# TARIFF P.U.C.O. NO. 15

### Lifeline/Link-Up

### LIFELINE/LINK-UP REQUIREMENTS

#### A. General

- 1. Lifeline shall be a flat-rate, monthly, primary access line service with touch-tone service or the Company may offer any other packages/bundles of service, if available to customers, less the lifeline discount and shall provide all of the following:
  - a. A recurring discount to the monthly basic local exchange service rate that provides for the maximum contribution of federally available assistance;
  - b. Not more than once per customer at a single address in a twelve-month period, a waiver of all nonrecurring service order charge; for establishing service;
  - c. Free blocking of toll service, 900 service and 976 service;
  - d. A waiver of the federal universal service fund end use charge; and
  - e. A waiver of the telephone company's service deposit requirement.

#### B. Regulations

- 1. Lifeline Assistance is available to residential customers who are currently participating in one of the following federal or state low-income assistance programs that limit assistance based on household income:
  - a) Medical Assistance under Chapter 5111 of the Ohio 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) Supplemental Security Insurance blind and disabled (SSD)
  - 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

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### SERVICE CONNECTIONS, MOVES AND CHANGES (cont'd.)

### C. Service Connection Charges (1)

|    |                                       | Service Connection Charge Business Residence Current/Maximum Current/Maximum |                 |
|----|---------------------------------------|--|-----------------|
|    |                                       | Current/Maximum  | Current/Maximum |
| 1. | Installation Charge                   |  |                 |
|    | a. Initial, per occasion              | 39.95  | 29.95           |
|    |                                       |  |                 |
| 2. | Service Order Change Charge           |  |                 |
|    | a. Carrier Change Charge              | 5.50   | 5.50            |
|    | b. Touch Call Change Charge           | 6.55   | 5.95            |
|    |                                       |  |                 |
| 3. | Temporary Disconnect Reconnect Charge | 20.65/ 20.65   | 20.65/20.65     |

#### 4. Late Fees

A late fee of \$5.00 or 1.5%, whichever is greater, will be levied on any balance remaining on the 19<sup>th</sup> day after the bill is rendered. This charge will appear on the customer's next invoice.

Late fees will not be assessed on residential accounts until the balance exceeds a threshold of \$20.00.

Each residential customer will be granted, upon request, a one-time waiver of the late fee in cases where the customer has already paid the monthly invoice for which the late fee was assessed.

Late fees do not apply to following:

- (a) Any portion of the bill that is in a bona fide dispute.
- (b) Any previous late payment fees included in the amount due.

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(c) Service establishment charges for lifeline services.

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Summary: Tariff Submitting revissions for Tariff Pages PUCO #15 Section 7 Sheet 1 (Lifeline language change) and PUCO #15 Section 4 Sheet 3 (Adding Touch Call to original Tariff). electronically filed by Amy J Gumm on behalf of The Chillicothe Telephone Company