



May 18, 2016

Oregon Public Utility Commission
Attention: Joan Grindeland, Tariff Coordinator
201 High St. SE
Salem, OR 97301-3612

RE: Advice No. OR16-02A for United Telephone Company of the Northwest

Dear Members of the Commission:

Pursuant to United Telephone's Price Plan under ORS 759.255, United Telephone Company of the Northwest d/b/a CenturyLink is filing notice of revisions to the pages listed on Attachment A.

As described in the attached narrative ("Description of Methodology"), this filing is the fifth step in implementing the "Transitional Intrastate Access Service" reductions mandated by the Federal Communications Commission's November 18, 2011 Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in WC Docket Nos. 10-90, etc. (FCC 11-161). Also enclosed is CenturyLink's certification that the company is not seeking duplicative recovery in the state jurisdiction for any Eligible Recovery subject to the recovery mechanism established by the Transformation Order.

As part of this filing CenturyLink is also updating obsolete billing language.

The proposed effective date is July 1, 2016.

Paper copies of the current Access Service Tariff sheets will be provided with the confirmation email and the filing. The calculations supporting this rate change are being filed as confidential and are being sent in a separate letter marked confidential.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mark Brinton".

Mark Brinton
Manager Regulatory Operations
Office: (303) 992-5832
e-mail: Mark.Brinton@CenturyLink.com

Enclosures

ACCESS SERVICE TARIFF
P.U.C. OR No. 6

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6	252	Seventh
8	392	Second
8	394	Second
8	396	Second
8	398	Second
8	460	First
8	461	First
13	513	Third
13	514	Fifth
15	545	Second

(N)

ACCESS SERVICE

5. Ordering Options for Switched and Special Access Service (Cont'd)

5.2 Access Order (Cont'd)

5.2.2. Access Order Charge (Cont'd)

		<u>Charge</u>		
		<u>Switched</u>	<u>Special</u>	
		<u>Access[1]</u>	<u>Access</u>	
Access Order Charge		\$10.00(I)	\$0.00	(C)
- per order	(Entrance Facility) (Direct-Trunked) (Tandem-Switched)			(T)

5.2.3 Access Order Modifications

The customer may request a modification of its Access Order at any time prior to notification by the Telephone Company that service is available for the customer's use. The Telephone Company will make every effort to accommodate a requested modification when it is able to do so with the normal work force assigned to complete such an order within normal business hours. If the modification cannot be made with the normal work force during normal business hours, the Telephone Company will notify the customer. If the customer still desires the Access Order modification, the Telephone Company will schedule a new service date. All charges for Access Order modifications will apply on a per occurrence basis.

When Telephone Company personnel are dispatched to install a customer's service on the requested service date, and the customer advises the Telephone Company personnel that service cannot be accepted at that time, the customer shall be responsible for payment of additional labor charges for the time incurred by Telephone Company personnel. The additional labor charges will be applied on per half hour, per technician basis as set forth in 13.2 following.

Any increase in the number of Special Access Service channels or Switched Access Service lines, trunks, CCS/SS7 port terminations on LIDB originating point codes (OPCs) will be treated as a new Access Order (for the increased amount only).

If order modifications are necessary to satisfy the transmission performance for a Special Access Service ordered by a customer, these changes will be made without order modification charges being incurred by the customer.

[1] This flat rated charge was calculated based upon a 50/50 split between originating and terminating. The FCC in their FCC 11-161 ICC Transformation order in section 51.907(d)(1) allowed Price Cap Carriers to use an equal split to divide the charge between originating and terminating elements. When the terminating portion of the rate is reduced and then combined with the originating portion of the rate, a single flat rate is generated for billing purposes.

