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Frank P. Darr (614) 719-2855—Direct Dial fdarr@mwncmh.com

June 30, 2014

Barcy McNeal Secretary Public Utilities Commission of Ohio 180 East Broad Street Columbus, Ohio 43215

# RE: In the Matter of the Annual Filing Requirements for 2014 Pertaining to the Provisioning of High Cost Universal Service, Case No. 14-1115-TP-COI; FCC Form 481

Dear Secretary McNeal:

Enclosed are copies of the redacted filing of Telephone Service Company that complies with the May 28, 2014 Entry of the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio ("Commission") directing telephone companies to file their Federal Communications Commission ("FCC") Form 481 information with the Commission.

Also enclosed is a Motion for Protective Order and three copies of the unredacted FCC Form 481 for filing under seal.

Telephone Service Company requests that you certify to the FCC that the company has met its compliance obligations, as required by 47 C.F.R. §53.314 of Title 47 of the Code of Federal Regulations, so that Telephone Service Company will continue to receive federal high cost support.

If there are any concerns, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Frank P. Darr Counsel of Record

Counsel for Telephone Service Company

FPD:vlp Enclosures

{C44081:}

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This is to certify that the images appearing are an accurate and complete reproduction of a case file document delivered in the regular course of business. Technician\_\_\_\_\_Date Processed\_\_\_\_\_UN 3 0 2014

FCC Foi	m 481 - Carrier Annual Reporting Data Collection Form		FCCForm 481 OMB Control July 2013	No. 3060-0986/CMAB Control No. 3060-0819
<010>	Study Area Code	300659		
<015>	Study Area Name	TELEPHONE SERVICE		
<020>	Program Year	2015		
<030>	Contact Name: Person USAC should contact with questions about this data	Mark Aaberg		
<035>	Contact Telephone Number: Number of the person identified in data line <030>	3208477109 ext.		
<039>	Contact Email Address: Email of the person identified in data line <030>	maaberg@hcinet.net		
ANNUA	L REPORTING FOR ALL CARRIERS			54.313 54.422 Completion Required Required
<100>	Service Quality Improvement Reporting		(complete attached worksheet)	(check box when complete)
	Outage Reporting (voice)		(complete attached worksheet)	
<210>	- check box if no	outages to report		
<300>	Unfulfilled Service Requests (voice)			
<310>	Detail on Attempts (voice)			
			(ottoch desc	riptive document)
<320>	Unfulfilled Service Requests (broadband)			
<330>	Detail on Attempts (broadband)		lattach des	criptive document)
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<400> <410>	Number of Complaints per 1,000 customers (voice) Fixed			F
<420>	Mobile 0.0			
<430>	Number of Complaints per 1,000 customers (broadb	and)		
<440> <450>	Fixed 0.0 Mobile 0.0			<u>~</u>
<500>	Service Quality Standards & Consumer Protection Ru 3006590H510.pdf	lles Compliance	(check to indicate certification)	
<510>			(ottoched descriptive document)	
<600>	Functionality in Emergency Situations		(check to indicate certification)	
	3006590H610.pdf		(attoched descriptive document)	
<610>				
<700>	Company Price Offerings (voice)		(complete attached worksheet)	
<710> <800>	Company Price Offerings (broadband) Operating Companies and Affiliates		(complete attached worksheet)	
	Tribal Land Offerings (Y/N)?	(1)	(complete attached worksheet) yes, complete attached worksheet)	
<1000>	Voice Services Rate Comparability 3006590H1010.pdf		(check to indicate certification)	
<1010>			(ottach descriptive document)	
<1100>	Terrestrial Backhaul (Y/N)?	(7	not, check to indicate certification)	
<1110> <1200>	Terms and Condition for Lifeline Customers		(complete attoched worksheet) (complete attoched worksheet)	
	Price Cap Carriers, Proceed to Price Cap Additional D	ocumentation Works		
<2000> <2005>	Including Rate-of-Return Carriers offiliated with Pric		Carriers {check to indicate certification}	
~2003~	Rate of Return Carriers, Proceed to ROR Additional I	Documentation Work	(complete attached worksheet) sheet	
<3000> <3005>	·		(check to indicate certification) (complete attached worksheet)	

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FCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 July 2013									Document	
FCC Form 481 OMB Control N July 2013	300659	TELEPHONE SERVICE	2015	Mark Aaberg	3208477109 ext.	maaberg@hcinet.net	(yes / no) 🔘 🔘	(ves / no ) O O	company is a 3006590K112.pdf Name of Attached Document	
(100) Service Quality Improvement Reporting Data Collection Form	Study Area Code	Study Area Name	Program Year	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person Identified in data line <030>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>			If your answer to Line <111> is yes, then you are required to file a progress report, on line <112> delineating the status of your company's existing § 54.202(a) "5 year plan" on file with the FCC, as it relates to your provision of voice telephony service. Attach Five-Year Service Quality Improvement Plan or, in subsequent years, your annual progress report filed pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 54.313(a)(1). If your company is a CETC which only receives frozen support, your progress report is only required to address voice telephony service. Please check these boxes below to confirm that the attached documents(s), on line 112, contains a progress report on its five-year service quality improvement plan pursuant to § 54.202(a). The information shall be submitted at the wire center level or census block as appropriate.	Maps detailing progress towards meeting plan targets Report how much universal service (USF) support was received How (USF) was used to improve service quality How (USF) was used to improve service coverage How (USF) was used to improve service capacity Provide an explanation of network improvement targets not met in the prior calendar year.
(100) S Data C	<010>	<015>	<020>	<030>	<035>	<039>	<110>	<111>	<112>	<ul> <li>&lt;113</li> <li>&lt;114</li> <li>&lt;115</li> <li>&lt;116</li> <li>&lt;117</li> <li>&lt;118</li> <li>&lt;118</li> </ul>

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ŝ		Service Outage	Resolution												
¢	Did TI Affec	Study Areas	(Ves / No)												
(a)	Service Outage	Description (Check	all that apply)												
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<030>	<ul> <li>Person USAC should contact regarding this data</li> </ul>	Mark Aaberg
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 Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line 
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 Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>
 maabergahreinet.net.

