

**OREGON PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
INTEROFFICE CORRESPONDENCE**

DATE: October 16, 2014

TO: File through Bryan Conway and Bruce Hellebuyck *BHC*

FROM: Jim Stanage *JS*

SUBJECT: FRONTIER COMMUNICATIONS NORTHWEST INC: (Advice No. 1041 and Reference No. 034SPL) Moves many currently tariffed services from the company's regular tariff (PUC OR. No. 18) to its *Statewide Price List*.

I have reviewed this filing and recommend that an acknowledgement letter be sent. The filing went into effect on October 1, 2014, and it was filed on August 28, 2014. Frontier Communications Northwest Inc. (Frontier) proposes to move many currently tariffed services from its regular tariff (PUC OR. No. 18) to its *Statewide Price List*. Reference No. 034SPL, which consists of 498 tariff sheets, represents the portion of the regular tariff that would be moved to the *Statewide Price List*. Advice No. 1041, which consists of 65 tariff sheets, represents the changes that would be made to the current regular tariff if the changes proposed in Reference No. 034SPL are allowed. This filing has been made pursuant to the establishment of a *Price Plan* under ORS 759.255. It should be noted that these two filings, themselves, do not propose any rate changes. However, Frontier did propose rate increases under the *Price Plan* for Residential and Business Primary Line Basic Services in Advice No. 1042, which goes into effect October 19, 2014.

On August 18, 2014, the Commission issued its Order No. 14-290, in docket UM 1677, approving a *Price Plan* for Frontier under ORS 759.255. Section 1 of the statute states: "Prices approved under the plan are not subject to the provisions of ORS 759.180 to 759.190 and shall become effective as stated in the plan." This provision of the statute has the effect of allowing Frontier the same relief from regulatory requirements as ORS 759.054, which allows a telecommunications utility to establish specific services in a "price list," and which allows the utility to change rates for service upon notice to the Commission. The *Price Plan*, Section Q, also allows for rate changes to be made upon notice to the Commission for the group of services that these filings would establish in a price list. Therefore, in order to simplify administration of the *Price Plan*, Frontier has made these two related filings.

The filings were submitted on August 28, 2014, and thus, comply with Frontier *Price Plan*, Section Q, which requires tariff changes to be filed at least thirty days prior to their effective dates. Telecommunications utilities are required under ORS 759.175 to submit tariff filings to the Commission whenever they intend to change their rates, terms, or conditions of service.

PUC OR. No. 18

The Commission Order No. 14-290 results in a number of services being retained in PUC OR. No. 18, *Network Access Service*, including:

- Residential and Business Primary Line Basic Services;
- Non-recurring Charges for Residential and Business Primary Line Basic Services;
- Telephone Assistance Programs (OTAP, Tribal Lifeline, and Link-Up);
- Extended Area Service (EAS);
- Toll Restriction Service;
- Call Trace;
- Unlisted Numbers and Directory Listings;
- E911 Services (including Private Switch/Automatic Location Identification [PS/ALI]).

Notice of tariff/price list changes

Frontier will provide the Commission notice of price increases or other changes to terms and conditions of service by making filings for services in the regular tariff at least 30 days prior to the effective date of such changes. Frontier will provide the Commission notice of price decreases for services under price cap by making tariff filings at least one day prior to the effective date of such price decreases.

Frontier will make price list changes to its *Statewide Price List* services at least one day prior to the effective date of any change. Frontier will also provide customers at least 30 days prior notice for services they are purchasing at the time of the price increase. For services on a per-call basis, Frontier will give "reasonable notice" to the customer of the price prior to the customer's use of the service.

PUC OR. No. 12

The order does not affect Frontier's *Intrastate Access Tariff* No. 12, which covers Switched Access. The *Price Plan* states: "Rates for intrastate switched access services will be capped at pre-plan rates and the Commission may adjust the price caps if required by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) action."