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ACCESS SERVICE

5. Ordering Options for Switched and Special Access Service (Cont'd)

5.2 Access Order (Cont'd)

5.2.3 Access Order Modifications (Cont'd)

(C) Design Change Charge (Cont'd)

	<u>Charge</u>		
	<u>Switched Access</u> [1]	<u>Special Access</u>	
Design Change Charge, - Per Order	\$20.50(R)	\$37.36	(C)

If, as a result of the change, the original service date cannot be met without the Telephone Company incurring additional labor, and the customer provides authorization to the Telephone Company to proceed, then charges are set forth in Section 13 will apply. If the customer is unwilling to pay such costs, the service date must be changed in accordance with (A) preceding as a result of the design change.

(D) Expedited Order Charge

When placing an Access Order for service(s) for which standard intervals exist, a customer may request a service date that is prior to the standard interval service date. A customer may also request an earlier service date on a pending standard or negotiated interval Access Order. If the Telephone Company agrees to provide service on an expedited basis, an Expedited Order Charge will apply.

If the Telephone Company is subsequently unable to meet an agreed upon expedited service date, no Expedited Order Charge will apply unless the missed service date was caused by the customer.

[1] This flat rated charge was calculated based upon a 50/50 split between originating and terminating. The FCC in their FCC 11-161 ICC Transformation order in section 51.907(d)(1) allowed Price Cap Carriers to use an equal split to divide the charge between originating and terminating elements. When the terminating portion of the rate is reduced and then combined with the originating portion of the rate, a single flat rate is generated for billing purposes.

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ACCESS SERVICE

6. Switched Access Service (Cont'd)

6.8 Rates and Charges (Cont'd)

6.8.2 Switched Transport (Cont'd)

(F) Installation

	<u>Nonrecurring Charges</u>
- Per Line	\$15.00 (R)
- Per Trunk	\$15.00 (R)

(G) CCS/SS7 Interconnection Service

(1) Channel Termination

- Per Point of Termination

	<u>Monthly Rate</u>	<u>Nonrecurring Charge</u>
• 56.0 kbps	\$ 76.00	\$260.00
• 1.544 Mbps	118.00	340.00
•		

ACCESS SERVICE

6. Switched Access Service (Cont'd)

6.8 Rates and Charges (Cont'd)

6.8.3 Local Switching

<u>Premium Rates</u>	<u>Rate Per Access Minute</u>	
LS1 - Feature		
Group A and B		
Originating	\$0.003866	
Terminating	0.000700 (R)	
LS2 - Feature		
Group C and D		
Originating	\$0.003866	
Terminating	0.000700 (R)	
 Non-Premium Rates		
LS Transitional		
Originating	\$0.001801	
Terminating	0.000700 (R)	
	RATE PER ACCESS MINUTE	
	<u>Originating</u>	<u>Terminating</u>
<u>Common Trunk Port</u>	\$0.000428	\$0.000000 (R)

ACCESS SERVICE

6. Switched Access Service (Cont'd)

6.8 Rates and Charges (Cont'd)

6.8.3 Local Switching (Cont'd)

(A) Trunk Conversion Charge

A nonrecurring charge(s) will apply when a customer requests a conversion of FGD trunks from SS7 signaling to multifrequency address signaling as specified below.

- Per 24 Channels Converted
or Fraction Thereof

Nonrecurring
Charges

\$50.00 (R)

ACCESS SERVICE

6. Switched Access Service (Cont'd)

6.8 Rates and Charges (Cont'd)

6.8.3 Local Switching (Cont'd)

(B) End Office to Tandem Rearrangement Charge

A nonrecurring charge(s) as specified below will apply when a customer requests end office or tandem rearrangement of FGD trunks as set forth in 6.7.1(C)(3) preceding.

- Per 24 Channels Converted
or Fraction Thereof

Nonrecurring
Charge

\$35.00 (R)

ACCESS SERVICE

6. Switched Access Service (Cont'd)

6.8 Rates and Charges (Cont'd)

6.8.3 Local Switching (Cont'd)

(C) Calling Party Number Parameter Charge *

A nonrecurring charge(s) as specified below will apply when a customer requests the calling party number parameter optional feature described in 6.3(E) preceding. This charge does not apply if the feature is installed coincident with the initial installation of a service.

