

COLUMBUS I CLEVELAND CINCINNATI-DAYTON

BRICKER & ECKLER LLP 100 South Third Street Columbus, Ohio 43215-4291 MAIN: 614.227.2300 FAX: 614.227.2390

www.bricker.com info@bricker.com

Thomas J. O'Brien 614.227.2335 tobrien@bricker.com December 22, 2009

Via Electronic Filing

Ms. Reneé Jenkins Administration/Docketing Public Utilities Commission of Ohio 180 East Broad Street, 11th Floor Columbus, OH 43215

Re: American Broadband and Telecommunications Company Case No. 97-632-TP-COI

Dear Ms. Jenkins:

On February 4, 2009, American Broadband and Telecommunications Company ("American Broadband") filed a Petition for Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier in the State of Ohio. American Broadband filed supplemental information on June 5, 2009 and again on November 20, 2009.

At the direction of Staff, American Broadband submits for filing the attached updated tariff pages, along with an affirmation confirming compliance with the Commission's Certification and Verification Entry dated April 13, 2005 in Case No. 05-461-TP-UNC.

If you have any questions, please give me a call.

Sincerely,

17 .

Thomas J. O'Brien

Enclosure

cc: Ambrosia Logsdon (w/Enclosure) Jennifer Reed (w/Enclosure)

6. <u>SPECIAL SERVICES AND PROGRAMS</u> (cont'd)

6.3 <u>Basic Telephone Assistance</u>

- 6.3.1 Link Up
 - A. Link-Up is a federal assistance program that provides eligible residential customers with one or both of the following benefits:
 - 1. A reduction of the Company's applicable service connection charges equal to one-half of such service connection charges, or \$30.00 whichever is less.
 - 2. A deferred payment plan for service connection charges, for which the customer does not pay interest, where such service connection charges do not exceed \$200.00 and the payment plan does not exceed 12 months duration
 - B. Regulations
 - 1. Link Up is available to residential customers who currently participate in one of the following programs:
 - a. Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP);
 - b. Food Stamps;
 - c. Supplemental Security Income aged (SSI);
 - d. Medical Assistance (Medicaid), including any state program that might Supplant Medicaid;
 - e. Federal public housing/Section 8;
 - f. Ohio Works First (aka Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF);
 - g. Household income at or below 150% of the poverty level; or
 - h. National School Lunch's Free Lunch Program (NSL)
 - 2. Customers who qualify through income-based requirements must certify their eligibility to participate under penalty of perjury and must present documentation to certify eligibility. Examples of acceptable documentation include the most recent documentation for any of the following:
 - a. State or federal income tax return
 - b. Current income statement or W-2 from an employer
 - c. Three consecutive months of current pay stubs
 - d. Social Security statement of benefits
 - e. Retirement/Pension statement of benefits
 - f. Unemployment/Workmen's Compensation statement of benefits
 - g. Any other legal document that would show your current income (such as a divorce decree or child support document)

Issued:

Filed under authority in Case No. 97-632-TP-COI.

6. SPECIAL SERVICES AND PROGRAMS (cont'd)

6.3 <u>Basic Telephone Assistance</u> (cont'd)

