

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
OF OREGON**

UM 2127

In the Matter of

UNITED TELEPHONE COMPANY OF THE
NORTHWEST,

Request to Set Date Certain of
December 1, 2020 for Anyone Who Requests
Service in Wildfire Impacted Service Area.

ORDER

**DISPOSITION: EXTENSION REQUEST TO BE CONSIDERED AT SUBSEQUENT
PUBLIC MEETING**

This order memorializes our decision, made and effective at our November 30, 2020 Special Public Meeting, to consider United Telephone Company of the Northwest's (United) request for an extension at a subsequent public meeting.

On November 23, 2020, consistent with Order No. 20-429, United filed compliance updates on voice service alternatives. Within this update, United also requested to extend from December 1, 2020, to December 15, 2020, the deadline set in Order No. 20-429 for United to provide alternative service to customers impacted by the South Obenchain wildfire and who have not been restored to basic service. Staff recommended in a filing made on November 30, 2020 that the Commission not grant the extension request.

We took the request under advisement and will consider at a future public meeting whether to grant the request, as well as whether the Commission should initiate enforcement actions. To aid in consideration of this request, no later than December 9, 2020, United is directed to provide a comprehensive status update to the Commission on restoration of basic service and the alternative offering, including the number of customers with restored service, the number of customers who have yet to have service restored, the alternative service offered to those customers and terms of that service offering, and if applicable, the number of customers receiving or requesting alternative service. Reporting must include information on United's communications to local governments, first responders, and affected customers.

Additionally, we note that we do not consider an alternative solution that requires a customer purchase outright satellite equipment, then be credited the cost of that equipment over a period of months, to be consistent with our directive to offer alternative service at no additional costs as required by Order No. 20-429.

Finally, we commit to consider United's request and the Commission's next steps at a public meeting no later than December 16, 2020.

ORDER

It is ordered that United will comply with the directives in this order. We will consider United's extension request at a subsequent public meeting.

Made, entered, and effective Dec 01 2020.



Megan W. Decker
Chair



Letha Tawney
Commissioner



Mark R. Thompson
Commissioner



A party may request rehearing or reconsideration of this order under ORS 756.561. A request for rehearing or reconsideration must be filed with the Commission within 60 days of the date of service of this order. The request must comply with the requirements in OAR 860-001-0720. A copy of the request must also be served on each party to the proceedings as provided in OAR 860-001-0180(2). A party may appeal this order by filing a petition for review with the Circuit Court for Marion County in compliance with ORS 183.484.