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ARCHIVES DIVISION  
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**NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING**  
INCLUDING STATEMENT OF NEED & FISCAL IMPACT

CHAPTER 860  
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

**FILED**  
09/30/2020 11:05 AM  
ARCHIVES DIVISION  
SECRETARY OF STATE

FILING CAPTION: Rulemaking to Implement 2020 Senate Bill 1603

LAST DAY AND TIME TO OFFER COMMENT TO AGENCY: 10/29/2020 4:00 PM

*The Agency requests public comment on whether other options should be considered for achieving the rule's substantive goals while reducing negative economic impact of the rule on business.*

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Salem, OR 97308

Filed By:  
Diane Davis  
Rules Coordinator

HEARING(S)

*Auxiliary aids for persons with disabilities are available upon advance request. Notify the contact listed above.*

DATE: 10/22/2020

TIME: 1:30 PM

OFFICER: ALJ Christopher Allwein

ADDRESS: By telephone only

1-866-434-5269

Access Code 8641605#

Salem, OR 97301

NEED FOR THE RULE(S):

Senate Bill 1603 passed in the 2020 First Special Session of the Oregon Legislature. Changes to the Oregon Universal Service Fund administrative rules division 860-0100 are required in order to conform to and implement the new law, relevant provisions of which become operative on January 2, 2021.

The Commission encourages participants to file written comments as early as practicable in the proceedings so that other participants have the opportunity to consider and respond to the comments before the deadline. Please reference Docket No. AR 640 on comments and attach them to an e-mail to the Commission's Filing Center at [PUC.FilingCenter@state.or.us](mailto:PUC.FilingCenter@state.or.us).

Interested persons may review all filings online at

<https://apps.puc.state.or.us/edockets/DocketNoLayout.asp?DocketID=22502>. For guidelines on filing and participation, please see OAR 860-001-0140 through 860-001-0160 and 860-001-0200 through 860-001-0250 found online at <https://secure.sos.state.or.us/oard/displayDivisionRules.action?selectedDivision=4027>.

Participants wishing to make comment at the rulemaking hearing are strongly encouraged to contact Diane Davis at [diane.davis@state.or.us](mailto:diane.davis@state.or.us) or (971) 375-5082 before 10:00 a.m. on October 22, 2020. Participants who present oral comment at the hearing will be asked to also submit their comments in writing before the comment period closes at 4:00 p.m. on October 29, 2020.

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#### DOCUMENTS RELIED UPON, AND WHERE THEY ARE AVAILABLE:

2020 Senate Bill 1603 found online at

<https://olis.oregonlegislature.gov/liz/2020S1/Downloads/MeasureDocument/SB1603/Enrolled>

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#### FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT:

SB 1603 subjects the sale of retail commercial mobile radio services and retail interconnected voice over internet protocol services to the universal service charge and reduces the surcharge rate cap from 8.5% to 6% of the sale of subject services. Under the proposed rules, consistent with the legislative changes, providers of these services must remit the service charge established by the Commission, not to exceed 6.0 percent of gross revenue, on a quarterly basis and comply with the administrative and reporting requirements of the proposed rules. Providers may recover the Oregon universal service charge from their customers. Therefore, providers now subject to the service charge will incur administrative, labor and reporting costs to collect and remit the service charge, and will need to pay the service charge if they do not recover it from customers. Administrative and reporting costs are expected to be minimal as providers currently provide similar reporting to the Federal Communications Commission. Oregon customers of these providers who recover the service charge from their customers will now be required to pay the service charge, which will slightly increase the customer's voice-related charges. Customers currently paying the service charge will pay a slightly reduced service charge, as a result of the reduction in the rate cap.

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#### COST OF COMPLIANCE:

*(1) Identify any state agencies, units of local government, and members of the public likely to be economically affected by the rule(s). (2) Effect on Small Businesses: (a) Estimate the number and type of small businesses subject to the rule(s); (b) Describe the expected reporting, recordkeeping and administrative activities and cost required to comply with the rule(s); (c) Estimate the cost of professional services, equipment supplies, labor and increased administration required to comply with the rule(s).*

(1) There will be no additional administrative costs to the PUC as a result of the proposed rules. Members of the public, state agencies, and local governments who currently pay the service charge on voice services will see their telephone charges reduced slightly. Members of the public, state agencies, and local governments who become subject to the service charges on voice services will see their voice related charges increase slightly.