- <701> Residential Local Service Charge Effective Date <702> Single State-wide Residential Local Service Charge
- 1/1/2014
- <703>

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		Total per line Rates and Fees														
cb5>	Residential Local Mandatory Extended Area	Service Charge														
		State Universal Service Fee														
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 cb2>	Residential Local	Service Rate						- See at								
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<32>		Exchange (ILEC)														
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Usage Allowance Action Taken When Limit Reached ( <i>select</i> )											
Usage Allowance {GB}											
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Broadband Service - Download Speed (Mbps)											
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<039> Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030> maabergøhcinet.net

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Hanson Communications <811> Holding Company

Telephone Service Company <812> Operating Company 

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<039<	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030> maabergehotinet.net	maaberg@hcinet.net

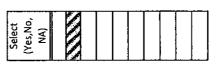
<910> Tribal Land(s) on which ETC Serves

<920> Tribal Government Engagement Obligation

Name of Attached Document

If your company serves Tribal lands, please select (Yes,No, NA) for each these boxes to confirm the status described on the attached document(s), on line 920, demonstrates coordination with the Tribal government pursuant to § 54.313(a)(9) includes:

- <921> Needs assessment and deployment planning with a focus on Tribal community anchor institutions.
  - <922> Feasibility and sustainability planning;
- <923> Marketing services in a culturally sensitive manner;
  - <924> Compliance with Rights of way processes
- <925> Compliance with Land Use permitting requirements
  - <926> Compliance with Facilities Siting rules
- <927> Compliance with Environmental Review processes
- <928> Compliance with Cultural Preservation review processes
- <929> Compliance with Tribal Business and Licensing requirements.



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<039>	<co39> Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <o30> masbergehctnet.net</o30></co39>	maaberg@hcinet.net

Please check this box to confirm the reporting carrier offers broadband service of at least 1 Mbps downstream and 256 kbps upstream within the supported area pursuant to § 54.313(G) <1130>

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<1210>	<1210> Terms & Conditions of Voice Telephony Lifeline Plans	
		Name of Attached Document
<1220>	Link to Public Website	
"Please check th or the website li § 54.422(a)(2) a annually report:	"Please check these boxes below to confirm that the attached document(s), on line 1210, or the website listed, on line 1220, contains the required information pursuant to § 54.422(a)(2) annual reporting for ETCs receiving low-income support, carriers must annually report:	
<1221>	Information describing the terms and conditions of any voice telephony service plans offered to Lifeline subscribers,	
<1222>	Details on the number of minutes provided as part of the plan, $\left[ \overline{} \right]$	
<1223>	Additional charges for toll calls, and rates for each such plan.	

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<010>	<010> Study Area Code	300659
<015>	<015> Study Area Name	TELEPHONE SERVICE
<020>	<020> Program Year	
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	
<035>	<035> Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	line <030> 3208477109 ext.
<039>	<039> Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	line c0302 mashercrashrinet net

			required information	
Incremental Connect America Phase I reporting 2nd Year Certification {47 CFR § 54.313(b)(1)} 3rd Year Certification {47 CFR § 54.313(b)(2)}	Price Cap Carrier Receiving Frozen Support Certification {47 CFR § 54.312(a)} 2013 Frozen Support Certification 2014 Frozen Support Certification 2015 Frozen Support Certification 2016 and future Frozen Support Certification	Price Cap Carrier Connect America ICC Support {47 CFR § 54.313(d}} Certification Support Used to Bulld Broadband	Connect America Phase II Reporting (47 CFR § 54.313(e)) 3rd year Broadband Service Certification 5th year Broadband Service Certification Interim Progress Certification Please check the box to confirm that the attached document(s), on line 2021, contains the required information pursuant to § 54.313 (e)(3)(ii), as a recipient of CAF Phase II support shall provide the number, names, and preceding calendar year.	Interim Progress Community Anchor Institutions
-2010> <2011>	P <2012> <2013> <2014> <2015>	P <2016>	C <2017> <2018> <2019> <2020>	<2021>

Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information

(3000) R Date Col	(3000) Náte O. Antúri, Carrier Additionel bocumentation Datá Soliáction Form	ECC Form 161 OX83 Control No. 3060-0365/Ox13 Control No. 3060-0315 Júly 2013
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4015		JULED SERVICE
<020	Program Year Contract Name - Bernar IISAC shared among a manufrantic Jac.	2015
SE0>	Contact Telephone Nurr	Mark Aaberg J2004171409.ext.
<0E0>	<co39> Contact Email Address - Email Address of person Identified in data line <co30> maabercg@hcinet.net</co30></co39>	maabergeNicinet.net
CHECK	exercises to complement statements where the statement structure contractions where the write plane is the boxest below to note complement on its five year and/or service quality plane (pursuant) CFR § 54.313(f)(2), I further certify that the	A second se
(010E)	Progress Report on 5 Year Plan Milestone Certification (47 CFR § 54.313(5)(1)(1)	
(110E)	Please check this box to confirm thet the attached document(s), on line 3012 contains required Information pursuant to § 54.313 (h(1)(i)), the carrier shall provide the number, names, and addresses of community anchor institutions to which began providing access to broadband service in the preceding calendar year.	12 contains the required information pursuant to a second and income and the second and the seco
(3012)	community Anchor Institutions {47 CFA § 54.313{0}[1]{الما}	
(3013) (3014)	l 14 your company a Privately Heid ROR Carrier (17 CFR § 54.313(f)(2)) 1 ff yes, does your company file the RUS annual report	Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information
Please (3015)	Please check these boxes to confirm that the attached document(s), on line 3017, (3015) Electronic copy of their annual RUS reports (Operating Report for Telecommunications Borrowers)	Please check these boxes to confirm that the stlached document(s), on line 3017, contains the required information pursuant to § 54.313(f)(2) compliance requires: (3015) Electronic copy of their annual RUS reports (Operating Report for Telecommunications Borrowers)
(3016) (3017)	Document(s) for Balance Sheet, Income Statement and Statement of Cash Flows If the response is yes on line 3014, attach your company's NIS annual	
	report and all required d	
(810E)	If the response is no on line 3014, is your company audited?	
(3019)	lf the response is yes on line 3018, please check the boxes below to confirm your submission, on line 3026 pursuant to § 54.313(1)[2), contains ëther a copy of their audited financial statement; or (2) a financial report, in a format comparable to RUS Operating Report for Telecommunications	mat correarable to RUS Operating Report for Telecommunications
(020£)		
(3021)	Management letter issued by the independent certified public accountant that performed the company's financial audit.	erformed the company's financial audit.
	If the response is no on line 3018, please check the boxes befow to confirm your submission, on line 3026 pursuant to § 54,313(f)(2), contains:	
(3022)	Copy of their financial statement which has been subject to review by an Independent certified public accountant; or 2) a financial report in a format comparable to RUS Operating Report for Telecommunications acronance to the second seco	
(3023)		
(3024) (3025)	public accountant. Underiving information subjected to an officer certification. Document(s) for Balance Sheet, income Statement and Statement of Ca	h Flows
(3026)	Attach the worksheet listing required information	3006590H3026.pdf

sme of Attached Document Listing Required Informat

Certification - Reporting Carrier		FCC Form 481
Data Collection Form		OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
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<010>	Study Area Code	300659
<015>	Study Area Name	TELEPHONE SERVICE
<020>	Program Year	2015
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Mark Aaberg
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	3208477109 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	

### TO BE COMPLETED BY THE REPORTING CARRIER, IF THE REPORTING CARRIER IS FILING ANNUAL REPORTING ON ITS OWN BEHALF:

 Certification of Officer as to the Accuracy of the Data Reported for the Annual Reporting for CAF or LI Recipients

 I certify that I am an officer of the reporting carrier; my responsibilities include ensuring the accuracy of the annual reporting requirements for universal service support recipients; and, to the best of my knowledge, the information reported on this form and in any attachments is accurate.

 Name of Reporting Carrier:
 TELEPHONE SERVICE

 Signature of Authorized Officer:
 CERTIFIED ONLINE

 Printed name of Authorized Officer:
 Lonnie Pederson

 Title or position of Authorized Officer:
 197392227 ext.

 Study Area Code of Reporting Carrier:
 300659

 Filing Due Date for this form:
 07/01/2014

 Persons willfully making false statements on this form can be punished by fine or forfeiture under the Communications Act of 1934, 47 U.S.C. §§ 502, 503(b), or fine or imprisonment under Title 28 of the United States Code, 18 U.S.C. § 1001.

Certification - Agent / Carrier FCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 July 2013 Data Collection Form 1.1.2

<010>	Study Area Code	300659
<015>	Study Area Name	TELEPHONE SERVICE
<020>	Program Year	2015
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Mark Aaberg
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	3208477109 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	maabero@hcipet_net

### TO BE COMPLETED BY THE REPORTING CARRIER, IF AN AGENT IS FILING ANNUAL REPORTS ON THE CARRIER'S BEHALF:

I certify that (Name of Agent)	is authorized to submit the information reported on behalf of the reporting of
also certify that I am an officer of the reporting carrier, my agent, and, to the best of my knowledge, the reports and d	ponsibilities include ensuring the accuracy of the annual data reporting requirements provided to the author provided to the authorized agent is accurate.
Name of Authorized Agent:	
Name of Reporting Carrier:	
Signature of Authorized Officer:	Date:
Printed name of Authorized Officer:	
Title or position of Authorized Officer:	
Telephone number of Authorized Officer:	
Study Area Code of Reporting Carrier:	Filing Due Date for this form:

### TO BE COMPLETED BY THE AUTHORIZED AGENT:

ed to File Annual Reports for CAF or LI Recipier	nts on Behalf of Reporting Carrier
submit the annual reports for universal service support carrier; and, to the best of my knowledge, the informati	recipients on behalf of the reporting carrier; I have provided ion reported herein is accurate.
	Date:
Filing Oue Date for this form:	
	ubmit the annual reports for universal service support

Attachments

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300659	TELEPHONE SERVICE	2015	Mark Aaberg	3208477109 ext.	
<010> Study Area Code	<015> Study Area Name	<020> Program Year	<030> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	<035> Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030> 3208477109 ext.	
<010>	<015>	<020>	<030>	<035>	

<039> Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030> maabergeheinet.net.

