BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

| In the Matter of the Application of Wabash |) | Case No.19-1632-TP-ATA |
|--|---|------------------------|
| Mutual Telephone Company to increase |) | 90-5044-TP-TRF |
| service connection and re-establishment |) | |
| charges |) | |

REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATION

SUBMITTED ON BEHALF OF THE STAFF OF THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

On August 27, 2019, the Applicant filed this ATA seeking to revise its P.U.C.O. Tariff No. 6. In this filing, the Applicant is proposing to increase its non-recurring service connection and restoral of service charges and to make textual changes to remove an obsolete charge.

Pursuant to rule 14(J) of the Retail Telecommunication Services rules, any incumbent local exchange company (ILEC) nonrecurring service charges for installation and reconnection of a single residential BLES line may be increased through a thirty-day application for tariff amendment (ATA) filing and a standard of reasonableness will be applied. In this application, the Applicant is proposing to increase each of its non-recurring service connection and restoral of service charges by \$3.70. The current non-recurring service connection and restoral of service charges has not increased since 1988. The Applicant is a not-for-profit mutual (subscriber owned) local exchange company (LEC) and any increase to service charges would have been approved by the owner (subscribers). As such, Staff does not find the proposal to increase these non-recurring service charges unreasonable.

In addition, pursuant to rule 14(H) of the Retail Telecommunications rules, any material changes in terms and conditions of an existing basic local exchange service (BLES) may be introduced through a thirty-day ATA filing and a standard of reasonableness will be applied. The Applicant is proposing to remove its re-establishment charge for work done at the subscriber terminal because all re-establishment activities are now performed in the central office. Therefore, this charge is obsolete. As such, Staff does not find the proposal to remove this charge unreasonable. In conclusion, Staff finds that the application meets all the requirements set forth in the rule.

The Staff reviewed all documents and exhibits filed on August 27, 2019 and in conclusion, the Staff review found that the application is reasonable. Therefore, Staff recommends that the Applicant's application for tariff amendment (ATA) be approved.

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Summary: Staff Review and Recommendation electronically filed by Jason Well on behalf of PUCO Staff