(2) (a) The compliance impact of the proposed rules is solely on the telecommunications industry in Oregon, in particular 11 small telecommunications cooperatives, 15 small telecommunication utilities, and approximately 400 competitive local exchange carriers, wireless and VoIP providers, some of which are small businesses.

(b) Service providers subject to the proposed rules will be subject to administrative and reporting costs. As affected service providers are providing similar information for Federal Universal Service purposes, the cost of additional reporting, recordkeeping, and/or administrative activities under the proposed rules is expected to be minimal.

(c) PUC Staff expects that affected small telecommunications providers will not require a significant amount of additional equipment, supplies, labor, professional services or significantly increased administration in order to comply with the proposed rules.

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#### DESCRIBE HOW SMALL BUSINESSES WERE INVOLVED IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THESE RULE(S):

Staff invited all interested parties to attend a workshop to discuss the proposed rules. Inputs from the workshop were incorporated into the rules which were again disseminated to stakeholders for further comment.

WAS AN ADMINISTRATIVE RULE ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSULTED? NO IF NOT, WHY NOT?

The workshops held by PUC Staff created a collaborative environment to solicit feedback from interested parties.

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RULES PROPOSED:

860-100-0001, 860-100-0005, 860-100-0100, 860-100-0105, 860-100-0110, 860-100-0120, 860-100-0125, 860-100-0130, 860-100-0140, 860-100-0150, 860-100-0160, 860-100-0200

AMEND: 860-100-0001

RULE SUMMARY: The purpose of this rule change is to correct a rule reference.

CHANGES TO RULE:

860-100-0001

Scope and Applicability ¶

(1) The rules in this Division apply to all telecommunications providers as defined in 860-100-0005 ~~(11)~~. ¶

(2) Upon request or its own motion, the Commission may waive any of the ~~d~~Division 100 rules for good cause shown. A request for waiver must be made in writing, unless otherwise allowed by the Commission.

Statutory/Other Authority: ORS Ch. 183, 192, 756, 759

Statutes/Other Implemented: ORS 756.040, 759.005, 759.020

AMEND: 860-100-0005

RULE SUMMARY: The proposed rule changes add definitions of Commercial mobile radio service provider, Commercial mobile radio service, Interconnected voice over internet protocol service provider, Interconnected voice over internet protocol service, OUS retail telecommunications service to include Commercial mobile radio service and interconnected VoIP service; and amends definitions of Telecommunications provider and Telecommunications service to include both Commercial mobile radio and Interconnected VoIP.

CHANGES TO RULE:

