COLUMBUS

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June 28, 2011

Betty McCauley, Secretary The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio 180 East Broad Street Columbus, Ohio 43215

RE: <u>In the Matter of the Application of Buckland Telephone Company to Detariff Services and Make Other Changes Related to the Implementation of Case No. 10-1010-TP-ORD PUCO, Case No. 11-2935-TP-ATA, TRF Docket No. 90-5008-TP-TRF</u>

Dear Ms. McCauley:

Attached are fifteen (15) revised pages to be filed on behalf of Buckland Telephone Company in the above-referenced matter. Please replace the sheets originally filed on May 11, 2011 in this matter with the sheets attached hereto.

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

Very truly yours,

/s/ Carolyn S. Flahive Carolyn S. Flahive

Enclosure

# SUBJECT INDEX

SUBJECT	<u>SECTION</u>	SHEET
811 Service for "One Call" Notification Systems 911 Subscriber Charge	2 1	1 5
- A - Advance Payments Alterations Application for Service Application of Business and Residence Rates Application of Construction Charges Availability of Facilities	3 3 3 1 3 3	7 4 3 6 7 1
- B -		
Basic Local Exchange Service (BLES) Definition	1	1
- C -		
Construction, Installation, and Maintenance Charges	1	7
- D -		
Defacement of Premises	3	2
- E -		
Establishment and Furnishing of Service Exchange Rates Expanded Local Calling Area	3 1 1	3 2 2

# **SUBJECT INDEX** (Continued)

SUBJECT		<u>SECTION</u>	<u>SHEET</u>
	- F -		
General Rules and Regulations	- G -	3	1
	- I -		
Initial Connection Charges Initial Contract Periods IntraLATA Presubscription		1 3 5	3 5 1
	- K -		
	- L -		
Late Payment Charges Liability of Telephone Company Lifeline/Link-Up Requirements Line Extensions		1 3 4 1	4 6 1 7
Maintenance and Repair Miscellaneous Rates and Charges	- M -	3	4 4
	- O -		
Obligation and Liability of Telephone Company Obligation of Customer Ownership and Use of Equipment		3 3 3	1 7 2

# SUBJECT INDEX (Continued)

<u>SUBJECT</u>		<u>SECTION</u>	SHEET
Per Call Blocking	- P -	1	4
Plant Constructed on Private Property	- Q -	1	9
Re-establishment of Suspended Service Charge	- R -	1	3
	- S -		
Service Connection and Restoral of Service Cha Special Assemblages of Equipment Special Service and Facilities Special Type of Construction	urges	1 3 3 1	3 7 6 8
Tariff Description Telecommunications Relay Services (TRS) Telephone Numbers Tele-tone Touch Calling Termination of Service by Subscribers Transmitting Messages	- T -	1 1 3 1 3 3	1 5 4 4 5 1
	- U -		
Unusual Installation Costs Use of Connecting Company Lines Use of Subscriber Service Use of Service and Facilities		3 3 3 3	4 2 3 2
	- V -		
	- W -		
	- X -		
	- Y -		
	- Z -		

# **EXCHANGE RATES**

The following identified service rates entitle the subscribers of telephone service to call, without additional charge, the subscribers of Buckland Exchange, the Buckland Telephone Company, the subscribers of the Cridersville and Wapakoneta Exchanges, the Telephone Service Company and the subscribers of Lima Exchange, the United Telephone Company of Ohio d/b/a Century Link.

The following listed rates for exchange telephone service shall apply within the exchange area:

Business	Monthly Rate	Maximum Rate
Individual Access Line, primary line	\$16.22	\$16.22
Semi-Public Paystation.	\$20.00	
Coin Supervision.	\$ 7.20	
Residence	Monthly Rate	<u>Maximum</u>
Individual Access Line, ea. line	\$10.74	<u>Rate</u> \$10.74

### EXPANDED LOCAL CALLING AREA

All rates and charges for services and conditions applicable to the St. Marys, Spencerville and Lima exchanges will be identical to those of the Buckland Exchange. Service will be facilities based and available where facilities permit.