<701> Residential Local Service Charge Effective Date <702> Single State-wide Residential Local Service Charge

1/1/2014

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ed Area	Total per line Rates and Fees	8.75	8.75														
Mandatory Extend	Service Charge	0.0	0.0														
	State Universal Service Fee	0.0	0.0														
	State Subscriber Line Charge	0.0	0.0														
Residential Local	Service Rate	B.75	8.75														
	Rate Type	FR	FR														:
	SAC (CETC)																
	Exchange (ILEC)	Wapakoneta	Cridersville														
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# FCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 Oldry 2013 . . - 12 1852 4,2 (710) Broadband Price Offerings Data Collection Form

<010>	s010> Study Area Code	300659
<015>	<015> Study Area Name	TELEPHONE SERVICE
<020>	<020> Program Year	2015
<030>	<030> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Mark Aaberg
<035>	<035> Contact Telephone Number - Number of person Identified in data line <030> 3208477109 ext.	3208477109 ext.
<039>	<039> Contact Email Address - Email Address of person Identified in data line <030>	data line <030> maabergøhcinet.net

Other, no usage on limit allowance Other, no usage on limit allowance When Limit Reached {select} Usage Allowance Action Taken Broadband Service - Broadband Service Usage Alfowance Download Speed - Upload Speed (Mbps) (GB) (Mbps) 0.0 0.0 1.0 1.0 5.0 5.0 Total Rates and Fees 37.99 37.99 State Regulated Fees 0.0 0.0 Residential Rate 96° L 37.99 • Exchange (ILEC) Cridersville ca1> ca2> Wapakoneta State HO КÖ <111>

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<035>	<g35> Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <g30> 3208477109 ext.</g30></g35>	3208477109 ext.
<039>	<039> Contact Email Address - Email Address of person Identified in data line <030> maabergeheinet.net.	maabergehcinet.net

Telephone Service Company	Hanson Communications	Telephone Service Company
<810> Reporting Carrier	<811> Holding Company	<812> Operating Company

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Doing Business As Company or Brand Designation	Clara City Telephone	Sacred Heart Telephone	Starbuck Telephone	Ft Randall Telephone & Mount Rushmore Telephone	Zumbrota Telephone	Telephone Service Company	Middle Point Telephone									
SAC	361370	361476	361487	391660	361515	300659	300633									
Affiliates	Clara City Telephone	Sacred Heart Telephone	Starbuck Telephone	Ft Randall Telephone	Zumbrota Telephone	Telephone Service Company	Middle Point Telephone									

### SAC: 300659 State: OH Telephone Service Company Form 481 Line No. 112 Five Year Network Improvement Plan

### **Five Year Project Outline**

The five year plan for Telephone Service Company is to expand the broadband opportunities for existing customers. We will begin by identify new CSAs (Carrier Serving Areas) and rebuild and replace existing outdated CSA equipment in order to provide faster speeds and improved broadband service. Presently our broadband access gear is capable of delivering up to 5 megabit service to most areas and up to 15 megabit service in a few select areas.

The process of improving the level of broadband service to those areas with less than 10 megabits of service will require extensive new infrastructure and upgraded access equipment that can be strategically located.

The way we will prioritize the projects is as follows:

- 1. Our Network build outs will be designed from the wire center location of our two exchanges to the farthest reach of each exchange by strategically placing Remote Terminals (RTs) in well defined CSAs. Over the past 20 years or so we have been able to improve our voice as well as broadband systems to provide an ever increasing demand for bandwidth and related services. Our design has been for the delivery of DSL services over cooper and our ability to offer the higher speed services is limited based on the distance for the RTs. Our new approach is to design more RTs and include fiber drops and additional fiber infrastructure to migrate our cooper to an eventual fiber to the home system. For Example,
  - a. If a customer is having problems with their telephone service and it requires upgrading of facilities, we will prioritize improvements to broadband services also. If the customer is experiencing problems with a cable "going bad", we would not replace the cable with the same thing, but look to extend fiber to the customer's location.
  - b. If an area within our system is in need of an upgrade, for example a copper cable is going bad or the electronics providing telephone service is being replaced. We would look to implement alternative means to deliver that service and improve the broadband service to the customers served by that facility.
  - c. If there are areas within our system that are growing, we would look to deploy services in such a way as to insure the facility is capable of growing with the needs of our customers.

### SAC: 300659 State: OH Telephone Service Company Form 481 Line No. 112 Five Year Network Improvement Plan

Our ability to accomplish this task is dependent on whether there is predictable revenue over the life of the asset we are constructing (typically more than 30 years of useful life). In the current regulatory environment, securing the financial resources to facilitate that investment has become more difficult.

Today, we are unaware of any lenders willing to invest into our industry for the length of time it would take to recover our investment in long-term plant. Primarily due to the fact that we have gone from a situation where sharing of revenues between companies has moved to a government subsidy and the emphasis on those support systems is still determined by our traditional Plain Old Telephone Service (POTS).

So, although we have a plan to improve our service over the next five years, right now that plan does not align itself with the financial reality of our industry. We, in turn, are funding all of our current improvements through operating cash flows.