860-100-0005

Definitions for the Oregon Universal Service Fund ¶¶

For the purpose of this Division:¶¶

- (1) "Basic telephone service" has the same meaning as provided in OAR 860-032-0190.¶¶
- (2) "Certificate of Authority" means a certificate of authority to provide intrastate telecommunications service on a for-hire basis that may be issued by the Commission under ORS 759.020.¶¶
- (3) "Commercial mobile radio service provider" means a person that provides commercial mobile radio service.¶¶
- (4) "Commercial mobile radio service" has the meaning given that term in ORS 759.400. ¶¶
- (5) "Competitive provider" means a competitive telecommunications provider as defined in ORS 759.005(1), who provides services authorized pursuant to ORS 759.020.¶¶
- (46) "Cooperative" means a cooperative corporation or association, which provides local exchange telecommunications service within its own exchanges, which is organized under ORS Chapter 62, and which is certified under ORS 759.025(2).¶¶
- (57) "Exchange" has the same meaning as provided in OAR 860-032-0012.¶¶
- (68) "Interconnected voice over internet protocol service provider" or "interconnected VoIP service provider" means a person that provides interconnected voice over internet protocol services.¶¶
- (9) "Interconnected voice over internet protocol service" or "interconnected VoIP service" has the meaning given the term "interconnected voice over internet protocol service" in ORS 759.400. ¶¶
- (10) "Local exchange service" means local exchange telecommunications service as defined in ORS 759.005(3). Local exchange service includes "shared service."¶¶
- (711) "Loop facilities" consists of the cables, poles, conduit, microwave, or carrier equipment used by a telecommunication service provider to connect a customer's premise to a central office.¶¶
- (812) "OUSF Board" means the advisory board selected by the Commission to provide advice on the administration of the OUS Fund.¶¶
- (913) "OUS Administrator" means the person selected by the Commission to administer the OUS Fund.¶¶
- (104) "OUS Fund" means the Oregon Universal Service Fund.¶¶
- (145) "OUS retail telecommunications service" includes retail telecommunications service, retail commercial mobile radio service and retail interconnected VoIP service.¶¶
- (16) "Pay telephone" means a telephone instrument, generally placed in public areas, for transient use on a pay-per-call basis. "Pay telephone" instruments may be coin operated, noncoin operated, prepay, postpay, central office controlled, instrument controlled, provided by local exchange carriers, or provided by other persons or entities.¶¶
- (127) "Private telecommunications network" means a system, including the construction, maintenance, or operation of the system, for the provision of a service or any portion of a service, by a person for the exclusive use of that person and not for resale, directly or indirectly. "Private telecommunications network" includes services provided by the State of Oregon pursuant to ORS 190.240 and 283.140.¶¶
- (138) "Retail telecommunications service" has the same meaning as provided in ORS 759.400.¶¶
- (149) "Retail telecommunications service gross revenue" means the total amount of sales of OUS intrastate retail telecommunications services sold in Oregon before any deduction or adjustment for uncollectible amounts or a provider's expenses.¶¶

~~(1520)~~ "Shared service" means shared telecommunications service as defined in ORS 759.005(6) and:

(a) The provision of telecommunications and information management services and equipment;

(A) To a user group comprised of one person or association served by a single telecommunications system;

(B) Located in a single building or in several buildings on contiguous property;

(C) By a commercial shared service provider or by a users' association;

(D) Through privately owned customer premises equipment and associated data processing and information management services; and

(b) Includes connection to local exchange service.

~~(216)~~ "Telecommunications provider" or "provider" includes competitive providers, cooperatives, and telecommunications utilities and includes, for the purpose of this Division, commercial mobile radio service providers and interconnected VoIP service providers.

~~(1722)~~ "Telecommunications service" or "service" means two-way switched access and transport of voice communications, and all services provided in connection with such services, ~~but excludes:~~

~~(a) Services provided by radio common carrier;~~ For the purpose of this Division "telecommunication service" or "service" includes commercial mobile radio service and interconnected VoIP service. and does not include:

~~(b)~~ One-way transmission of television signals;

~~(b)~~ Surveying;

~~(c)~~ Private telecommunications networks; and

~~(d)~~ Customer communications that take place on the customer's side of the network interface.

~~(1823)~~ "Telecommunications utility" means a person who is not a competitive provider and is designated as a telecommunications utility under OAR 860-032-0010.

~~(1924)~~ "UNE loop" means an unbundled network element loop.

(205) "Wire center" has the same meaning as provided in OAR 860-032-0012.

Statutory/Other Authority: ~~ORS Ch. 183, 192, 756, 759,~~ ORS Ch. 183

Statutes/Other Implemented: ORS 756.040, 759.005, 759.020

AMEND: 860-100-0100

RULE SUMMARY: The proposed rule revisions remove reference to ORS 759.425(7) as it no longer exists and to Commission Order No. 16-093 as it is no longer relevant. The proposed rule revisions also amend rule to reflect new surcharge cap of 6% as per SB 1603 and to state the surcharge used when passed on to customers shall not exceed that percentage prescribed by the commission (previously the rule stated the percentage had to be the exact percentage). This gives flexibility to providers in passing on the surcharge to their customers.