- 6.3.2 Lifeline Assistance
 - A. Lifeline is a basic support program that provides eligible customers requesting local exchange service, including touch-tone, with the following benefits:
 - 1. A waiver of the Federal Subscriber Line Charge
 - 2. A waiver of the Federal Universal Service Fund End User Charge
 - 3. A credit of one-hundred percent (100%) of the tariffed nonrecurring service order charges for commencing service.
 - 4. A recurring discount equal to the maximum contribution of federally available assistance will be applied to the monthly basic local exchange service charge: at no time should the discounts cause the monthly basic local exchange rate to be less than zero.
 - 5. A waiver of the Telephone Company's service deposit requirement
 - 6. Free blocking of toll and 900/976 dialing patterns
 - 7. These Lifeline discounts apply to only one access line per household.
 - B. Regulations
 - 1. Lifeline Assistance is available to residential customers who are currently participating in one of the following assistance programs:
 - a. Medical Assistance under Chapter 5111 of the Ohio Revised Code (Medicaid);
 - b. Food Stamps;
 - c. Supplemental Security Income (SSI) under Title XVI of the Social Security Act;
 - d. Supplemental Security Income blind and disabled (SSD)
 - e. Federal public housing assistance, or Section 8;
 - f. Home Energy Assistance Programs (HEAP);
 - g. National School Lunch Program's Free Lunch Program (NSL);
 - h. Household income at or below 150% of the poverty level;
 - i. Ohio Works First aka Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF); or
 - j. General Assistance (including disability assistance (DA)
 - 2. Customers may also be eligible for Link Up and Lifeline Assistance if the Customer satisfies the income eligibility criteria as set in paragraph 6.3.1 B 1g and paragraph 6.3.2 B.1.h.
 - 3. The Telephone Company shall require, as proof of eligibility for Lifeline Assistance, a document signed by the customer, certifying under penalty of perjury that the customer is receiving benefits from one of the programs identified in paragraph B.1 above; identify the specific program or programs from which the customer receives benefits and agree to notify the carrier if the customer ceases to participate in such program or programs. If a customer is applying for Lifeline based on income paragraph B.1.h. see paragraph D.1. for examples of income documentation.

Issued:

Filed under authority in Case No. 97-632-TP-COI.

6. SPECIAL SERVICES AND PROGRAMS (cont'd)

- 6.3 <u>Basic Telephone Assistance</u> (cont'd)
 - 6.3.2 <u>Lifeline Assistance</u> (cont'd)
 - B. Regulations (cont'd)
 - 4. Customers qualifying for Lifeline with past due bills for regulated local service charges will be offered special payment arrangements with the initial payment not to exceed \$25.00 before service is installed, with the balance for regulated local charges to be paid over six equal monthly payments. Customers with past due bills for toll service charges will be required to have toll restricted service until such past due toll service charges have been paid or until the customer establishes service with a subsequent toll provider pursuant to the Minimum Telephone Service Standards ("MTSS").
 - 5. A reduced Restoral Charge, as set forth in the Price List paragraph 9.1.2, will be applied to Customers qualifying for Lifeline whose service is reconnected after termination for nonpayment.
 - 6. The Company will perform an annual verification of customers receiving Lifeline, in compliance with federal requirements to establish procedures to verify customer continued eligibility for both programs and income-based criteria.
 - C. Enrollment Process for new and existing customers:
 - 1. Upon initial Customer inquiry, the Company will mail the customer a self-certification form and instructions. The Customer may also verbally complete self-certification over the telephone. Lifeline benefits will be applied to the Customer's account upon receipt of the earlier of either the completed self-certification form or the completion of the telephonic self-certification process.
 - 2. Within 30 days, the customer must fully complete, sign and return the form, and, if applicable, proper documentation, for income based eligibility (paragraph 6.3.2 D) to the Company in order to qualify for lifeline subsidies/pricing.
 - 3. Customers who do not fully complete and return the self-certification form to the Company within 90 days will be required to re-apply to receive Lifeline benefits.

Issued:

Filed under authority in Case No. 97-632-TP-COI.

Issued by:

Effective:

