



**OREGON PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
(INTEROFFICE CORRESPONDENCE)**

DATE: May 15, 2019

TO: File through Bryan Conway and Bruce Hellebuyck 

FROM: Stephanie Yamada 

SUBJECT: CITIZENS TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMPANY OF OREGON:
(Docket No. PL 122/Advice No. 005PL) Grandfathers four residential packages.

I have reviewed this filing and recommend that an acknowledgement letter be sent. With this filing, Citizens Telecommunications Company of Oregon (Citizens) proposes to grandfather four residential packages. The filing was submitted on May 15, 2019, with a proposed effective date of May 17, 2019.

Applicable Law

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.

On August 17, 2018, with Order No. 18-303 (Docket No. UM 1895), the Commission approved a Price Plan applicable to both Citizens and its affiliate, Frontier Communications Northwest Inc. (Frontier NW), as allowed by ORS 759.255.¹ Section 9.a.ii of Citizens' and Frontier NW's (collectively, Frontier) Price Plan requires price list changes to be filed with the Commission at least one day prior to the effective date of the change.

Pursuant to OAR 860-032-0020(1)(d), "grandfather" means "to discontinue or cease offering a service to new customers and to continue offering the service to existing customers." OAR 860-036-0020(1)(k) defines "sunset date" as "the day a telecommunications provider will abandon a grandfathered service being provided to existing customers."

Pursuant to OAR 860-032-0020(15)(a), grandfathering a service without a sunset date is not considered abandonment of service. OAR 860-032-0020(15)(b) allows a telecommunications utility to grandfather a regulated service without a sunset date by filing a tariff which designates the service as grandfathered. Normal tariff filing and review requirements apply to Staff's consideration of such filings, including review for compliance with any applicable Price Plan.

¹ Order No. 18-303 was amended on February 14, 2019, with Order No. 19-038.

Analysis

The residential packages proposed to be grandfathered with the present filing are discussed below.

Frontier Choices. This package includes either one or two flat rate residential access lines, ten local directory assistance calls, and a selection of calling features. The current monthly rate for the single-line version of this package is \$30.00, and the monthly rate for the two-line version is \$65.00.

Frontier Digital Phone Service. This package includes one basic flat rate residential access line, Custom Calling features, Voice Mail, and unlimited Extended Area Service. The current monthly rate for this package is \$34.99.

Frontier Digital Phone 100. This package includes one flat rate residential access line, Extended Area Service calling, and Speed Call 8 (which was grandfathered previously with Advice No. OR-16-01). The current monthly rate for the basic package with no additional features is \$18.99.

Frontier UnlimitedOR. This package includes one flat rate residential access line, Extended Area Service calling, and Call Waiting/Cancel Call Waiting. The current monthly rate for this package is \$28.99.

The grandfathering of services discussed here is proposed to become effective on May 17, 2019.

Compliance

This filing complies with all applicable laws, rules, and Commission orders. The filing proposes no sunset date for the grandfathered services, and Citizens states that the services will continue to be available to existing subscribers. The filing does not affect the availability or pricing of the individual services included in any package that is being grandfathered.

The filing was submitted at least one day prior to its effective date, and therefore complies with the requirements of ORS 759.175 and Section 9.a.ii of Frontier's Price Plan.

Conclusion

The filing should be allowed to go into effect, and an acknowledgment letter should be sent. No further action is necessary.