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**FILE**

February 7, 2008

Via Hand-Delivery

Reneé J. Jenkins, Secretary  
The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio  
180 East Broad Street  
Columbus, Ohio 43215

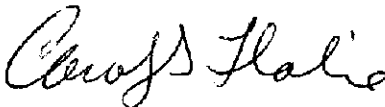
RE: In the Matter of the Application of Ayersville Telephone Company to Change its Delayed Payment Charge, PUCO Case No. 08-0105-TP-ALI

Dear Ms. Jenkins:

Enclosed are an original and ten (10) copies of an Application to be filed on behalf of Ayersville Telephone Company in the above-referenced matter. The TRF Number for the Ayersville Telephone Company is 90-5005-TP-TRF.

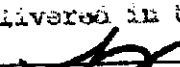
Thank you for your assistance. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call.

Very truly yours,



Carolyn S. Flahive

Enclosures

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Technician  Date Processed 2.7.08

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**The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio**  
**TELECOMMUNICATIONS APPLICATION FORM**  
for  
**ILECs Not Subject to Alternative Regulation**  
(Effective December 3, 2004)

In the Matter of the Application of Ayersville Telephone Company to Change its Delayed Payment Charge )  
) Case No. 08 - 0105 - **TP** - ALI  
)

Name of Company Ayersville Telephone Company  
Address of Company 27932 Watson Road, Defiance, Ohio 43512  
Company Web Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Regulatory Contact Person(s) Carolyn S. Flahive Phone (614) 469-3200 Fax (614) 469-3361  
Regulatory Contact Person's Email Address Carolyn.Flahive@ThompsonHine.com  
Date \_\_\_\_\_ TRF Docket No. 90-5005-TP-TRF

Motion for protective order included with filing? ☐ Yes ☒ No

Motion for waiver(s) filed affecting this case? ☐ Yes ☒ No [Note: waiver(s) tolls any automatic timeframe]

**NOTE:** This form must accompany:

- ✓ All automatic approval/notice applications filed by incumbent local exchange companies (ILECs) not subject to a qualifying alternative regulation plan when making an application pursuant to Case Nos. 84-944-TP-COI, 86-1144-TP-COI, 89-564-TP-COI, or 99-563-TP-COI.
- ✓ All non-automatic approval applications filed by incumbent local exchange companies (ILECs) not subject to a qualifying alternative regulation plan when making an application pursuant to Section 4909.18, Ohio Revised Code.

**I. Please indicate the reason for submitting this form (check one)**

- ☐ 1 (AEC) Application For Approval Of A Customer Contract For Competitive Services  
☐ a. Stand-Alone Contract (90-day approval, 7 copies)  
☐ b. Pre-Approved Contract (0-day notice, 7 copies)
- ☐ 2 (ACO) ILEC Application for Change in Ownership Pursuant to 4905.402, Ohio Revised Code (30-day approval, 10 copies)
- ☒ 3 (ALI) Small, For-Profit, ILEC Application For A Limited Increase In Non-Basic Rates (60-day approval, 10 copies)
- ☐ 4 (ATA) Application For Tariff Amendment That Does Not Result In An Increase In Rates  
☐ a. Large ILEC, Competitive Offerings Other Than Those Listed Under 5., Below (60-day approval, 7 copies)  
☐ b. Small, for-profit ILECs (45-day approval, 10 copies) (Not-for-profit, see item 6, NFP, below)
- ☐ 5 (ZTA) Tariff Notification Not For An Increase In Rates Involving Message Toll, Toll-Free Service, 900 And 900-Like Services, 500 Service, Calling Card, Prepaid Calling Card, Private Line, and Speed Dialing In Accordance With Waiver Granted in 99-563-TP-COI (5/11/2000 and 11/21/2002) (0-day notice, 7 copies)  
**NOTE:** Notifications do not require or imply Commission Approval.
- ☐ 6 (NFP) Small, not-for-profit ILEC tariff amendment  
☐ a. Tariff Change Not Resulting In An Increase In Rates (0-day notice, 7 copies)  
☐ b. Tariff Application Resulting In An Increase In Non-Basic Rates (45-day notice, 7 copies)  
☐ c. Tariff Application Resulting In An Increase In Basic Rates (60-day notice, 10 copies)
- ☐ 7 (Non-Auto) All Others (non-automatic approval, indicate appropriate 3 letter code for case type in Case No. above)

**THE FOLLOWING ARE TRF FILINGS ONLY, NOT NEW CASES**

- ☐ 8 Introduction or Extension of Promotional Offering (10-day notice, 3 copies)
- ☐ 9 New Price List Rate Within an Approved Rate Range for Existing Competitive Service (0-day notice, 3 copies)

**II. The following exhibits corresponding to the list of cases above, at a minimum, are required to be filed:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	3, 4, 5, 6, 7	Current Tariff Sheets (to be superseded), if applicable
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	3, 4, 5, 6, 7	Proposed Tariff Sheets
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	Rationale or Explanation for Change
<input type="checkbox"/>	1.a., 4.a.	Justification for Competitive Treatment
<input type="checkbox"/>	1.a., 4.a.	Cost support for non-MTS service
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9	Customer Notice to customers affected by proposal, and statement as to the form and timing of the notice
<input type="checkbox"/>	1	Copy of Contract


III. Applicant is filing this application under the regulatory requirements:

- ☒ Established by the Commission in Case No. 89-564-TP-COI.  
☐ Established in 4909.18 Ohio Revised Code.

