

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WYOMING

IN THE MATTER OF THE TARIFF FILING OF)

U S WEST COMMUNICATIONS, INC., FOR)

AUTHORITY TO REDUCE THE RATE FOR) DOCKET NO. 70000-TA-00-583

TELEPHONE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM) (RECORD NO. 5822)

SERVICE)

NOTICE AND ORDER

(Issued July 13, 2000)

This matter is before the Commission upon the tariff filing of U S WEST Communications, Inc. (U S WEST), for authority to revise its tariffs relating to the Wyoming Telephone Assistance Program.

The Commission, having reviewed the application, its files regarding U S WEST, applicable telecommunications law and otherwise being fully advised in the premises, FINDS and CONCLUDES:

1. U S WEST is a telecommunications company as defined by W.S. § 37-15-103(a)(xi), which provides local exchange telecommunications service in Wyoming. As such, U S WEST is subject to the Commission's jurisdiction pursuant to the provisions of W.S. § 37-15-401.
2. U S WEST filed this tariff revision seeking to revise its tariffs applicable to the Wyoming Telephone Assistance Program (TAP), pursuant to W.S. §§ 37-2-301 through 37-2-306, to reflect an increase in the Subscriber Line Charge (SLC) by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). As a result of the FCC action, the SLC increased from \$3.50 to \$4.35, effective July 1, 2000. Under the TAP program, TAP participants are not charged the SLC. In addition, U S WEST customers who are also TAP participants receive a TAP discount of \$7.85, constituting an additional \$4.35 matching Wyoming TAP fund equivalent, a \$1.75 FCC Lifeline match and an additional \$1.75 maximum FCC Lifeline match of the Wyoming TAP. The change in the TAP discount will be offset by the current TAP fund. U S WEST is not requesting to change its current TAP assessment of \$0.01.
3. As a result, of the tariff revision, U S WEST customers who are Wyoming TAP participants will see an increase of monthly total savings for basic telecommunications service, from \$10.50 to \$12.20.
4. The Commission finds and concludes that the proposed revision is consistent with the Telephone Assistance Program, and is in the public interest.
5. U S WEST's filing is on file with the Commission at its offices in Cheyenne, Wyoming, and at U S WEST's offices, also located in Cheyenne, Wyoming, and may be inspected by any interested person during regular business hours.
6. Anyone desiring to intervene as a party, file a statement, representation, protest or request for hearing in this matter must do so, in writing, on or before August 10, 2000. Please include a reference to Docket No. 70000-TT-00-583.
7. If you wish to intervene in this matter or to request a public hearing which you will attend, and you require reasonable accommodation for a disability, please contact the Commission at (307) 777-7427, or write to the Commission at 2515 Warren Avenue, Suite 300, Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002, to make arrangements. Communications impaired persons may also contact the Commission by accessing Wyoming Relay at 1-800-877-9965. Please mention the docket number in your communications. Please contact us as soon as possible to help us serve you better.
8. The Commission directs that the public notice in this matter be in the following form:

PUBLIC NOTICE

U S WEST Communications, Inc., (U S WEST) has filed with the Public Service Commission for authority to revise its tariffs relating to the Wyoming Telephone Assistance Program (TAP) to reflect an increase in the Subscriber Line Charge (SLC).

As a result of action by the Federal Communications Commission, the SLC increased from \$3.50 to \$4.35, effective July 1, 2000. Under the TAP program, TAP participants are not charged the SLC. In addition, U S WEST customers who are also TAP participants receive a TAP discount of \$7.85, constituting an additional \$4.35 matching Wyoming TAP fund equivalent, a \$1.75 FCC Lifeline match and an additional \$1.75 maximum FCC Lifeline match of the Wyoming TAP. The change in the TAP discount will be offset by the current TAP fund. U S WEST is not requesting to change its current TAP assessment of \$0.01.

As a result, of the tariff revision, U S WEST customers who are Wyoming TAP participants will see an increase of total savings to basic telecommunications service, from \$10.50 to \$12.20.

U S WEST's filing is on file with the Commission at its offices in Cheyenne, Wyoming and at U S WEST's offices, also located in Cheyenne, Wyoming, and may be inspected by any interested person during regular business hours.

Anyone desiring to intervene as a party, file a statement, representation, protest or request for hearing in this matter must do so, in writing, on or before August 10, 2000. Please include a reference to Docket No. 70000-TT-00-583.

For more information, please contact the PSC at (307) 777-7427 in Cheyenne during regular business hours, or write the PSC at 2515 Warren Avenue Suite 300, Cheyenne, WY, 82002. Communications impaired persons may also contact the PSC by accessing Wyoming Relay at 1-800-877-9965. Please mention the docket number when you contact us. Please contact us as soon as possible to help us serve you better.

Dated July 13, 2000.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

1. Pursuant to open meeting action taken on June 29, 2000, the tariff filing of U S WEST Communications, Inc., for authority to revise its tariffs relating to the Wyoming Telephone Assistance Program, should be, and hereby is, approved, effective July 1, 2000.
2. This Order is effective immediately.

MADE and ENTERED at Cheyenne, Wyoming, this 13th day of July, 2000.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WYOMING

STEVE ELLENBECKER, Chairman

STEVE FURTNEY, Deputy Chairman

KRISTIN H. LEE, Commissioner

(SEAL)

ATTEST:

EDNA YOUNG, Assistant Secretary