The projects we are planning are only possible if we can secure long-term commitments of capital to invest and a reasonable and sustainable source of income to repay the capital investment. Otherwise, these would need to be significantly reduced to align them with our current and future cash flows.

In establishing the five year plan for our two exchange company, we took into consideration work that has already been done in previous years and determined the amount of investment in new facilities we would likely undertake to improve the capabilities of the system. Because we are an established independent telephone company that has served the area for over 118 years we have a natural infrastructure and system in place to expand broadband opportunities. Historically, we have utilized remote terminals ("RTs") to extend our central offices out nearer to our customers in order to improve the voice grade quality of the services we provide. One side benefit of the improvement is it also improves the amount of broadband data available to the customers because these units are normally within 3 miles of any customer. Right now, most customers enjoy 5 mbs DSL typically; however, we've stopped short of replacing the copper drop to the customer's premise from those RTs.

### SAC: 300659 State: OH Telephone Service Company Form 481 Line No. 112 Five Year Network Improvement Plan

When you look at the lifespan of a copper drop, for accounting purposes, it's a 30 year asset. From a revenue generating perspective, a drop typically take 16 to 20 years to recover the original investment. In assessing what technology might look like in 20-30 years, it becomes less feasible to justify replacing a copper drop with new copper, rather than fiber. This five year plan contemplates moving into a program from replacing or installing copper with fiber to the premises.

Our typically drop reptacements cost is approximately \$1,500.00 due the very rural nature of tour service coverage area. We are estimating using fiber will increase that cost to \$7,500. Over time those costs will go down, because some of the core will be shared with other customers.

The design we have chosen is PON. In addition, by migrating customers away from the copper facilities, we will see improvements for those customers still on copper. However until we have more information on the level of improvement, we are not speculating on the number of customers that may affect.

# SAC300659

Tables REDACTED (5 pages) SAC: 300659 State: OH Telephone Service Company Form 481 Line No. 510 Compliance with Quality Standards and Consumer Protec on

As required by Ohio law, Chapter 4901:1-6 of the Ohio Administra ve Code governs the Service Quality Standards and Consumer protec ons for our customers. Telephone Service Company is in full compliance with sec ons outlined below. Telephone Service Company les tari s as required by the Commission of Ohio and uses internal procedures to ensure we remain compliant with all State and Federal rules, including, but not limited to Federal CPNI rules, Red Flag Rules, Truth in Billing Rules and Slamming and Preferred Carrier Freeze rules.

4901:1-6-01	Definitions
4901:1-6-02	Purpose and Scope
4901:1-6-03	Investigation and Monitoring
4901:1-6-04	Application and Notice Filings
4901:1-6-05	Automatic Approval and Notice Filing Process
4901:1-6-06	Suspensions
4901:1-6-07	Customer Notice Requirements
4901:1-6-08	Telephone Company Certification
4901:1-6-09	Eligible Telecommunications Carriers
4901:1-6-10	Competitive Emergency Services Telecommunications Carrier Certification
4901:1-6-11	Tariff Services
4901:1-6-12	Service Requirements for BLES
4901:1-6-13	Warm Line Service
4901:1-6-14	BLES Pricing Parameters
4901:1-6-15	Directory Information
4901:1-6-16	Unfair or Deceptive Acts and Practices
4901:1-6-17	Truth in Billing Requirements
4901:1-6-18	Slamming and Preferred Carrier Freezes
4901:1-6-19	Lifeline Requirements
4901:1-6-20	Discounts for Persons with Communications Disabilities

- 4901:1-6-21 Termination of Community Voicemail Pilot Program
- 4901:1-6-22 Inmate Operator Service
- 4901:1-6-23 Pay Telephone Access Lines
- 4901:1-6-24 Wireless Service Provisions
- 4901:1-6-25 Withdrawal of Telecommunications Services
- 4901:1-6-26 Abandonment
- 4901:1-6-27 Provider of Last Resort (POLR)
- 4901:1-6-28 Bankruptcy
- 4901:1-6-29 Telephone Company Procedures for Notifying the Commission of Changes in Operations
- 4901:1-6-30 Company Records and Complaint Procedures
- 4901:1-6-31 Emergency and Outage Operations
- 4901:1-6-32 Boundary Changes, and Administration of Borderline Boundaries
- 4901:1-6-33 Excess Construction Charges Applicable to Certain Line Extensions for the Furnishing of Local Exchange Telephone Service
- 4901:1-6-34 Filing of Contracts, Agreements, or Arrangements Entered into Between Telephone Companies
- 4901:1-6-35 Filing of Reports by Telephone Companies Subject to the Federal Communications Commission
- 4901:1-6-36 Telecommunication Relay Services Assessment Procedures
- 4901:1-6-37 Assessments and Annual Reports

SAC: 300659 State: OH Telephone Service Company Form 481 Line No. 610 Descrip on of Func onality in Emergency Situa ons

Telephone Service Company is in full compliance of Ohio rule 4901:1-6-3, "Emergency and Outage Conditions" which is outlined below. Telephone Service Company has permanently installed a back-up generator for each central office and maintains adequate portable generators for remote serving stations. Employees remain informed as to the procedures to be followed in emergency situations based on the guidance in our written emergency plan.