IV. Applicant respectfully requests the Commission to permit the filing of the proposed tariff sheets, to become effective on the date shown on the proposed tariff sheets (which is a date no earlier than the day after the applicable automatic approval date), modified by any further revisions that have become effective prior to the effective date of the proposed schedule sheets.

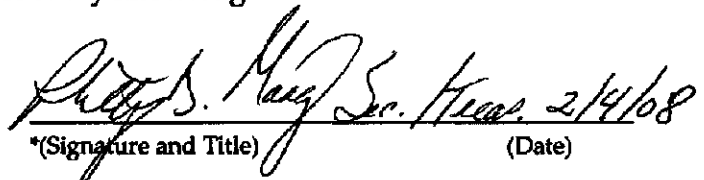
Respectfully submitted,

**AYERSVILLE TELEPHONE COMPANY**

By:   
Thomas E. Lodge (0015741)  
Carolyn S. Flahive (0072404)  
THOMPSON HINE LLP  
10 West Broad Street, Suite 700  
Columbus, Ohio 43215-3435  
614-469-3200  
Its Attorneys

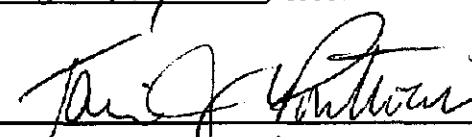
**VERIFICATION**

I verify that all of the information submitted herein, and all additional information submitted in connection with this case, is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

  
\* (Signature and Title) Philip S. May Jr., Hearing Officer (Date) 2/4/08

\*Verification is required for every filing, and need not be notarized except for Applications for a Limited Increase in Rates (ALIs). The verification may be signed by an officer of the applicant, its counsel, or an authorized agent of the applicant, except for ALIs. ALI applications must be signed by an officer of the company and be notarized.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 4th day of February, 2008.

  
Notary Public, State of Ohio  
My commission expires 8/18/2008.

**EXHIBIT A**  
**(CURRENT TARIFF SHEETS)**

P.U.C.O. NO. 5  
GENERAL EXCHANGE TARIFFSMISCELLANEOUS SERVICE OFFERINGSMONTHLY CHARGEPay Stations (also see Section 3, Sheets 8 and 9)

Public Paystations	\$0.20/call +	\$-0-
Semi-Public Paystations	\$0.20/call +	\$25.00

End user paystation coin rates are effective until October 7, 1997, at which time such rates will be deregulated and detariffed pursuant to the FCC's Report and Order in Docket No. 96-128 issued September 20, 1996.

RECURRING CHARGESExtension Service

Off Premise Extension Charge (per ¼ mile) \$1.00

Vacation Rate (SEE TEMPORARY SUSPENSION OF SERVICE)

For equipment retained in a subscriber name during extended subscriber absence, there will be a charge of:  
50% Regular Rate. Payment for local service equal to the anticipated suspension period shall be made in advance and the allowance applied after the service is restored.

Delayed Payment Charge

A five (5) percent late payment charge will apply to regulated charges not paid at least nineteen days after the postmark on the customer's bill. The late payment charge will not apply to any portion of the bill that is in bona fide dispute, any previous late payment fees included in the amount due, or to service establishment charges for lifeline services. (T)

Trunk Rotation Service

Trunk Rotation Service is an arrangement whereby two or more lines of the same class and grade or trunks of the same class furnished to a subscriber on continuous property are grouped so that calls to the first number of the grouped lines are automatically routed to the first non-busy line of the group, and a busy signal or busy report is not given unless all the grouped lines are busy.

The number of Trunk Rotation Services required depends upon the number of lines in a group. One Trunk Rotation Service is required for the second line and each succeeding line.

The charge for Trunk Rotation Service is \$2.00 per line per month.

**EXHIBIT B**  
**(PROPOSED TARIFF SHEETS)**

P.U.C.O. NO. 5  
GENERAL EXCHANGE TARIFFS

MISCELLANEOUS SERVICE OFFERINGS

MONTHLY CHARGE

Pay Stations (also see Section 3, Sheets 8 and 9)

Public Paystations	\$0.20/call +	\$-0-
Semi-Public Paystations	\$0.20/call +	\$25.00

End user paystation coin rates are effective until October 7, 1997, at which time such rates will be deregulated and detariffed pursuant to the FCC's Report and Order in Docket No. 96-128 issued September 20, 1996.

RECURRING CHARGES

Extension Service

Off Premise Extension Charge (per ¼ mile)	\$1.00
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Vacation Rate (SEE TEMPORARY SUSPENSION OF SERVICE)

For equipment retained in a subscriber name during extended subscriber absence, there will be a charge of: 50% Regular Rate. Payment for local service equal to the anticipated suspension period shall be made in advance and the allowance applied after the service is restored.