6. SPECIAL SERVICES AND PROGRAMS (cont'd)

- 6.3 <u>Basic Telephone Assistance</u> (cont'd)
 - 6.3.2 <u>Lifeline Assistance</u> (cont'd)
 - C. Enrollment Process (cont'd)
 - 4. Should the Company determine that a customer does not qualify for Lifeline assistance, or if the customer fails to submit the necessary documentation, the company will provide written notification to the customer and will give the customer at least 30 additional days to prove eligibility or dispute the company's determination.
 - 5. Written notice provided at least 30 days prior to the date of termination of benefits will include:
 - a. the earliest date termination of lifeline benefits will occur
 - b. the reason(s) for termination of lifeline benefits and any actions which the customer must take to demonstrate continued eligibility;
 - c. contact information for the Company; and
 - d. a statement consistent with the disconnect notice set forth in Ohio Administrative Code Chapter 4901:1-5 explaining who customers may contact in the event of a dispute.
 - 6. Regardless of when the Company completes the certification process Lifeline benefits shall go back to the date the qualified customer established lifeline service
 - 7. The Company shall give new customers who do not prove Lifeline eligibility the option of spreading installation charges over three months consistent with the Ohio Administrative Code Chapter 4901:1-5.
 - 8. If a customer disagrees with the Company's findings regarding eligibility for Lifeline Assistance, the customer may file an informal/formal complaint with the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio.
 - D. Income Eligibility
 - 1. The Telephone Company must verify through acceptable documentation that a customer qualifies for Lifeline Assistance. Such verification must be performed within 60 days of a customer's service establishment. Examples of documentation would include:
 - a. the prior year's state or federal income tax return;
 - b. the most current income statement from an employer or W-2;
 - c. three consecutive months worth of the most current pay stubs;
 - d. the most recent Social Security statement of benefits;
 - e. the most recent Veteran's Administration statement of benefits;
 - f. the most recent retirement/pension statement of benefits;
 - g. the most recent Unemployment/Workmen's Compensation statement of benefits; or any other legal document that would show your current income (such as a divorce decree or child support order)

Issued:

Filed under authority in Case No. 97-632-TP-COI.

6. SPECIAL SERVICES AND PROGRAMS (cont'd)

- 6.3 <u>Basic Telephone Assistance</u> (cont'd)
 - 6.3.2 <u>Lifeline Assistance</u> (cont'd)
 - E. Verification for Continued Eligibility
 - 1. In compliance with federal requirements to establish procedures to verify customers' continued eligibility for both program and income-based criteria the company will perform an annual verification.
 - 2. The Telephone Company must notify customers at least 60 days prior to the company's pending termination of the customer's Lifeline Assistance if the customer fails to submit acceptable documentation for continued eligibility for benefits. Such notice will be separate from the bill and will include:
 - a. the earliest date termination of lifeline benefits would occur;
 - b. the reason(s) for termination of lifeline benefits and any actions which the customer must take to demonstrate continued eligibility;
 - c. contact information for the telephone company; and
 - d. a statement consistent with the disconnect notice requirements outlined in the MTSS as set forth in Ohio Administrative Code Chapter 4901:1-5, explaining who the customer should contact in the event of a dispute.
 - 3. Customers who fail to submit proper documentation within the 60-day period will be subject to having any Lifeline benefits currently received terminated. Before the termination of any Lifeline benefits, the Company will send a reminder letter directing them to return the form within 30 days. If the self-certification form is not received within that 30-day period, the Lifeline benefits currently received will be terminated
 - 4. If a customer disagrees with a company's findings regarding eligibility for Lifeline Assistance, the customer may file an informal/ formal complaint with the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio.

Maximum Rate - \$25.95

Effective:

6.3.3 Lifeline Services

The following calling plans are available to Lifeline customers:

American Essentials

Unlimited local calling

Lifeline Essentials Unlimited local calling Caller ID Call Waiting

Lifeline Essentials Plus* Unlimited local calling Caller ID Call Waiting

Issued by:

*This package is only available in conjunction with a detariffed service. Please see www.ambt.net for more information and pricing.

Issued:

Filed under authority in Case No. 97-632-TP-COI.