- Per end office Equipped

Nonrecurring
Charge

\$11.50 (R)

* If both the Calling Party Number Parameter and the Carrier Selection Parameter optional feature described in (D) following are requested on the same access order, only one nonrecurring parameter charge will apply.

ACCESS SERVICE

6. Switched Access Service (Cont'd)

6.8 Rates and Charges (Cont'd)

6.8.3 Local Switching (Cont'd)

(D) Carrier Selection Parameter Charge[1]

A nonrecurring charge(s) as specified below will apply when a customer requests the Carrier Selection parameter optional feature described in 6.3(FF) preceding. This charge does not apply if the feature is installed coincident with the initial installation of a service.

- Per end office Equipped

Nonrecurring
Charge

\$11.50 (R)

(E) Dedicated Trunk Port[2]

Monthly Rate

DS0 \$2.42 (R)

DS1 50.00 (R)

[1] If both the Carrier Selection Parameter and Calling Party Number Parameter optional feature described in (C) preceding are requested on the same access order, only one nonrecurring parameter charge will apply.

[2] The End Office Dedicated Trunk Port rate was calculated based upon a 50/50 split between originating and terminating traffic using this flat-rated port. The FCC in their FCC 11-161 ICC Transformation order in section 51.907(d)(1) allowed Price Cap Carriers to use an equal split to divide the charge between originating and terminating elements. When the terminating portion of the rate is reduced and then combined with the originating portion of the rate a single flat rate is generated for billing purposes. The Originating portion of the DS0 charge is \$2.42 and the Originating portion of the DS1 charge is \$50.00. (T)

(N)

ACCESS SERVICE

8. Billing and Collection Services (Cont'd)

8.1 Recording Service (Cont'd)

8.1.1 General Description

Recording Service is the recording of customer call detail. Recording Service includes the recording and editing and assembly of messages.

Recording is the entering on data files or other acceptable media the details of customer messages originated through Switched Access Service for which appropriate answer and disconnect supervision has been received. Recording is provided 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

(C)

Editing and assembly is the aggregation of the recorded customer message details to create individual messages in accordance with the standard format established by the Telephone Company. It does not include rating the recorded customer message details.

Preparation of customer message detail is the provision of data files containing the recorded, un-rated customer message detail and when requested by the customer and agreed to by the Telephone Company, transferring or data-transmitting the recorded customer message detail to the customer. Transferring, in this instance, refers to the conveyance and receipt of recorded customer message detail on data files via U. S. Postal Service or an independent courier. Except for lost or damaged records, the recorded detail will be

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(T)

ACCESS SERVICE

8. Billing and Collection Services (Cont'd)

8.1 Recording Service (Cont'd)

8.1.2 Undertaking of the Telephone Company (Cont'd)

- (E) At the request of a customer, data files containing the recorded customer message details will be provided to the customer as part of Recording Service. The Telephone Company will supply the data files. Unless specified otherwise by the customer, the data files will be sent to the customer via first class U.S. Postal Service. However, the customer may request that the detail on the data files be electronically-transmitted. When the data files are electronically-transmitted charges will be determined on an individual case basis. (C)
(C)
(C)
- (F) At the customer's request, the Telephone Company will make every reasonable effort to recover recorded customer message detail previously made available to the customer, and make it available again for the customer. The charges as set forth in 8.1.7(A) following will apply for all such detail provided. Such requests must be made within a period of time as mutually agreed to by the Telephone Company and the customer.
- (G) The Telephone Company will provide Recording Service for customer messages recorded within or chargeable to customer's end users located within the operating territory of the Telephone Company. (C)

(N)