CHANGES TO RULE:

860-100-0100

General Provisions ¶¶

(1) For the purpose of this Division, each calendar year has four quarters as follows: January 1 through March 31; April 1 through June 30; July 1 through September 30; and October 1 through December 31.¶¶

(2) ~~Except as provided in ORS 759.425(7),~~ each telecommunications provider must pay into the OUS Fund, on a quarterly basis, an amount of the provider's retail telecommunications service gross revenue, as may be established by the Commission. This amount shall not exceed ~~8.56.0~~ 6 percent of the provider's retail telecommunications service gross revenue and shall be otherwise consistent with the amounts established in the Commission's Order No. 16-093, available at: <http://apps.puc.state.or.us/edockets/docket.asp?DocketID=16169>.¶¶

(3) A contributor to the OUSF may recover the Oregon universal service charge from its customers subject to all other applicable statutes and rules of the Commission for setting a surcharge. A contributor to the OUSF who imposes such a surcharge on customers ~~must do so using~~ not exceed the same percentage as require established under section (2) of this rule.¶¶

(4) For the purpose of this Division, there are three worksheet forms that a telecommunications provider must complete and file when required to do so under these rules. The forms are available at: <http://www.puc.state.or.us/ousf/Pages/index.aspx>. Form OPUC OUS 1 is titled "Oregon Universal Service Identification Worksheet" and is referenced in these rules as the "identification worksheet." "Form OPUC OUS 2" is titled "Oregon Universal Service Contribution Worksheet" and is referenced in these rules as the "contribution report." Form OPUC OUS 3 is titled "Oregon Universal Service Support Distribution Worksheet" and is referenced in these rules as the "distribution worksheet."¶¶

(5) Each report and worksheet that a telecommunications provider is required to file with the OUS Administrator under this Division is considered filed when received by the OUS Administrator.¶¶

(6) A telecommunications provider may pay any amounts due to the Public Utility Commission (Commission) by electronic transfer.¶¶

(7) The Commission may add all costs incurred in collecting a past-due "~~Oregon universal service~~" (OUS) OUS Fund contribution amount. In the event the Commission refers the debt to the Department of Revenue or to a collection agency, the Commission may add to the debt the anticipated amount necessary to generate a net return to the Commission of the amount of the debt.¶¶

(8) A telecommunications provider must pay a service fee in accordance with OAR 860-001-0050 for each payment returned for non-sufficient funds.¶¶

(9) In addition to any other penalty, obligation or remedy provided by law, the Commission may suspend or cancel the telecommunications provider's certificate of authority to provide telecommunications service in Oregon for its hat telecommunications provider's failure to file any report or worksheet required under these rules or for its failure to pay its contribution amount in full.¶¶

(10) Except as otherwise provided by law, if after an audit or review the Commission determines that the telecommunications provider has overpaid its OUS Fund contribution amount, the Commission will provide the telecommunications provider a credit in that amount against sums subsequently due from the telecommunications provider.¶¶

(11) In computing any time prescribed or allowed by these rules, the day of the act or event from which the

designated time begins to run may not be included. The last day of the time period must be included, unless it is a Saturday or legal holiday, including Sunday, in which event the period runs until the end of the next day that is not a Saturday or a legal holiday. Legal holidays are those identified in ORS 187.010 and 187.020.

Statutory/Other Authority: ORS 183, 192, 756, 759

Statutes/Other Implemented: ORS 756.040, 759.015, 759.425, OR Laws 2017, ch. 32

AMEND: 860-100-0105

RULE SUMMARY: The proposed rule adds a section asking Telecommunication providers to identify the method they use to determine the jurisdictional split of revenues.

CHANGES TO RULE:

860-100-0105

#### Identification Worksheet

(1) A telecommunications provider must complete and file an initial identification worksheet with the OUS Administrator within 30 calendar days of notification by the OUS Administrator that the identification worksheet is due.¶

(2) A telecommunications provider must complete and file a corrected identification worksheet with the OUS Administrator within 30 calendar days of any change to its business name, organization structure, mailing address, contact person or certifying officer.¶

(3) A telecommunications provider must complete and file an identification worksheet on an annual basis with the OUS Administrator. A provider must file its annual identification worksheet by February 10th each calendar year.

¶

(4) A telecommunications provider must identify the method it uses to determine the jurisdictional split of revenues attributable to the OUS Fund in each identification worksheet.

Statutory/Other Authority: ORS 183, 192, 756, 759

Statutes/Other Implemented: ORS 756.040, 759.015, 759.425



AMEND: 860-100-0110

RULE SUMMARY: The proposed rule adds sections identifying the methods Commercial mobile radio providers and interconnected VoIP providers may use to allocate their revenues between the interstate and intrastate, as per SB1603.