### 4901:1-6-3

- (A) Each facilities-based local exchange carrier (LEC) shall design, operate, and maintain its facilities to continue to provide customers with the ability to originate and receive calls at all times. The commission will utilize existing FCC rules applicable to emergency and outage operations. Companies shall submit outage reports utilizing, at the company's discretion, either existing FCC reports or a format determined by the commission.
- (B) Each facilities-based LEC shall submit, within two hours of discovery, to the commission's outage coordinator and when appropriate, the news media in the affected area, a notification that it has experienced an outage, whenever that outage occurs on any facility that it owns, operates, leases or otherwise utilizes and is both:
  - (1) Expected to last for a period in excess of thirty minutes.
  - (2) Potentially affects at least nine hundred thousand user minutes in the incumbent local calling area.
- (C) Each facilities-based LEC shall report, by telephone or electronic means, a disruption of 9-1-1 services, which impairs 9-1-1 service within a given county 9-1-1 system, immediately to each county 9-1-1 public safety answering point, to the Ohio 9-1-1 coordinator, and to the news media in the affected area, when appropriate.
- (D) Each facilities-based LEC experiencing a loss of communications or selective routing to a public safety answering point, as a result of an outage described under paragraphs (B) and (C) of this rule, shall also notify, as soon as possible, by telephone or electronic means, any official who has been designated by the management of the affected 9-1-1 facility as the LEC's contact person for communication outages at that facility; and the LEC shall convey to that person all available information that may be useful to the management of the affected facility in mitigating the effects of the outage on efforts to communicate with that facility.
- (E) Each facilities-based LEC experiencing an outage described under paragraphs (B) and (C) of this rule, shall electronically submit to the commission's outage coordinator the same information as that provided to the FCC or the following information:

- (1) A notification that it has experienced a outage, which shall include the name of the reporting entity, the date and time of the onset of the outage, a brief description of the problem, the particular service affected, the geographic area affected by the outage, the number of customers affected, an estimate of when the service, including 9-1-1, will be restored, and a contact name and telephone number by which the commission's outage coordinator may contact the reporting entity.
- (2) Not later than seventy-two hours after discovering the outage, an initial communications outage report, which shall include all pertinent information then available on the outage and shall be submitted in good faith.
- (3) Not later than thirty days after discovering the outage, the provider shall submit electronically a final communications outage report, which shall include all pertinent information on the outage, including any information that was not contained in, or that has changed from that provided in, the initial report.
- (F) Each facilities-based LEC shall develop, implement, and maintain an emergency plan and make it available for review by commission staff. The plan shall include, but not be limited to, all of the following:
  - Procedures for maintaining and annually updating a list of those customers who have subscribed to the federal telecommunications service priority program, as identified in 47 C.F.R. 64, appendix A.
  - (2) Procedures for priority treatment in restoring out-of-service trouble of an emergency nature for customers with a documented medical or life-threatening condition.
  - (3) In addition to the telecommunications service priority program, each LEC shall develop policies and procedures regarding those customers who require priority treatment for out-of-service clearance. Such procedures shall include a table of restoration priority, including, but not limited to, subscribers such as police and fire stations, hospitals, key medical personnel, and other utilities.
  - (4) Procedures for restoring service to priority critical facilities customers.
  - (5) Identification and annual updates of all of the facilities-based LEC's critical facilities and reasonable measures to protect its personnel and facilities.
  - (6) Assessments and evaluations of telecommunications facilities available to provide back-up service capabilities.
  - (7) Procedures for after-action assessments and reporting following activation of any part of the emergency plan. An after-action report will be written and will include lessons learned, deficiencies in the response to the emergency, and deficiencies in the emergency plan.

- (8) A current list of the names and telephone numbers of the facilities-based LECs' emergency service personnel to contact and coordinate with in the event of any real or anticipated local or national threats to its ability to provide telecommunications service.
- (9) A current list of the names and telephone numbers of the facilities-based LEC's emergency service personnel that is made available to the commission's emergency coordinator, upon request.
- (10) A continuity of operations plan to assure continuance of minimum essential functions during a large scale event in which staffing is reduced. Such plans shall provide for:
  - (a) Plan activation triggers such as the world health organization's pandemic phase alert levels, widespread transmission within the United States, or a case at one or more locations within Ohio.
  - (b) Identification of a pandemic coordinator and team with defined roles and responsibilities for preparedness and response planning.
  - (c) Identification of minimal essential functions, minimal staffing required to maintain such essential functions, and personnel resource pools required to ensure continuance of those functions in progressive stages associated with a declining workforce.
  - (d) Identification of essential employees and critical inputs (e.g., raw materials, equipment, suppliers, subcontractor services/products, and logistics) required to maintain business operations by location and function.
  - (e) Policies and procedures to address personal protection initiatives.
  - (f) Policies and procedures to maintain lines of communication with the public utilities commission of Ohio during a declared emergency.
- (G) Each facilities-based LEC shall amend its emergency plan in accordance with the findings identified in the after-action assessment report required under paragraph (F)(7) of this rule.

Line 1010 – Description of Voice Services Rate Comparability: Provide a detailed description of how your pricing of fixed voice services is no more than two standard deviations above the applicable national average urban rate for voice service, as published annually by the Wireline Competition Bureau, as required in 47 C.F.R. § 54.313(a)(10).

On March 20, 2014 the Wireline Competition Bureau announced results of the Urban Rate Survey for Voice Services; as part the FCC Public Notice DA 14-384. Referenced in this public notice are the results required to meet the rate comparability as noted:

"Based on the survey responses, the Bureau also calculated the reasonable comparability benchmark for voice services to be \$46.96.9

9. Id. at 17694, para. 84."

As required Telephone Service Company hereby certifies that its current fixed voice services for residential subscribers as defined in the USF/ICC Transformation Order is below \$46.96.