ACCESS SERVICE

8. Billing and Collection Services (Cont'd)

8.1 Recording Service (Cont'd)

8.1.2 Undertaking of the Telephone Company (Cont'd)

(L) Reserved For Future Use

(M) Reserved For Future Use

(N) Where the Telephone Company has recorded customer messages that are to be billed to an end user by another Exchange Telephone Company. The Telephone Company will enter the messages on data files that can be used for data transmission of the details. When the customer has so arranged with an involved Exchange Telephone Company, the Telephone Company will deliver the recorded message details to the other Exchange Telephone Company for billing to end users in its operating territories via first class U.S. Postal Service. When the customer does not have billing arrangements with an Exchange Telephone Company, recorded messages for billing to the end users of such an Exchange Telephone Company will be delivered to the customer. The Recording charges are set forth

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ACCESS SERVICE

8. Billing and Collection Services (Cont'd)

8.1 Recording Service (Cont'd)

8.1.3 Liability of the Telephone Company

Notwithstanding 2.1.3 preceding, the Telephone Company liability for Recording Service is as follows:

- (A) If customer message detail is not available because the Telephone Company lost or damaged data files or incurred recording or processing system outages, the Telephone Company will attempt to recover the lost customer message detail. If the lost customer detail cannot be recovered, the Telephone Company will estimate the volume of lost customer messages and associated revenue based on previously known values. This estimated customer message volume will be included along with the customer message detail provided to the customer and/or provided for Bill Processing Service. Appropriate credit adjustments will be made to the customer amounts due to account for the unbillable revenue.
- (B) When the Telephone Company is notified that, due to error or omission, incomplete data have been provided to a customer, the Telephone Company will make every reasonable effort to locate and/or recover the data at no additional charge. Such request to recover the data must be made within 30 days from the date the message details were initially made available to the customer.
- (C) In the absence of gross negligence or willful misconduct, no liability for damages to the customer or other person other than that set forth in (A) or (B) preceding shall attach to the Telephone Company.

(C)

8.1.4 Obligations of the Customer

- (A) The Customer shall order Recording Service under a Special Order. The minimum period for which Recording Service is provided is one month.

ACCESS SERVICE

8. Billing and Collection Services (Cont'd)

8.4 Billing Information Service (Cont'd)

8.4.5 Payment Arrangements (Cont'd)

(B) Changes to Special Orders

When a customer requests changes for a pending Special Order for Billing Information Service, they will be undertaken if they can be accommodated by the Telephone Company. Any additional time required on the part of the Telephone Company personnel will be billed to the customer at the appropriate hourly charges.

(C) Minimum Periods and Minimum Monthly Charges

The minimum period for which Billing Information Service is provided and for which charges apply is one year.

The minimum monthly charges for interrogation are the charges for the total number of requests per business day furnished by the customer or set forth in 8.4.4(G) preceding times 18 (i.e., 20 business days per month times 0.9).

When the customer discontinues the service prior to the end of the one-year minimum period, the minimum monthly charge for the data base interrogation will apply for each remaining month and fraction of month.

8.4.6 Rate Regulations

- (A) The number and type of records for which charges apply as set forth in 8.4.7 following will be accumulated by the Telephone Company and the Telephone Company will bill the customer in accordance with these accumulations. A record is a logical grouping of information as described in the programs that process the information, print the paper output, and load the data files used to supply the detail

(C)

ACCESS SERVICE

8. Billing and Collection Services (Cont'd)

8.4 Billing Information Service (Cont'd)

8.4.6 Rate Regulations (Cont'd)

which is transferred or data-transmitted. For each service and type of output ordered, the number of records processed by the Telephone Company to prepare the output will be used to determine the charges. The number of records processed will be determined using the number of records input to or the number of records output from the programs that process the information, print the paper output and load the data files, whichever number of records is higher.

