

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

DATE: May 15, 2019

TO: File through Bryan Conway  and Bruce Hellebuyck 

FROM: Stephanie Yamada 

SUBJECT: FRONTIER TELECOMMUNICATIONS NORTHWEST INC.:
(Docket No. PL 123/Advice No. 060SPL) Grandfathers certain residential packages and offers.

I have reviewed this filing and recommend that an acknowledgement letter be sent. With this filing, Frontier Telecommunications Northwest Inc. (Frontier NW) proposes to grandfather certain residential packages, feature packages, and competitive response offerings. 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 Frontier NW and its affiliate, Citizens Telecommunications Company of Oregon (Citizens), 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

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

review requirements apply to Staff's consideration of such filings, including review for compliance with any applicable Price Plan.

Analysis

Residential Packages

The names and current monthly rates of the residential packages proposed to be grandfathered with this filing are shown below.

Package Name	Current Monthly Rate
Regional Calling Value or Regional Essentials	\$32.04
Frontier Local Calling Plan	\$29.95
Frontier Local Calling Plan Plus	\$32.95
Frontier Regional Calling Plan	\$44.95
Regional Calling Extra	\$49.95
Frontier Digital Phone Unlimited	\$31.99

These packages all include residential one-party local exchange service as well as Extended Area Service for a flat monthly rate, and some also include additional calling features such as Caller ID, Call Waiting, or other features.

Residential Feature Packages

Frontier NW also proposes to grandfather the following residential feature packages:

- Multi Package Residential Offer – Option A and B
- Two Feature Packages (Residence)
- Three Feature Packages (Residence)

The Multi Package Residential Offer – Option B includes six standard calling features for a monthly rate of \$9.00. Option A includes the same features that are included in Option B plus eight additional features for a monthly rate of \$16.00. The Two Feature Packages provide customers with a set of two standard calling features for a monthly rate of \$3.25. The Three Feature Packages provide customers with a set of three standard calling features for a monthly rate of \$3.50. The Two Feature Packages and Three Feature Packages are currently available to both residential and business customers; with the present filing, Frontier NW proposes to grandfather the residential feature packages only.

Competitive Response Offerings

Frontier NW also proposes to grandfather the following Competitive Response offerings available to residential customers:

- Voice Discount Plan
- Residence \$50 Reconnect Offer
- Digital Phone Value Price Guarantee Offer

The Voice Discount Plan provides discounted offers for Regional Calling Value and Regional Essentials to qualifying residential customers. The Residence \$50 Reconnect Offer provides a one-time incentive of \$50 to residence customers for the purpose of reconnecting their local service with Frontier or changing their local service from another provider to Frontier. The Digital Phone Value Price Guarantee Offer provides a discounted offer for Regional Calling Value to qualifying residential customers.

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 Frontier NW 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.