# SERVICE CONNECTION AND RESTORAL OF SERVICE CHARGES

The following non-recurring charges apply:

1.	Each initial connection of a residence telephone line	\$15.00

- 2. Each initial connection, or any other work performed in connection with a business telephone line, charges will be computed on an actual time and material basis which includes all direct labor and overheads properly charged to said project................ Time and Material
- 3. Re-establishment of suspended service \$10.00

### MISCELLANEOUS RATES AND CHARGES

P.U.C.O. NO. 5

### 1. <u>Tele-Tone Touch Calling</u>

This service more commonly known as pushbutton dialing will be offered to subscribers in the Buckland exchange area. There will be no distinction between business and/or residence rates.

All other change charges will apply as set forth on other pages of this tariff.

### 2. Per Call Number Privacy (Per Call Blocking)

Enables customers to prevent the disclosure of their telephone number on a per call basis to the called party. The disclosure of the calling party's number can be prevented on a per call basis by dialing a preassigned access code before making a call. This action must be repeated each time a call is made to prevent the disclosure of the calling party's telephone number. Per Call Blocking will only operate on calls originating and terminating within suitably-equipped offices, or similarly equipped offices of interconnecting Local Exchange Companies. If the called party has a display device, a privacy indication will appear instead of the calling party's telephone number. Per Call Blocking will be provided at no charge.

# 3. <u>Late Payment Charges</u>

### A. Residential and Business Late Payment Charges

A late payment charge will be applied to residential and business customer bills which remain unpaid at least nineteen days after the postmark on the customer's bill. This charge will be the greater of either \$5.00, or an amount that equals 1.5% of the unpaid charges which are past due; except that the charge is not applicable as specified in subsection B. below or until the amount past due exceeds \$21.00.

Upon customer request, each residential customer shall be permitted a one-time waiver of a late payment charge in cases where the customer has already paid the monthly bill for which the late payment charge was applied.

### B. The late payment charge does not apply to:

- 1. Amounts which are in dispute at the time the late payment charge would otherwise be applied.
- 2. Federal excise tax or any other taxes levied by law directly on the customer.

### MISCELLANEOUS RATES AND CHARGES (Continued)

- 3. <u>Late Payment Charges</u> (Continued)
  - 3. Amounts billed by the Company for other entities for which the charge is not authorized by those entities' appropriate tariffs or contracts, other than Interexchange Carrier Services for which the Company, acting as the principal Billing and Collection Agent, purchases the accounts receivable in advance of subscriber billing.
  - 4. Service order charges associated with the commencement of Lifeline service.
  - 5. Any previous late payment fees included in the amount due.
  - C. Credit, deposit and collection procedures outlined elsewhere in this tariff are not waived by the application of a late payment charge.
  - D. The late payment charge will be assessed on the past due amount 19 days after the postmark on the customer's bill.
- 4. <u>Telecommunications Relay Services (TRS)</u>

Customers may be assessed a monthly charge per line to fund the Telecommunications Relay Services for the State of Ohio in accordance with section 4905.84 of the Revised Code. This charge shall in no event exceed the per end user line (or equivalent) assessment of the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio levied upon the Company.

5. <u>9-1-1 Subscriber Charge</u>:

.33/month plus tax

#### APPLICATION OF BUSINESS AND RESIDENCE RATES

- 1. Business rates apply at the following locations:
  - a. In offices, stores, factories, mines and all other places of a strictly business nature.
  - b. In boarding houses, except as noted herein, offices of hotels, hall and offices of apartment buildings; quarters occupied by Clubs or Lodges; public, private or parochial schools or colleges, churches, hospitals, libraries and other similar institutions.
  - c. At residence locations when the subscriber has no regular business telephone and the use of the service either by himself, members of his household, or his guests, or parties calling him can be considered as more of a business than of a residence nature, which fact might be indicated by advertising either by business cards, newspapers, handbills, billboards, circulars, motion pictures, screens, or other advertising matter such as on vehicles, etc., or when such business use is not such as commonly arises and passes over to residence telephone during the intervals when, in compliance with the law or established custom, business places are ordinarily closed.
  - d. At residence locations, when an extension station or extension bell is located in a shop, office, or other place of business.
  - e. In any location where the listing of service at that location indicates a business, trade or profession, except as specified below.
- 2. Residence Rates Apply at the Following Locations:
  - a. In private residences where business listings are not provided.
  - b. In private apartments of hotels, rooming houses, or boarding houses where service is confined to the subscriber's use, and elsewhere in rooming and boarding houses which are not advertised as a place of business or which have less than five rooms for roomers or which furnish meals to less than ten boarders, provided business listings are not furnished.
  - c. In the place of residence of a clergyman or nurse, and in the place of residence of a physician, surgeon, or other medical practitioner, dentist or veterinary, provided the subscriber does not maintain an office in the residence.

