OREGON PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION INTEROFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

DATE:

July 29, 2019

TO:

File through Bryan Conway and Bruce Hellebuyck

FROM:

Scott Shearer

SUBJECT:

FRONTIER COMMUNICATIONS NORTHWEST INC: (Docket No. PL 131/Advice No. 062SPL) Increases rates for the Customized Multi-line

Telephone and Versaline Station Line services.

I have reviewed this filing and recommend that an acknowledgement letter be sent. With this filing, Frontier Communications Northwest Inc. (Frontier) proposes to increase the rates for Customized Multi-line Telephone Service and for Versaline Station Line Service. The filing was submitted on June 13, 2019, and went into effect on June 16, 2019.

Applicable Rule or 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. Frontier is also regulated under a Price Plan pursuant to ORS 759.255 and Order No. 18-303, issued August 17, 2018.

Section 4(k) of Frontier's Price Plan states that monthly rates for Other Services may be increased by up to 25 percent or \$0.50 annually, whichever is greater. Section 9(a)(ii) of Frontier's Price Plan requires Frontier to submit price list changes at least one day prior to their effective dates. Section 9(b)(i) Frontier's Price Plan requires Frontier to provide advance notice to customers at least 30 days ahead of price increases for services they are purchasing.

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Analysis

Frontier has implemented the following rate increases:

	Original Price in Effect at the Beginning 0f 2019		New Price		Dollar Increase		Percentage Increase
CUSTOMIZED MULTI-LINE TELEPHONE SERVICE LINE							
Month-to-Month Term - 2 – 25 lines, per line	\$	14.00	\$	17.75	\$	3.75	21%
Month-to-Month Term - 26 – 50 lines, per line	\$	13.50	\$	17.50	\$	4.00	23%
12 Month Term - 101+ lines, per line	\$	12.75	\$.	16.50	\$	3.75	23%
VERSALINE CENTREX SERVICE							
Versaline Station Line Service - Month to Month	\$	37.42	\$	48.75	\$	11.33	23%
Versaline Station Line Service - 36 Month Contract	\$	42.00	\$	43.75	\$	1.75	4%

Pricing flexibility for the services shown above is dictated by Sections 2 and 4 of Frontier's Price Plan. While Frontier previously raised rates specifically for the Customized Multi-Line Telephone Service in January 2019, the price increases shown above do not exceed 25 percent annually for any services, and therefore comply with Frontier's Price Plan.

Frontier states that customers were provided notice of the rate increases 30 days before the effective date of the increase and the filing was submitted more than one day prior to its effective date.

Conclusion

This filing complies with all applicable laws, Commission orders, and Frontier's Price Plan. The filing has already gone into effect, and an acknowledgement letter should be sent. No further action is necessary.

Frontier. 062 SPL. Rate Increase. Customized. Multi-line. Telephone. Service. and. Versaline. Station. Line. Service. And the station of th