SAC: 300659 State: OH Telephone Service Company Form 481 Line No. 1210 Lifeline Plans, Terms and Condi ons

Telephone Service Company is in full compliance to all Federal Lifeline eligibility rules and regula ons as well as Ohio Revised Code 4901:1-6-19, Lifeline Requirements, which states:

4901:1-6-19

- (A) An incumbent local exchange carrier (ILEC) that is an eligible telecommunications carrier (ETC) under 47 C.F.R. 54.201 shall implement lifeline service throughout the ILEC ETC's traditional service area for its eligible residential customers.
- (B) Lifeline service shall be a flat-rate, monthly, primary access line service with touch-tone service and shall provide all of the following:
  - A recurring discount to the monthly basic local exchange service rate that provides for the maximum contribution of federally available assistance;
  - (2) Not more than once per customer at a single address in a twelve-month period, a waiver of all nonrecurring service order charges for establishing service;
  - (3) Free blocking of toll service, 900 service, and 976 service;
  - (4) A waiver of the federal universal service fund end user charge;
  - (5) A waiver of the telephone company's service deposit requirement.
- (C) The ILEC ETC may offer to lifeline service customers any other services and bundles or packages of service at the prevailing prices, less the lifeline discount.
- (D) The ILEC ETC also shall offer special payment arrangements to lifeline service customers that have past due bills for regulated local service charges, with the initial payment not to exceed twenty-five dollars before service is installed, and the balance for regulated local service charges to be paid over six, equal monthly payments. Lifeline service customers with past due bills for toll service charges shall have toll restricted service until the past due toll service charges have been paid or until the customer establishes service with another toll provider.
- (E) Every large ILEC required to implement lifeline service shall establish an annual marketing budget for promoting lifeline service and performing outreach regarding lifeline service. Every large ILEC shallwork with the advisory board established in paragraph (F) to reach consensus, where possible, regarding an appropriate budget for promoting lifeline and performing outreach and regarding how the budget will be spent. All funds allocated to this budget shall be spent for the promotion and marketing of lifeline service and outreach regarding lifeline service and only for those purposes and not for any administrative costs of implementing lifeline service.

- (F) All activities relating to the promotion of, marketing of, and outreach regarding lifeline service provided by the large ILECs shall be coordinated through a single advisory board composed of staff of the public utilities commission, the office of the consumers' counsel (OCC), consumer groups representing low income constituents, two representatives from the Ohio association of community action agencies, and every large ILEC. The commission staff shall provide active leadership in the initial organization of the statewide board and the development of procedures and bylaws under which the board will operate. Commission staff shall, with the assistance of the office of the consumers' counsel, work with the advisory board to reach consensus on the organization of the board and all activities relating to the promotion of, marketing of, and outreach regarding lifeline service. However, where consensus is not possible, the commission's staff shall make the final determination. Decisions on the organization of the board and decisions of the advisory board including decisions on how the lifeline marketing, promotion, and outreach activities are implemented are subject to commission review.
- (G) All other aspects of an ILEC ETC's state-specific lifeline service shall be consistent with federal requirements. The rates, terms, and conditions for the ILEC's lifeline service shall be tariffed in accordance with rule 4901:1-6-11 of the Administrative Code.
- (H) Eligibility for lifeline service under this rule shall be based on either of the following criteria:
  - (1) An individual's verifiable participation in any federal or state low-income assistance program that limits assistance based on household income. These programs include:
    - (a) Medical assistance under Chapter 5111. of the Revised Code (medicaid) or any state program that might supplant Medicaid;
    - (b) Supplemental nutritional assistance program (SNAP/food stamps);
    - (c) Supplemental security income (SSI) under Title XVI of the Social Security Act;
    - (d) Social security disability insurance blind and disabled (SSDI);
    - (e) Federal public housing assistance, or section 8;
    - (f) Home energy assistance programs (HEAP, LIHEAP, E-HEAP);
    - (g) National school lunch program's free lunch program (NSL);
    - (h) Temporary assistance for needy families (TANF/Ohio works); or
    - (i) General assistance, including disability assistance (DA).

The commission may add or remove programs from this list as required by federal or state law.

- (2) Other verification that an individual's household income is at or below one hundred fifty per cent of the federal poverty level. ILEC ETC's may use any reasonable method of verification. Consistent with federal law, examples of acceptable documentation include 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 current income (such as a divorce decree or child support document).
- All ILEC ETCs must verify customer eligibility consistent with the federal communications commission's (FCC) requirements in 47 C.F.R. 54, to enroll customers into lifeline assistance who qualify through household income-based requirements.
- (J) The commission shall work with the appropriate state agencies that administer federal or state lowincome assistance programs and with carriers to negotiate and acquire information necessary to verify an individual's eligibility and the data necessary to automatically enroll eligible persons for lifeline service.
- (K) To the extent that appropriate state agencies are able to accommodate automatic enrollment, every ILEC ETC shall automatically enroll customers into lifeline assistance who participate in a qualifying program.
- (L) An ILEC ETC shall provide written notification if the carrier determines that an individual is not eligible for lifeline service enrollment and shall provide the person an additional thirty days to prove eligibility.
- (M) An ILEC ETC shall provide written customer notification if a customer's lifeline service benefits are to be terminated due to failure to submit acceptable documentation for continued eligibility for that assistance and shall provide the customer an additional sixty days to submit acceptable documentation of continued eligibility or dispute the carrier's findings regarding termination of the lifeline service.