### CONSTRUCTION, INSTALLATION, AND MAINTENANCE CHARGES

#### A. General

- 1. Lines will be extended in accordance with provisions specified herein.
- 2. Special charges in the form of installation charges, monthly charges, or both, are applied in addition to the usual service connection charges and monthly rates when, because of the sporadic or occasional nature of the service or an unusual investment or expense, as for example:
  - a. The facilities are provided in remote or undeveloped sections within the Exchange Area.
  - b. Conditions require the provisions of special equipment or unusual methods of plant construction, installation or maintenance.
  - c. The customer's location requires the use of costly private right-of-way.
- 2. Title to all construction provided wholly or partly at the customer's expense is vested in the Telephone Company.
- 3. By "cost" is meant the cost of labor and material, including the usual supervisory expenses.
- 4. When attachments are made to poles of other companies, in lieu of providing construction for which the customer would be charged under the provisions hereof, the cost to the Telephone Company for such attachments is borne by the customer.
- 5. The customer is required to pay construction charges as made by another company providing facilities connecting with the facilities of the Telephone Company.

#### B Line Extensions

- 1. Construction costs for one-half mile will be at Company expense. All excess construction costs to be borne by prospective subscriber or subscribers.
- 2. Provisions of Private Right-of-Way: Where required by the conditions, applicants shall provide, without expense to the Telephone Company, private right-of-way parallel to the public highway; such right-of-way shall be free from tree interference and otherwise suitable.

# CONSTRUCTION, INSTALLATION, AND MAINTENANCE CHARGES (Continued)

#### B. Line Extensions (Continued)

3. Applicants may be required to make advance payments to cover all or a portion of the exchange service when in the opinion of the Telephone Company there is evidence of credit risk.

# C. Special Type of Construction

When underground service connections are desired by customers as initial installations in places where aerial drop wires would ordinarily be used to reach the customer's premises, or when aerial facilities are used to provide service or channels to a customer and subsequently the customer desires that such facilities be placed underground, the following regulations apply:

- 1. Where cable is laid in conduit, the underground conduit shall be constructed and maintained by or at the expense of the customer and in addition the customer shall pay the cost of the underground cable, including the cost of installing, less the estimated cost to the Telephone Company of installing such aerial facilities as would be (or are) required to furnish the same service. The underground conduit shall be constructed in accordance with plans and specifications furnished by the Telephone Company.
- 2. The duct or ducts required in the underground conduit by the Telephone Company to furnish service shall be reserved for its exclusive use.
- 3. Where armored cable is laid in a trench, the trench shall be constructed and back-filled by or at the expense of the customer. In addition, the customer shall pay the cost of the cable, including the cost of installing it, less the estimated cost to the Telephone Company of installing such aerial drop as would be (or is) required to furnish the same service.
- 4. Cable installed in conduit will be maintained and replaced at the expense of the Telephone Company where the conduit has been inspected in place by the Telephone Company and approved, but repairs or replacements of cable in conduit not so inspected and approved, or repairs or replacements of the cable in conduit or trench made necessary by damages caused by the customer or his representative will be made only at the customer's expense.
- 5. Where facilities are changed from aerial to underground, in addition to the above, the customer is charged the cost of dismantling and removing the aerial facilities.

### CONSTRUCTION, INSTALLATION, AND MAINTENANCE CHARGES (Continued)

# D. Plant Constructed on Private Property

- 1. Construction of plant facilities on private property to be used in servicing an individual subscriber will be furnished by the Telephone Company at a charge to the subscriber at the actual cost of the time, material and overheads for such pole, except that the Telephone Company will furnish as many as two poles or 400 feet of underground plant without charge to the subscriber provided the plant thus furnished is used to carry main line circuits. Ownership and maintenance of such poles is vested in the Telephone Company.
- 2. Plant construction on private property to be used as part of the standard distributing plan serving subscribers in general are furnished, maintained, and owned by the Telephone Company.
- 3. Circuits on private property are furnished, owned and maintained by the Telephone Company.