9. <u>RATES AND CHARGES</u>

9.1 Non-recurring Charges

9.1.1	1.1 Service Order Charge				
	Business Installation - per line/trunk	\$50.00			
9.1.2	Restoral Charge	\$35.00			
	Restoral Charge for Lifeline Customers	\$9.95			
9.1.3	Moves, Adds and Changes Charge	\$35.00			
9.1.4	Premises Visit Charge (Hourly Charge)	\$40.00			
9.1.5	Installation Charge	\$30.00			
9.1.6	Central Office Line Charge	\$30.00			
9.1.7	9.1.7 Primary Interexchange Carrier Change (PICC) Charge				
	Manual chargeElectronic Charge	\$5.50 \$1.25			
	If a subscriber changes both the InterLATA and IntraLATA Presubscribed Interexchange				

If a subscriber changes both the InterLATA and IntraLATA Presubscribed Interexchange Carrier at the same time, 50% of the otherwise applicable IntraLATA Presubscription Change

9.1.8	Remote Call Forwarding	\$16.61
9.1.9	Bad Check Charge	\$35.00
9.1.10	Toll Limitation Charge	\$3.50
9.1.11	Toll Blocking Charge	\$7.50

Issued:

Filed under authority in Case No. 97-632-TP-COI

9.	RATE	RATES AND CHARGES (cont'd)					
9.5	Busine	Business Network Switched Services					
	9.5.1 Business Access Service Options (Resale) <u>Monthly Recurring Charge</u>						
		A.	Message Rate Basic Business Line Service with Touch Tone (Single Line Access Area D)	\$20.48			
			Basic Business Line Service with Touch Tone (Multi-Line with Hunting Access Area D)	\$23.81			
9.6	Residential Services						
	9.6.1	Amer	ican Essential - Local Calling Service	\$25.95			
	9.6.2	Amer	ican Family Package	*			
	9.6.3	Amer	ican Freedom Package	*			
	9.6.4	Amer	ican Unlimited Package	*			
9.7	<u>Toll Li</u>	mitation	Service				
	Month	ly Recur	rring Charge	\$3.00			
9.8	Toll Blocking Service						
	Month	ly Recur	rring Charge	\$4.87			
9.9	Description Lifeline Rates and Charges						
	9.9.1	Amer	ican Essential - Local Calling Service	\$24.95			
	9.9.2	V	ne Essential Recurring Monthly Charge: erizon North Exchanges T&T Exchanges	\$29.95 \$27.79			
	9.9.3	Lifeli	ne Essential Plus	*			
	9.9.4	Non-r	recurring Installation Fee	\$30.00			
	9.9.5	Centr	al Office Line Charge	\$30.00**	(N)		
			rring and monthly recurring charges for Toll Limitation and Customers	d Toll Blocking			
	ese packa		only available in conjunction with detariffed services. Plea	se see www.ambt.net for more			
** Th	e Central	Office I	Line Charge is waived for Lifeline Customers		(N)		
Issued			Filed under authority in Case No. 97-632-TP-COI	. Effective:			
			Issued by: Jeffrey S. Ansted, President				

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

)

)

)

In the Matter of the Petition of American Broadband and Telecommunications Company For Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier in the State of Ohio for the Limited Purpose of offering Lifeline and Link Up Service to Qualifying Households.

Case No. 97-632-TP-COI

State of Ohio SS County of Lucas

AFFIRMATION

I, Jeffrey S. Ansted, President of American Broadband and Telecommunications Company, having been duly cautioned, affirm that it is the intention of American Broadband and Telecommunications Company to comply with the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio's Certification and Verification Entry dated April 13, 2005 in Case No. 05-461-TP-UNC.

FURTHER AFFIANT SAYETH NAUGHT

S. Ansted President

Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence this by of December 2009. Q0 Notary Public 9/21/2014 My Commission expires on _ JOHN F. ROCHE Notary Public in and for the State of Ohio My Commission Expires September 21, 2014

This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities

Commission of Ohio Docketing Information System on

12/22/2009 3:18:48 PM

in

Case No(s). 97-0632-TP-COI

Summary: Correspondence submitting updated tariff pages electronically filed by Teresa Orahood on behalf of American Broadband and Telecommunications Company