CHANGES TO RULE:

860-100-0110

Quarterly OUS Fund Reporting: Filing and Payment ¶

(1) For the purpose of the OUS fund, a telecommunications provider must file its contribution report with the OUS Administrator. For the first quarter (January through March) the contribution report is due on or before May 28, for the second quarter (April through June) it is due on or before August 28, for the third quarter (July through September) it is due on or before November 28, and for the fourth quarter (October through December) it is due on or before February 28 of the following year. The contribution report must include the signature of an officer of the telecommunications provider, or an officer's designee, verifying the accuracy of the information in the contribution report. In the case of the electronic filing, the required signature is an electronic signature. A telecommunications provider must send or transmit its contribution report so that it is received in the OUS Administrator's offices no later than 5 p.m. on the date it is due.¶

(2) A telecommunications provider must file the contribution report for each quarter with no exceptions, including when the contribution amount shown on the report is \$0.00.¶

(3) The amount shown on the contribution report referenced in section (1) of this rule is due and payable by the telecommunications provider on or before the following days: February 28, May 28, August 28, and November 28. A telecommunications provider must send payment (electronically or by mail) so that it is received in the Commission's offices by no later than 5 p.m. on the date it is due.¶

(4) If the telecommunications provider's contribution amount for a quarter is less than a minimum of \$10 (i.e., \$9.99 or less), the telecommunications provider is not required to pay the contribution amount for that quarter but it must still file its contribution report. If the telecommunications provider has outstanding amounts owing for contributions, late statement fees, late payment penalties, and interest totaling more than the \$10 minimum amount, this section does not apply and the total amount is due and payable.¶

(5) If a telecommunications provider fails to file a contribution report as required by these rules, the Commission ~~sh~~will impose a late report fee of \$100.¶

(6) If a telecommunications provider files a contribution report but fails to pay the contribution amount in full on or before the day it is due, the Commission ~~sh~~will add a late payment fee equal to nine percent (9%) of the unpaid amount of the contribution, up to a maximum of \$500.¶

(7) If a telecommunications provider fails to pay the contribution amount in full on or before the day it is due, the Commission ~~sh~~will add interest on the unpaid contribution amount at the rate of nine percent per annum from the day payment was due until paid.¶

(8) If the amount shown due on a contribution report is not paid on the due date, the Commission may issue a written notice of proposed assessment or proposed order to set the sum due. The Commission may waive the late report fee, the late payment fee, the interest on the unpaid contribution amount, or any combination thereof, if the provider requests the waiver and provides evidence showing that the provider paid its contribution amount late due to circumstances beyond its control.¶

(9) A telecommunications provider must submit revisions to a previously-filed contribution report no later than three years from its due date. If making the refunds arising from one or more Commission-verified revised contribution reports received from the telecommunications provider would have a material financial impact on the OUS fund, the OUSF Board may enter into an agreement with the telecommunications provider to spread payment of the refunds over a time period not to exceed three years.¶

(10) For the purpose of its contribution reports to the OUS Fund, a commercial mobile radio service provider and an interconnected VoIP service provider may use one of the following methods to allocate its revenue from commercial mobile radio service and interconnected VoIP service, but must use the same method for the OUS

Fund that it uses for the federal universal service fund assessment for the corresponding time period: ¶

(a) The FCC safe harbor allocation specified in the Instructions to the Telecommunications Reporting Worksheet, FCC Form 499-A; or ¶

(b) A traffic study if that traffic study meets the requirements described in the Instructions to the Telecommunications Reporting Worksheet, FCC Form 499-A, and was filed with the Universal Service Administration Company (USAC) for the corresponding time period; or ¶

(c) Another means of accurately classifying revenues from commercial mobile radio service and interconnected VoIP service between federal and state jurisdictions. ¶

(11) A provider that provides, to multiple locations, shared simultaneous voice channel capacity configured to provide local dial in different states, the revenue subject to the surcharge shall be only the portion of the shared capacity in this state as identified: ¶

(a) By information itemizing, on the billing statements provided to customers, the charges subject to the surcharge, as may be identified by individual end-user location, the total number of end users and the number of end users at each end-user location; or ¶

(b) If information described in (a) of this rule does not exist, by the provider's billing system books and records.