# **GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS**

#### A. APPLICATION

The rules and regulations specified herein apply to the provisions of BLES as defined in Section 1, Sheet No. 1 herein.

In the event of a conflict between any rates, rules, regulation or provision contained in these General Rules and Regulations and any rate, rule regulation or provision contained in the other section of this BLES Tariff, the rate, rule, regulation or provision contained in the specific section of this Tariff shall prevail.

#### B. OBLIGATION AND LIABILITY OF TELEPHONE COMPANY

# 1. Availability of Facilities

The Telephone Company's obligation to furnish exchange service is dependent upon its ability to secure and retain, without unreasonable expense, suitable facilities and rights for the construction and maintenance of the necessary facilities to provide service.

### 2. Transmitting Messages

The Telephone Company does not transmit messages but offers the use of its facilities for communication between patrons. If because of transmission difficulties, the operator, in order to accommodate the subscriber, repeats messages, she is deemed to be acting as the agent of the persons involved and no liability shall attach to the Telephone Company because of any errors made by the operator or misunderstanding that may arise between subscribers because of the errors.

# GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS (Continued)

# B. OBLIGATION AND LIABILITY OF TELEPHONE COMPANY (Continued)

# 3. Use of Connecting Company Lines

When suitable arrangements can be made, lines of other telephone companies may be used in establishing wire connections to points not reached by this Company's lines. In establishing connections with the lines of other companies, the Telephone Company is not responsible for any action of the Connecting Company.

#### 4. Defacement of Premises

The Telephone Company shall exercise due care in connection with all work done on the subscriber's premises. No liability shall attach to the Telephone Company by reason of any defacement or damage to the subscriber's premises resulting from the existence of the Telephone Company's instruments, apparatus and associated wiring on such premises, or by the installation or removal thereof, unless such defacement or damage is the result of the sole negligence of the Telephone Company.

#### C. USE OF SERVICE AND FACILITIES

# 1. Ownership and Use of Equipment

Equipment and lines, other than inside wire, furnished by the Telephone Company on the premises of a subscriber are the property of the Telephone Company. The Company, its agents, or its employees shall have the right to enter upon a subscriber's premises during normal working hours only as may be required to make repairs to its equipment or to otherwise remove the source of emergency conditions that are, or that the Company has reason to expect soon will be, endangering the safety, health, or welfare of Company employees or of other persons, or the safety of component parts of the Company's system or equipment.

If visitation to the customer's premises is sought for any other purpose, such visitation shall preferably be prearranged by telephone, however, if such permission is not feasible, the Company's agent or employee seeking entrance to the subscriber's premises shall identify himself to such person's satisfaction, and shall state the reason for his proposed visitation. Entrance shall not be gained by force or subterfuge or by approach to a child or other irresponsible person. The Company shall be responsible for any damage to the subscriber's property arising from such visitation, whether such visitation is negligently, wilfully, or inadvertently caused.

### GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS (Continued)

# D. ESTABLISHMENT AND FURNISHING OF SERVICE (Continued)

# 2. Telephone Numbers

The subscriber has no property right in the telephone number or any right to continuance of service through any particular central office and the Telephone Company may change the telephone number or the central office designation or both, of a subscriber whenever it deems it advisable in the conduct of its business to do so.

#### 3. Alterations

The subscriber agrees to notify the Company promptly whenever alterations or new construction on premises owned or leased by him will necessitate changes in the Company's wiring or equipment; and the subscriber agrees to pay the Company's current charges for such change.

# 4. Maintenance and Repair

All ordinary expense of maintenance and repairs, unless otherwise specified in the Telephone Company's Tariff, is borne by the Telephone Company. Subscribers may not rearrange, disconnect or remove any appurtenance or wiring installed by the Telephone Company, except upon written consent by the Telephone Company.

#### 5. Unusual Installation Costs

Where special conditions or special requirements of the subscriber involve unusual construction or installation costs, the subscriber may be required to pay a reasonable proportion of such costs.

### 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 charges for establishing service;
  - c. Free blocking of toll service, 900 service and 976 service;
  - d. A waiver of the federal universal service fund end user 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
  - i. General Assistance (including disability assistance (DA))

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Summary: Tariff Revised Tariff pages electronically filed by Carolyn S Flahive on behalf of The Buckland Telephone Company