calendar year distribution of \$3,842,921 for Direct, to be disbursed in twelve monthly payments in the amount of \$320,243.

DATED at Salt Lake City, Utah, December 16, 2025.

/s/ Jerry D. Fenn, Chair

/s/ David R. Clark, Commissioner

/s/ John S. Harvey, Ph.D., Commissioner

Attest:

/s/ Gary L. Widerburg
PSC Secretary
DW#343073

Exhibit A
Summary of 2026 UUSF Disbursements

	Disbursement 2025	Disbursement 2026	Increase/(decrease)	Individual change
All West	\$3,689,761	\$5,175,901	\$1,486,140	40.28%
Bear Lake	-	-	-	-
Central	\$266,962	-	\$(266,962)	-100.00%
Skyline	-	-	-	-
Beehive	\$2,503,095	\$2,579,638	\$76,543	3.06%
Direct CCV	\$2,355,173	\$3,842,921	\$1,487,748	63.17%
Emery	\$977,603	\$1,301,212	\$323,609	33.10%
Carbon/Emery	\$3,115,153	\$1,509,422	\$(1,605,731)	-51.55%
Hanksville	\$71,138	\$17,044	\$(54,094)	-76.04%
Gunnison	\$638,375	\$679,959	\$41,584	6.51%
Frontier (Citizens)	\$3,022,487	-	\$(3,022,487)	-100.00%
Frontier (Navajo)	\$518,268	\$361,301	\$(156,967)	-30.29%
Manti	\$993,263	\$931,994	\$(61,269)	-6.17%
SCUTA	\$8,995,500	\$8,912,852	\$(82,648)	-0.92%
Strata (UBTA-UBET)	\$6,962,845	\$7,827,967	\$865,122	12.42%
Union	-	-	-	-
E-Fiber Moab	\$2,322,274	\$3,179,625	\$857,351	36.92%
E-Fiber San Juan	\$2,010,987	\$2,733,178	\$722,191	35.91%
Total	\$38,442,884	\$39,053,014	\$610,130	

Notice of Opportunity for Agency Review or Rehearing

Pursuant to Utah Code Ann. §§ 63G-4-301 and 54-7-15, a party may seek agency review or rehearing of this written order by filing a request for review or rehearing with the PSC within 30 days after the issuance of the order. Responses to a request for agency review or rehearing must be filed within 15 days of the filing of the request for review or rehearing. If the PSC fails to grant a request for review or rehearing within 30 days after the filing of a request for review or rehearing, it is deemed denied. Judicial review of the PSC's final agency action may be obtained by filing a Petition for Review with the Utah Supreme Court within 30 days after final agency action. Any Petition for Review must comply with the requirements of Utah Code Ann. §§ 63G4-401, 63G-4-403, and the Utah Rules of Appellate Procedure.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I CERTIFY that on December 16, 2025, a true and correct copy of the foregoing was served upon the following as indicated below:

By Email:

Kip A. Wilson (kip@directcom.com)
R. Michael Parish (michael@directcom.com)
Direct Communications Cedar Valley, LLC

Patricia Schmid (pschmid@agutah.gov)
Patrick Grecu (pgrecu@agutah.gov)
Robert Moore (rmoore@agutah.gov)
Assistant Utah Attorneys General

Madison Galt (mgalt@utah.gov)
Division of Public Utilities

Alyson Anderson (akanderson@utah.gov)
Cameron Irmas (cirmas@utah.gov)
Asami Kobayashi (akobayashi@utah.gov)
Jennifer Ntiamoah (jntiamoah@utah.gov)
Bela Vastag (bvastag@utah.gov)
Alex Ware (aware@utah.gov)
(ocs@utah.gov)
Office of Consumer Services

/s/ Melissa R. Paschal
Lead Paralegal