(C)

(B) The number of hours and fraction thereof for which charges apply as set forth in 8.4.7 following will be accumulated by the Telephone Company. The per hour rate is for the use of one hour of one Telephone Company programmer. The Telephone Company will bill the customer for hourly charges in accordance with these accumulations. The accumulated hours for each order will be summed and rounded to the nearest hour, except that when the total is less than one hour, one hour will be used to determine the charges.

(C) When a CNA request is received, the Telephone Company will keep a count of the requests. The Telephone Company will bill the customer in accordance with these records even though the Telephone Company was not able to provide a name and town location for all requests.

(D) When records are entered on a data file in order to provide information to a customer, the per file charge applies for each data file prepared. In addition, the per record charge applies for each record entered on the data file. The Telephone Company will determine the charges based on the number of data files prepared and on its count of the records entered on the data file.

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(C)
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(C)

(E) When marking of message end user accounts is ordered, the marking charge applies for each end user account marked. Once an account is marked, the maintenance of mark charge applies for each month following the month the account is marked until the customer requests the mark be removed. No charges apply to remove the mark.

(N)

ACCESS SERVICE

13. Additional Engineering, Additional Labor and Miscellaneous Services (Cont'd)

13.3 Miscellaneous Services (Cont'd)

13.3.6 Provision of Access Service Billing Information

- (A) The customer will receive monthly bills and Customer Service Records (CSRs) in a standard paper format at no charge. At the option of the customer, monthly bills and CSRs may be provided electronically, in lieu of the standard paper format at no charge. (C)
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(C)
- (B) At the option of the customer additional copies of the customer's monthly bill and/or CSR may be provided in standard paper or electronic for an additional charge. (C)
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(C)

(D)
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(D)
- (C) Upon acceptance by the Telephone Company of an order for data transmission, the Telephone Company will determine the period of time to implement the transmission of such material on an individual order basis.
- (D) The rates and charges for the provision of additional copies of Access Service Billing Information after the initial copy has been provided are as follows: (C)
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(C)

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(T)

ACCESS SERVICE

13. Additional Engineering, Additional Labor and Miscellaneous Services (Cont'd)

13.3 Miscellaneous Services (Cont'd)

13.3.6 Provision of Access Service Billing Information

(D) (Cont'd)

	<u>Monthly Rate</u>	<u>Non Recurring Charge</u>
(1) Additional Copies of the customer's monthly bill or service and features record per copy per account in standard paper format		
- per copy per account in standard paper Format	\$13.60	\$37.36

	<u>Rates</u>	
(2) Electronic Transmission of billing detail and/or information in to a Customer's premises	ICB	(C) (C) (C) (C)

(D)

ACCESS SERVICE

15. Common Channel Signaling/Signaling System 7 (CCS/SS7) Data Base Services (Cont'd)

15.1 Line Information Data Base (LIDB) Access Service (Cont'd)

15.1.3 Undertakings of the Telephone Company (Cont'd)

(A) LIDB Data Specifications (Cont'd)

The Telephone Company will administer its LIDB to insure the provision of acceptable service levels to all customers. During periods of LIDB congestion, an automatic call gapping procedure will be utilized to control such congestion. The automatic call gapping procedure signals the switch and identifies the gap (how long the switch should wait before sending another query) and the duration (how long the switch should continue to perform gapping) according to the level of congestion. For example, during an overload condition, the automatic call gapping procedure will signal the switch when to begin to drop one out of three of the queries received. This call gapping procedure will be applied uniformly to all users of the Telephone Company's LIDB service.

The Telephone Company maintains the right to invoke manual intervention of the automatic call gapping procedure to preserve the integrity of the network.

(B) Provision of Billing Information

LIDB Access Service Queries received at the SCP are accumulated and records are generated identifying the number of queries processed by the originating point code (OPC) of the customer's Operator Service System (OSS) location. This information is delivered to the accounting office via paper or electronically for processing and billing. The query charges will be accumulated and billed to the LIDB Access Service customer each month.

