

**OREGON PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
INTEROFFICE CORRESPONDENCE**

DATE: November 3, 2021

TO: File through John Crider and Bruce Hellebuyck

FROM: Stephanie Yamada

SUBJECT: UNITED TELEPHONE COMPANY OF THE NORTHWEST:
(Docket No. PL 188/Advice No. 21-009)
Grandfathers Selective Call Acceptance and standardizes terminology for
Custom Ring and Priority Call services.

I have reviewed this filing and recommend that an acknowledgement letter be sent. With this filing, United Telephone Company of the Northwest dba CenturyLink (United or Company) standardizes terminology relating to its Custom Ring and Priority Call features and grandfathers Selective Call Acceptance.

Issue

Whether the price list sheets filed by United should be allowed to become effective for service rendered on and after October 22, 2021.

Applicable Rule or Law

Telecommunications utilities are required under ORS 759.175 to submit filings to the Commission whenever they intend to change their rates, terms, or conditions of service.

United is regulated under a Price Plan pursuant to ORS 759.255 and Order No. 18-359 in Docket No. UM 1908. Section 8.a.ii of the Price Plan requires United to file notice of all price list changes 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 860-032-0020(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.

Analysis

The filing was submitted on October 21, 2021, with a proposed effective date of October 22, 2021, in compliance with the filing requirements stated in United's Price Plan.

Selective Call Acceptance is an arrangement that allows a subscriber to selectively accept only calls arriving from a list of up to 12 previously identified directory numbers. Calls from telephone numbers that do not match one of the numbers on the Selective Call Acceptance list are routed to an announcement stating that the called party does not wish to receive the call. With this filing, United proposes to grandfather this service, limiting it to existing service lines in existing customer locations. Customers may not initiate a new subscription to this service beginning October 22, 2021.

This filing also standardizes the name of the Custom Ring service, which was previously shown as "SignalRing" in the Company's Price List. Custom Ring allows a customer to have an additional telephone number assigned to their access line, which rings differently than the primary number. The filing also standardizes the name for the Priority Call service, which was previously shown as "Selective Call Ring" in the Company's Price List. Priority Call allows customers to program a list of numbers from which calls will ring distinctively.

No rate changes are proposed with this filing.

Conclusion

This filing complies with applicable laws and the provisions of United's Price Plan. The filed price list sheets have already gone into effect, and an acknowledgement letter should be sent.