PAM MARSH STATE REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 5 SOUTHERN JACKSON COUNTY



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

December 10, 2021

Oregon Public Utility Commission Administrative Hearing Division PO Box 1088 Salem, OR 97308-1088 puc.publiccomments@puc.oregon.gov

Re: RA1 INVESTIGATION - Provision of Service in Jacksonville and Surrounding Areas

Dear Commissioners,

I am reaching out to submit comment in support of staff's recommendation that the PUC open an investigation into the provision of telephone service in the Jacksonville area.

I regularly hear from constituents in my District who live in rural areas of Ruch and the Applegate Valley (with a Jacksonville address/zip code), and who have struggled with landline service for years, including ongoing and frequent outages, no way for the community to report widespread outrages, slow response times and inconsistent repair services.

Because many residents lack adequate internet connections and cell phone service, landline connections are critical for basic communication and quality of life, and crucial for medical and fire safety and response.

It is my sincere hope that the PUC will conduct a thorough investigation into these issues as a first step towards ensuring these problems are resolved.

Thank you for your consideration. Please do not hesitate to contact me directly with any questions you may have.

Best regards,

Pam Marsh

Pam Marsh Representative House District 05 Southern Jackson County