(C)

The Telephone Company will provide sufficient information with the bill to enable the customer to determine how the billed amount was calculated. Included on the bill will be separate entries displaying the Billed Number Screening queries and the Calling Card Number queries.

Other reports may be provided as mutually agreed upon. Such agreements, provided on an individual case basis, may involve additional charges or conditions.

15.1.4 Obligations of the Customer

In addition to the obligations of the customer set forth in Section 2 preceding, the customer has certain specific obligations pertaining to the use of LIDB Access Service. These obligations are as follows:

CERTIFICATION

I am Vice President – Regulatory Operations for CenturyLink. I hereby certify that I have overall responsibility for supervision of the personnel who prepare all of the data supporting the CenturyLink Operating Companies– July 1, 2016 Annual Access Charge Tariff Filing bearing Tariff F.C.C. Nos. 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 11 for all issuing carriers and that I am authorized to execute this certification. Based upon the information provided to me by employees responsible for the preparation of, or for the supervision of the preparation of, the data submitted in support of the Tariff Review Plan information contained herewith, I hereby certify that the data has been examined and reviewed and is true, correct and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Further, based upon the information provided to me by employees responsible for the preparation of, or for the supervision of the preparation of, the data submitted in support of the Eligible Recovery for Price Cap Carriers and Access Recovery Charge information contained herewith, I hereby certify that the data has been examined and reviewed and is true, correct and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief, that the CenturyLink Operating Companies are not seeking duplicative recovery in the state jurisdiction for any Eligible Recovery subject to the recovery mechanism, and that CenturyLink Operating Companies have complied with sections 51.915(d), 51.915(e) and 51.915 (f) of the Commission's rules.

May 9, 2016



Jeff Glover
Vice President – Regulatory Operations

Contact Person: Gary Kepley
Director, Regulatory Operations
Telephone Number: (913) 353-7080

Description of Methodology

The following narrative describes the methodology and supporting calculations utilized by CenturyLink to implement the process of reducing terminating switched end office rates to not exceed \$0.0007 per minute as required by 47 C.F.R. §51.907(f) which addresses changes beginning July 2016. CenturyLink's supporting calculations utilize the "Access Reduction Spreadsheet" template released by the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC") on April 13, 2016, for calculating the July 1, 2016 intrastate access rate changes.

The FCC spreadsheet template also provides the methodology for calculating the rate changes and identifies in detail the interstate access rates that are required to be changed consistent with the rules. Step 5 of the USF ICC Transformation Order adjusts Interstate Terminating End Office Access rates down to the target composite rate of \$0.0007. The interstate rates will then be mirrored on the intrastate side so that rates will remain in parity.

Section 51.907(f) of the FCC Rules required the Access Reduction Spreadsheet to be modified to reflect rate reductions for July 1, 2016. For Price Cap carriers that file interstate tariffs assessing a single rate applicable in different states, the interstate demand used shall be the sum of the demand for all of the states included in the tariff, rather than making separate state-by-state calculations. For companies with a single rate in multiple states, the calculations are done at the regional level and the regional rates are mirrored in each study area¹. For individual study areas, the calculations are done at the study area level. An overview of the methodologies necessary for reducing terminating end office access rates is as follows:

1. Establish the 2011 Baseline Composite Terminating End Office Access Rates, which reflects interstate rates and demand.
2. Calculate the 2016 Target Composite Terminating End Office Access Rate by reducing the 2011 Baseline Composite Terminating End Office Access Rate to not exceed \$0.0007.
3. Calculate the individual Interstate Terminating End Office Access rate levels so that the reduced rates and demand will equal to the 2016 Target Composite Terminating End Office Access Rate.
4. Set Intrastate Terminating End Office Access rates equal to their functionally equivalent interstate rates.
5. Prepare intrastate and interstate tariff filing documents as required by each tariff jurisdiction.

¹ See footnote No. 27 in clarification order: Connect America Fund, et al., DA 14-434, WC Docket No. 10-90 et al.