



525 Junction Rd
Madison, WI 53717
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November 22, 2016

Filing Center
Oregon Public Utility Commission
201 High Street SE
Salem, OR 97301-3612

**RE: Advice No.122, Asotin Telephone Company; PUC Or. No. 2
Revise Low-Income Assistance Programs Tariff**

To Whom It May Concern:

Included in this submission are the following tariff pages for Asotin Telephone Company:

**Section IV Second Revised Sheet 15
Fifth Revised Sheet 16
First Revised Sheet 16.1**

The purpose of this filing is to to revise language within the Low-Income Assistance Program tariff. This language will indicate that the Company will provide Federal Lifeline Service on a non-discriminatory basis to all qualifying customers and will comply with all applicable federal laws (including the FCC's Lifeline Reform Order and the FCC's Lifeline Modernization Order) in their provision of the service. By including this language in the tariff, the Company hopes to avoid having to update the tariff when the FCC revises the program in the future.

Along with the addition of this language, we will clarify that in order for customers to receive OTAP benefits, they must meet the eligibility requirements defined in OAR 860-033-0030.

Other miscellaneous text changes have also been made with this filing.

The proposed effective date is December 2, 2016.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (608) 664-4169.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rachelle A. Ladwig". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Rachelle A. Ladwig
Senior Administrator-Tariffs
rachelle.ladwig@tdstelecom.com

Enclosures

Second

ASOTIN TELEPHONE COMPANY
Oregon

LOCAL EXCHANGE ACCESS LINE SERVICE

APPROVED

LOW-INCOME ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS
OREGON TELEPHONE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (OTAP)/LIFELINE

Low income Assistance Programs consist of two programs, Lifeline Assistance and the Oregon Telephone Assistance Program (OTAP). These programs were developed to reduce rates for low income customers. The company participates in these programs to increase the availability of telecommunications services to all consumers in its serving areas.

- a. Pursuant to Chapter 290, Oregon Laws 1987, and Oregon Administrative Rule (OAR) Chapter 860, Division 33, the Oregon Telephone Assistance Program (OTAP) is the state counterpart to the federal Lifeline program and is governed by Federal Communication Commission 47 Code of Federal Regulations Subpart E, 54. This state and federal government assistance program provides qualifying low-income consumers with reduced monthly charges for any local residential service plan that includes voice telephony service. Eligible voice telephony services must provide voice grade access to the public switched network or its functional equivalent, access to emergency services and toll limitation services.

A. Lifeline Assistance

↓ add generic language

B. Oregon Telephone Assistance Program (OTAP)

- 1. General
OTAP provides for additional. . . .
- 2. Eligibility Requirements
- b. a. Customers must meet the eligibility requirements for OTAP/Lifeline as defined in OAR 860-033-0030.

Customers qualifying for the State Assistance Program must meet the eligibility requirements for OTAP as defined in OAR 860-033-0030.

(R) (N) (N)
(T) (N)
(T) (T)
(D)
(D)
(D)
(D)
(C)
(C)
(D)
(T)
(D)

ISSUED: July 25, 2012 *— November 22, 2016* EFFECTIVE: August 1, 2012
 Advice No. 92-122 *December 2, 2016*

BY: Joel Dohmeier, Vice-President

Section IV

Fourth Revised Sheet 16

Cancels Third Revised Sheet 16

ASOTIN TELEPHONE COMPANY

Oregon

Fifth

LOCAL EXCHANGE ACCESS LINE SERVICE

APPROVED

LOW-INCOME ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS
OREGON TELEPHONE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (OTAP)/LIFELINE (Continued)

C. Regulations

Terms and Conditions

- 1) The basic federal Lifeline support amount is applied to the End User Common Line charges or equivalent. The remaining basic federal and OTAP support amount is applied to the qualifying low-income customer's charges for intrastate services.
- 2) OTAP/Lifeline customers are eligible to receive Toll Restriction Service at no charge. This service will only be provided at the customer's request.
- 3) Local service deposit requirements will be waived for OTAP/Lifeline customers who voluntarily receive Toll Restriction Service.
- 4) OTAP/Lifeline customers shall not be disconnected from Local Service for non-payment of toll charges. In addition, the Company will not deny re-establishment of local service to customers who are eligible for OTAP/Lifeline and have previously been disconnected for non-payment of toll charges.
- 5) Partial payments that are received from OTAP/Lifeline customers will first be applied to local service charges and then to any outstanding toll charges.
- 6) Billing will reflect that the OTAP/Lifeline credit or discount became effective on the date specified by the Public Utility Commission of Oregon for each approved customer.
- 7) OTAP/Lifeline customer may not be charged the federal universal service fund fee or the monthly number-portability charge as part of their local residential service plan that includes voice telephony service.
- 8) OTAP/Lifeline customers may not be charged the Access Recovery Charge or its equivalent.
- 9) The Residential Service Protection Fund surcharge must be charged to OTAP/Lifeline customers.

(X) (T)
 (D)
 (T)
 (X) (T)
 (N)
 (N)
 (X)
 (X)
 (T)
 (T)
 (X)
 (M) (N)
 (N)
 (M)

(M)-Material now appears on Sheet 16.1 of this Section.