Statutory/Other Authority: ORS 183, 192, 756, 759

Statutes/Other Implemented: ORS 756.040, 759.015, 759.425

AMEND: 860-100-0120

RULE SUMMARY: This proposed rule amends rule to take into account that Commercial mobile radio providers and Interconnected VoIP providers are not required to hold a certificate of authority.

CHANGES TO RULE:

860-100-0120

Estimated Report ¶

(1) For any quarter for which a telecommunications provider fails to file a contribution report as required by these rules, the Commission may make a proposed contribution assessment based upon any information available to the Commission.¶

(2) The proposed assessment ~~sh~~will include a late payment fee equal to 9 percent of the proposed assessment amount, up to a maximum of \$500 for that quarter.¶

(3) Each proposed assessment ~~sh~~will bear interest on the amount proposed at the rate of 9 percent per annum from the day the contribution amount was originally due.¶

(4) The Commission's proposed assessment for a non-filed contribution report must be made no later than three years after the contribution report's due date.¶

(5) Notwithstanding section (4) of this rule, if the telecommunications provider did not hold a certificate of authority and was required to do so in order to provide service, the Commission ~~sh~~will ~~have~~ an unlimited time to propose an assessment for the time period represented by the non-filed contribution report. The proposed assessment ~~sh~~will include all late payment fees and interest as specified in this rule.¶

(6) Prior to the expiration of the period allowed for filing a petition for a hearing, the telecommunications provider may file its contribution report. The Commission ~~sh~~will accept the report and calculate late report fees, late payment fees, and interest in accordance with the original due date for that quarter's contribution report and payment, if any, accompanying the report.

Statutory/Other Authority: ORS 183, 192, 756, 759

Statutes/Other Implemented: ORS 756.040, 759.015, 759.425

AMEND: 860-100-0125

RULE SUMMARY: This proposed rule corrects a previous scrivener's error in the rule.

CHANGES TO RULE:

860-100-0125

OUS Fund Support Portability

(1) OUS Fund support is portable, on a per line basis for basic telephone service, from a telecommunications utility to a competitive provider that has been designated by the Commission as eligible for support in the same geographic area. ¶

(2) In support areas that are served by both a telecommunications utility and a competitive provider, distributions from the OUS Fund will be shared in the following manner:¶

(a) For customer lines served by a competitive provider's own loop facilities, the competitive provider may receive the full OUS Fund support amount per line. The support amount per line is available in a document titled "OUS Support Per ILEC Wire Center" on the Commission's website, available at:

<http://www.puc.state.or.us/ousf/Pages/index.aspx>, unless modified by a Commission order posted on the same webpage.¶

(b) For customer lines served by a competitive provider that resells a telecommunication utility's supported retail service and does not provide service with its own loop facilities, the competitive provider may not receive OUS Fund support.¶

(c) For customer lines served by UNE loops leased from a telecommunications utility by a competitive provider, the utility and the competitive provider may share the OUS Fund support amount per line. The shared support amount per line with amounts allocated to the telecommunications utility and to the competitive provider is available in a document titled "OUS Support Per ILEC Wire Center" on the Commission's website, available at: <http://www.puc.state.or.us/ousf/Pages/index.aspx>, unless modified by a Commission order posted on the same website.

Statutory/Other Authority: ORS 183, 192, 756, 759

Statutes/Other Implemented: ORS 756.040, 759.015, 759.425

AMEND: 860-100-0130

RULE SUMMARY: The proposed rule amends language to take into account that Commercial mobile radio providers and Interconnected VoIP providers are not required to hold a certificate of authority.