- (N) Commission staff will maintain on the commission's website a copy of boilerplate customer notices that are compliant with the FCC's requirements. Any ILEC ETC choosing to create and use its own customer notice shall submit its proposed notice to commission staff for approval.
- (O) An ILEC ETC shall establish procedures to verify an individual's continuing eligibility for both program and income-based criteria consistent with the FCC's requirements in 47 C.F.R. 54.409 to 54.410. ILEC ETCs shall maintain records to document compliance with these requirements and shall attest, as part of the periodic ETC certification process by the commission, that they comply with the FCC's requirements.
- (P) An ILEC ETC may recover through a customer billing surcharge on retail customers of the ILEC's telecommunications service other than lifeline service customers, any lifeline service discounts and any other lifeline service expenses that are not recovered through federal or state funding and that are approved by the commission under this paragraph. The surcharge may not include recovery of expenses related to the marketing and promotion of lifeline service. The surcharge may be established through one of the following means:
  - (1) An ILEC ETC that chooses to establish a customer billing surcharge to non-lifeline customers, to recover lifeline service discounts and expenses identified in this paragraph shall file a thirty-day application for tariff amendment (ATA). Such application may request recovery of lifeline service discounts that are not recovered through federal or state funding such as federal universal service fund end user charges, service connection charges, blocking of 900/976, recurring discount maximizing the contribution of federally available assistance, and recurring retail price differences between the frozen lifeline service rate and residential BLES rates, as well as lifeline service expenses that are not recovered through federal or state funding such as administrative expenses for the sole purpose of verifying the eligibility and enrolling of lifeline customers. An applicant must provide documentation to support its proposed surcharge and its compliance with this rule. Absent suspension or other commission action, the application shall be deemed approved and become effective on the thirty-first day or later date if requested by the company.
  - (2) An ILEC ETC requesting recovery of any expenses not specified in paragraph (P)(1) of this rule shall file an application with the commission, using the most up-to-date telecommunications filing form, under the TP-UNC case purpose code. An applicant must provide documentation to support its proposed customer billing surcharge and its compliance with this rule and must further support its request for recovery of any expenses not specified in paragraph (P)(1) of this rule with a detailed supporting memorandum. Absent suspension or commission action, the application shall be deemed approved and become effective on the one hundred twenty-first day or later date if requested by the company.
- (Q) If an ILEC ETC chooses to establish a customer billing surcharge to recover its lifeline expenses under paragraph (P)(1) or (P)(2) of this rule, the lifeline surcharge shall not appear in the section of the bill reserved for taxes and government-mandated charges as set forth in 47 C.F.R. 64.2400 to 64.2401.
- (R) An ILEC ETC that is authorized to establish a customer billing surcharge under either paragraph (P)(1) or (P)(2) of this rule shall annually file with the commission a report that identifies actual amounts recovered and the actual lifeline service discounts and any other lifeline service expenses incurred for the prior period. The company shall provide such data as necessary to enable the

commission to validate such amounts to ensure that the company did not over recover its approved expenses from customers. The commission shall establish for each such company the timeframe for filing this report when the commission approves any such billing surcharge. The annual filing may be contained in a request to adjust the billing surcharge in accordance with paragraph (P)(1) or (P)(2) of this rule, but shall be provided via a separate filing and docketed in a generic case number to be established by the commission, if no adjustment to the billing surcharge is sought. Any over-recovery or under-recovery shall be offset against or added to the next year's recovery.

- (S) Every ILEC ETC shall file with the commission in its annual assessment report the number of its customers who receive, at the time of filing of the report, lifeline service.
- (T) Upon request of commission staff, additional information regarding customer subscription to and disconnection of lifeline service shall be provided to commission staff in accordance with rule 4901:1-6-30 of the Administrative Code.

### 1221

The following local tariff provides the terms and conditions for voice telephony plans offered to Lifeline customers.

### 1222 and 1123

The flat rate service includes unlimited local calling service minutes of use. The local services offerings do not include any toll minutes of use. The rates for any toll usage are determined by the rate plans of the Toll Provider(s) that the customer selects.

TELEPHONE SERVICE COMPANY Wapakoneta, Ohio Section No. 3 First Revised Sheet No. 1 Replace Original Sheet No. 1

### P.U.C.O. NO. 6

### MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES AND EQUIPMENT (Continued)

### LIFELINE REQUIREMENTS

(T)

Telephone Service Company shall provide Lifeline service as defined in 47 (N) C.F.R. § 54.401(a) on a non-discriminatory basis to all qualifying low-income customers. Telephone Service Company's Lifeline service offering shall comply with all applicable federal and state laws, including, but not limited to, 47 C.F.R. Part 54, Subpart E; the FCC's Lifeline reform order (Report and Order released February 6, 2012, WC Docket No, 11-42, et. al) and any subsequent clarifying orders; Section 4927.13, Revised Code; Rule 4901:1-6-19, Ohio Administrative Code; and, the Commission's nontraditional Lifeline service order (Finding and Order adopted May 23, 2012, Case No. 10-2377-TP-COI) and any subsequent entries and/or orders.

(N)

(D)

(D)

ISSUED: June 21, 2012

EFFECTIVE: June 21, 2012

Issued by the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio Lonnie D. Pedersen, Chief Operating Officer Wapakoneta, Ohio

# REDACTED

# CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

(16 Pages)