ISSUED: July 25, 2012 *November 22, 2016*
Advice No. 92 *X 122*

EFFECTIVE: August 1, 2012
December 2, 2016

BY: Joel Dohmeier, Vice President

First Revised

Cancel Original Sheet 16.1
ASOTIN TELEPHONE COMPANY
Oregon

LOCAL EXCHANGE ACCESS LINE SERVICE

APPROVED

A. **LOW-INCOME ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS**
OREGON TELEPHONE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (OTAP)/LIFELINE (Continued)

D. **Credits**

Qualifying low-income customers will receive the following OTAP/Lifeline credit or discount amounts per month:

| | Monthly Credit | |
|--|-------------------|--|
| 1) <i>Lifeline Assistance Benefit</i> Federal Credit to Residential Access Line | \$9.25 (1) | (M) (T) (T) (T) (T) (T) (T) (R) (C) (T) (C) |
| 2) <i>Assistance Benefit</i> OTAP Credit to Residential Access Line | \$3.50 (2) | (D) (T) (T) (C) |
| <u>Total Support Amount</u> | <u>\$12.75</u> | (D) (T) (D) (D) (M) |

(1) FCC Authorized Rate
(2) OR PUC Authorized Rate.

(C)
(C)

(M)-Material previously appeared on Sheet 16 of this Section.

ISSUED: July 25, 2012 *November 23, 2016*
Advice No. 92 *128*

EFFECTIVE: August 1, 2012
December 2, 2016

BY: Joel Dohmeier, Vice President

ASOTIN TELEPHONE COMPANY

Oregon

LOCAL EXCHANGE ACCESS LINE SERVICE

LOW INCOME ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

Low-Income Assistance Programs consist of two programs, Lifeline Assistance and the Oregon Telephone Assistance Program (OTAP). These programs were developed to reduce rates for low income customers. The Company participates in these programs to increase the availability of telecommunications services to all consumers in its serving areas.

A. Lifeline Assistance

The Company shall provide Lifeline Service as defined in FCC 47 C.F.R. 54.401 (a) on a non-discriminatory basis to all qualifying low-income customers. The Company's Lifeline service offering shall comply with all applicable federal laws, including but not limited to, 47 C.F.R. Part 54; the FCC's Lifeline Reform Order (Report and Order released February 6, 2012, WC Docket No. 11-42, et. al.), the FCC's Lifeline Modernization Order (Third Report and Order released on April 27, 2016, WC Docket No. 11-42, FCC 16-38, et. al.), and any subsequent orders.

B. Oregon Telephone Assistance Program (OTAP)

1. General

OTAP provides for additional state benefits against the recurring monthly rates for the provision of local residential service for eligible residential subscribers.

2. Eligibility Requirements

a) Customers qualifying for the State Assistance Program must meet the eligibility requirements for OTAP as defined in OAR 860-033-0030.

(T)

(N)

(N)

(T)

(T)

LOCAL EXCHANGE ACCESS LINE SERVICE

LOW INCOME ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS(Continued)

(T)

C. Regulations

(T)

- 1) The basic federal Lifeline support amount is applied to the End User Common Line charges or equivalent. The remaining basic federal and OTAP support amount is applied to the qualifying low-income customer's charges for intrastate services.
- 2) OTAP/Lifeline customers are eligible to receive Toll Restriction Service at no charge. This service will only be provided at the customer's request.
- 3) Local service deposit requirements will be waived for OTAP/Lifeline customers who voluntarily receive Toll Restriction Service.
- 4) OTAP/Lifeline customers shall not be disconnected from Local Service for non-payment of toll charges. In addition, the Company will not deny re-establishment of local service to customers who are eligible for OTAP/Lifeline and have previously been disconnected for non-payment of toll charges.
- 5) Partial payments that are received from OTAP/Lifeline customers will first be applied to local service charges and then to any outstanding toll charges.
- 6) Billing will reflect that the OTAP/Lifeline credit or discount became effective on the date specified by the Public Utility Commission of Oregon for each approved customer.
- 7) OTAP/Lifeline customer may not be charged the federal universal service fund fee or the monthly number-portability charge as part of their local residential service plan that includes voice telephony service.
- 8) OTAP/Lifeline customers may not be charged the Access Recovery Charge or its equivalent.
- 9) The Residential Service Protection Fund surcharge must be charged to OTAP/Lifeline customers.

PUC Or. No. 2

Section IV

First Revised Sheet 16.1

Cancels Original Sheet 16.1

ASOTIN TELEPHONE COMPANY

Oregon

LOCAL EXCHANGE ACCESS LINE SERVICE

LOW INCOME ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS(Continued)

(T)

D. Credits

(T)

Qualifying low-income customers will receive the following OTAP/Lifeline credit or discount amounts per month:

| | <u>Monthly Credit</u> | |
|--|---------------------------|--------|
| 1) Federal Lifeline Assistance Benefit | (1) | (T)(C) |
| 2) OTAP Assistance Benefit | (2) | (T)(C) |
| | | (D) |

(1) FCC Authorized Rate

(C)

(2) OR PUC Authorized Rate

(C)

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BY: Joel Dohmeier, Vice President