CHANGES TO RULE:

860-100-0130

Commission Audit and Proposed Assessment ¶¶

- (1) For any quarter for which a telecommunications provider's contribution report was due, the Commission may audit the telecommunications provider as the Commission deems necessary and practicable.¶¶
- (2) The Commission's audit must be commenced no later than three years after the quarter's contribution report's due date. After completion of its audit, the Commission may propose to assess an additional contribution amount due from the telecommunications provider.¶¶
- (3) In the event the telecommunications provider failed to file a contribution report for the quarter, the Commission ~~shall~~ will add to the proposed assessment a late payment fee equal to 9 percent of the amount of the proposed assessment, up to a maximum amount of \$500.¶¶
- (4) Each proposed assessment ~~shall~~ will bear interest on the additional amount proposed at the rate of 9 percent per annum from the day the original contribution amount was due.¶¶
- (5) Notwithstanding section (2) of this rule, if the telecommunications provider did not hold a certificate of authority and was required to do so in order to provide service, the Commission ~~shall~~ has an unlimited time to audit the telecommunications provider for universal service charges.

Statutory/Other Authority: ORS 183, 192, 756, 759

Statutes/Other Implemented: ORS 756.040, 759.015, 759.425

AMEND: 860-100-0140

RULE SUMMARY: This proposed rule amendment modernizes the language in the rule.

CHANGES TO RULE:

860-100-0140

Notice and Hearing on Proposed Orders and Assessments ¶¶

(1) The Commission ~~shall~~ will provide written notice of the proposed order or proposed assessment to the telecommunications provider and allow the telecommunications provider an opportunity to request a hearing before the Commission. ¶

(2) Within 30 days after service of the notice of proposed order or proposed assessment, a telecommunications provider may petition the Commission in writing for a hearing. If a petition is not filed within the 30-day period, the Commission ~~shall~~ will enter a final order or assessment based upon information in the Commission's files. If a petition is filed within the 30-day period, the Commission ~~shall~~ will grant the telecommunications provider a hearing and give the telecommunications provider at least 10 days' notice of the time and place of the hearing. ¶

(3) The telecommunications provider must specify in its petition all reasons it disputes the proposed order or the proposed assessment. The Commission shall conduct a hearing on the telecommunications provider's petition under its rules governing hearings and proceedings. Unless the telecommunications provider has filed an amended contribution report, the amount shown on the contribution report ~~shall not be~~ is subject to challenge by the telecommunications provider. ¶

(4) A Commission order deciding the petition ~~shall~~ will become final after service of the Commission's order upon the petitioning telecommunications provider. ¶

(5) A proposed assessment made by the Commission under these rules is due and payable on the 10th day after the Commission's order becomes final.

Statutory/Other Authority: ORS 183, 192, 756, 759

Statutes/Other Implemented: ORS 756.040, 759.015, 759.425

AMEND: 860-100-0150

RULE SUMMARY: The proposed rule amendment modernizes language.

CHANGES TO RULE:

860-100-0150

OUS Record-keeping Requirements ¶

(1) A telecommunications provider ~~shall~~must produce for inspection or audit upon request of the Commission or its authorized representative all records supporting its reports and worksheets required to be filed with the OUS Administrator. The Commission, or its representative, ~~shall~~will allow the telecommunications provider a reasonable time to produce the records for inspection or audit.¶

(2) A telecommunications provider must keep all records supporting each report and worksheet required to be filed with the OUS Administrator for three years, or until a Commission review or audit is complete, whichever is later.¶

(3) In addition to any other penalty allowed by law, the Commission may suspend or cancel a telecommunications provider's certificate of authority to provide telecommunications service for its failure to produce for inspection or audit the records required by this rule.

Statutory/Other Authority: ORS 183, 192, 756, 759

Statutes/Other Implemented: ORS 756.040, 759.015, 759.425

AMEND: 860-100-0160

RULE SUMMARY: The proposed rule amendments modernize language and clarify requirements.