Delayed Payment Charge

A Delayed Payment charge will be applied to residential and business customer bills that remain unpaid after the due date. This charge will be the greater of either \$5.00 or an amount that equals 1.5% of the unpaid charges that are past due; except that the charge is not applicable until a residential customer's amount past due exceeds \$21.00 or a business customer's amount past due exceeds \$10.00.

(I)  
(T)

The Delayed Payment Charge will not be assessed until at least nineteen days after the postmark on the customer's bill. The Delayed Payment Charge will not apply to any portion of the bill that is in bona fide dispute, any previous late payment fees included in the amount due, or to service establishment charges for lifeline services.

Trunk Rotation Service

Trunk Rotation Service is an arrangement whereby two or more lines of the same class and grade or trunks of the same class furnished to a subscriber on continuous property are grouped so that calls to the first number of the grouped lines are automatically routed to the first non-busy line of the group, and a busy signal or busy report is not given unless all the grouped lines are busy.

The number of Trunk Rotation Services required depends upon the number of lines in a group. One Trunk Rotation Service is required for the second line and each succeeding line.

The charge for Trunk Rotation Service is \$2.00 per line per month.

## EXHIBIT C

The Applicant hereby proposes to change its Delayed Payment Charge from 5% to \$5.00 or 1.5% of the unpaid balance, whichever is greater. The charge will be applied only after a residential customer's unpaid balance exceeds \$21.00 or a business customer's bill exceeds \$10.00.

The revised Delayed Payment Charge serves to offset the additional administrative costs associated with late payment, including notification to customers, added processing, and cost of money. This charge also comports with common commercial practice within the Company's market area, as evidenced by credit card agreements, automobile lease agreements and virtually all secured and unsecured loan arrangements. The rate of 1.5% of the unpaid balance per month is also reasonable and comparable to such charges, for example as compared to retail credit cards. Notably, the exclusion of the first \$21.00 for residential customers and \$10.00 for business customers is not common to other commercial arrangements, which typically apply the charge to the entire unpaid balance. The revised Delayed Payment Charge is consistent with similar late payment charges approved for other telephone companies.

## **EXHIBIT D**

Customers will be informed of the change in the Delayed Payment Charge via a bill insert that will be mailed on February 13, 2008.

Ayersville Telephone Company

**CUSTOMER NOTICE**

Ayersville Telephone Company has filed an application with the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) requesting authority to change its Delayed Payment Charge from 5% to the greater of either \$5.00 or 1.5% of the unpaid charges that are past due. The charge is not applicable until a residential customer's amount past due exceeds \$21.00 or a business customer's amount past due exceeds \$10.00. The Delayed Payment Charge will not be assessed until at least 19 days after the postmark on the customer's bill.

If you have any questions concerning this new charge, please call our business office at 419-395-222 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. If you believe that this proposed charge is unfair, you have the right to lodge an objection with the PUCO, prior to March 10, 2008, either by writing to the following address: Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, Docketing Department, 180 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215-3793, or by calling the PUCO's toll free hotline at 1-800-686-7826 or for TTY toll free at 1-800-686-1570 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. weekdays, or visit [www.puco.ohio.gov](http://www.puco.ohio.gov).

## **EXHIBIT E**

The following affidavit will be executed and filed after the customer notices mail on February 13, 2008.

**BEFORE  
THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO**

In the Matter of the Application of Ayersville                     )  
Telephone Company to Change its Delayed                     ) Case No. 08-0105-TP-ALI  
Payment Charge                     )

**AFFIDAVIT OF  
PHILLIP MAAG**

STATE OF OHIO                     )  
COUNTY OF DEFIANCE                     )

**NOW COMES PHILLIP MAAG**, being first duly cautioned and sworn, deposes and  
says as follows:

1. I am General Manager of Ayersville Telephone Company ("Ayersville"), 27932  
Watson Road, Defiance, Ohio 43512. I am authorized to make this statement on  
behalf of Ayersville and do so in the ordinary discharge of my responsibilities.
2. Ayersville filed an application to change its Delayed Payment Charge on  
February 7, 2008.
3. Customers were notified of the change to the Delayed Payment Charge via bill  
inserts that mailed on February 13, 2008. A copy of the bill insert is attached to  
the tariff application as Exhibit D.
4. I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

**FURTHER AFFIANT SAYETH NAUGHT.**

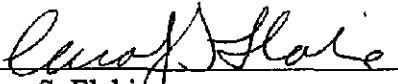
\_\_\_\_\_  
Phillip Maag

Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence this \_\_\_\_ day of February 2008.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public

## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing were served upon the following by first-class mail, postage prepaid, this 7th day of February 2008.

  
Carolyn S. Flahive

Office of the Ohio Consumers' Counsel 10 West Broad Street Suite 1800 Columbus, OH 43215	South Richland Township Trustees c/o David Kunesh 27401 Shindler Road Defiance, OH 43512
Highland Township Trustees c/o Thomas Wolfrum 15772 Hill Road Defiance, OH 43512	