CHANGES TO RULE:

860-100-0160

Refund of Oregon Universal Service Surcharge ¶¶

(1) A Pay Telephone provider may apply for a refund of the Oregon Universal Service (OUS) surcharge imposed on, and paid by, the provider under ORS 759.425(4) for the provision of Pay Telephone service.¶¶

(2) An application for a refund of the OUS surcharge under this rule ~~shall~~will be on forms prescribed by the Public Utility Commission.¶¶

(a) An application ~~shall~~must contain the applicant's:¶¶

(A) Name;¶¶

(B) Address;¶¶

(C) Telephone number;¶¶

(D) Time period for which the application is made;¶¶

(E) Name of Pay Telephone provider;¶¶

(F) Contact person;¶¶

(G) Requested refund;¶¶

(H) Number of Pay Telephones located in Oregon;¶¶

(I) Signature of responsible party;¶¶

(J) Affidavit of charges and payment; and¶¶

(K) Mailing address for refund.¶¶

(b) The Pay Telephone provider ~~is~~shall be responsible for contacting the Commission to obtain an application form. Forms are available on the Commission's website or by contacting the Commission by telephone.¶¶

(3) Applications ~~shall~~for refund under this rule must be made on a quarterly basis. Applications must be received by the Commission no later than 180 days after the end of each time period for which a refund is claimed. The quarterly time periods are July 1 through September 30, October 1 through December 31, January 1 through March 31, and April 1 through June 30. ~~The initial period begins July 1, 2003, and ends September 30, 2003.~~¶¶

(a) For good cause shown, the Commission may allow a pay telephone provider to submit its application for refund beyond the 180-day deadline.¶¶

(b) Applications for service rendered and payments made prior to July 1, 2003, will not be considered.¶¶

(4) A Pay Telephone provider ~~shall~~must produce for inspection or audit upon request of the Commission, or its authorized representative, all records supporting its application for refund. The Commission, or its authorized representative, ~~shall~~will allow the Pay Telephone provider a reasonable time to produce the records for inspection or audit. A Pay Telephone provider must keep all records supporting each refund application for three years, or until a Commission review or audit is complete, whichever is later.

Statutory/Other Authority: ORS 183, 192, 756, 759

Statutes/Other Implemented: ORS 759.425(8)



AMEND: 860-100-0200

RULE SUMMARY: The proposed rule amendments modernize language.

CHANGES TO RULE:

860-100-0200

#### OUS Fund Support Eligibility

- (1) A provider that has been designated by the Commission as eligible to receive support from the OUS Fund in a specific geographic area, may receive a distribution from the OUS Fund, provided that it:¶¶
- (a) Holds a certificate of authority issued under ORS 759.020;¶¶
  - (b) Offers all supported services included in basic telephone service;¶¶
  - (c) Offers, throughout the provider's designated service area, all supported services included in basic telephone service;¶¶
  - (d) Uses the provider's own facilities, leased UNE facilities, or a combination of its own or leased facilities and resale of another provider's retail services to provide the supported services;¶¶
  - (e) Will use funds distributed from the OUS Fund for investment, construction, operation, maintenance, and repair to ensure that basic telephone service is available at reasonable and affordable rates in areas designated by the Commission for support;¶¶
  - (f) Advertises the supported services included in basic telephone service;¶¶
  - (g) Is certified by the Commission to offer and advertise Oregon Telephone Assistance Program supported services or a Commission-approved alternative plan, along with Tribal Lifeline and Tribal Link Up benefits, in compliance with Oregon Administrative Rules Chapter 860, Division 33;¶¶
  - (h) Has the ability to remain functional during emergencies;¶¶
  - (i) Is committed to and maintains service quality and consumer protection standards as required under OAR 860-023-0055 and OAR 860-034-0390;¶¶
  - (j) Demonstrates that the provision of support is in the public interest; and¶¶
  - (k) Meets all Commission reporting requirements related to OUS Fund contributions and distributions.¶¶
- (2) To be designated by the Commission as eligible to receive support from the OUS Fund, a competitive provider must petition the Commission for such designation in a specific geographic area and must demonstrate through its petition that the provider can meet the criteria listed in Section 1(a)-(k) of this rule.¶¶
- (3) A telecommunications provider ~~is~~ shall not be eligible to receive an OUS Fund distribution following the Commission's issuance of an order with an outstanding fee assessment for failing to comply with the conditions of its Certificate of Authority, until the terms of the order are satisfied. ¶¶
- (4) A telecommunications provider ~~is~~ shall not be eligible to receive an OUS Fund distribution in any month in which its Certificate of Authority has been cancelled by the Commission.

Statutory/Other Authority: ORS 183, 192, 756, 759

Statutes/Other Implemented: ORS 756.040, 759.015, 759.425