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AZ CORP COMMISSION
DOCKET CONTROL

2016 NOV 14 P 1:24

November 10, 2016

Docket Control
Arizona Corporation Commission
1200 W. Washington
Phoenix, AZ 85007-2927

**RE: Arizona Telephone Company;
Revisions to Low-Income Assistance Programs Tariff
Docket No. T-02063A-16-0394**

Docket Control:

Enclosed please find the original and 1 copy of the following **replacement** tariff sheet (s):

**Section 3 Sixth Revised Sheet 20
 Fourth Revised Sheet 21.1
 Original Sheet 22.2**

The purpose of these replacement sheets is to make ACC Staff suggested changes to the proposed tariff filing made under Cover Letter dated November 1, 2016.

The proposed effective date for this filing is December 2, 2016.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (608) 664-4169.

Sincerely,

Rachelle A. Ladwig
Senior Administrator - Tariffs

Enclosures

Arizona Corporation Commission
DOCKETED
NOV 14 2016

DOCKETED BY

GENERAL EXCHANGE TARIFF

Exchange: ALL

Section 3

Sixth Revised Sheet 20

Cancels Fifth Revised Sheet 20

ARIZONA TELEPHONE COMPANY

Arizona

LOW-INCOME ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

A. LOW-INCOME ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

Low-Income Assistance Programs consist of two programs, Lifeline Assistance and Lifeline Connection Assistance. These programs were developed to reduce rates for low income customers. The Company participates in both of these assistance programs to increase the availability of telecommunications services to all consumers in its serving areas. The structure of each program is outlined in the following paragraphs.

1. Lifeline Assistance

a. General

Lifeline Assistance reduces an eligible customer's monthly rates for local service. An eligible customer receives credit for the Federal Subscriber Line Charge as well as a credit towards the residential access line rate.

b. Regulations

1) Lifeline Assistance is available to all residential customers who meet the following eligibility requirements: ⁽¹⁾

a) Customers must participate in one of the following programs:

Medicaid, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Federal Public Housing Assistance, or Veteran's and Survivors Pension Benefit, or

(T)
|
(T)

Have household income that is at or below 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines

(T)

b) Beginning October 1, 2000, eligibility has been expanded to permit low-income individuals living on tribal lands to establish their income eligibility by certifying participation in one of the following federal assistance programs: (1) Bureau of Indian Affairs General Assistance; (2) Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) tribally-administered block grant program; (3) Head Start Programs (under income qualifying eligibility provision only); (4) National School Lunch Program (free meals program only), or (5) Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations.

(D)
(D)

GENERAL EXCHANGE TARIFF

Exchange: ALL

Section 3

ARIZONA TELEPHONE COMPANY

Fourth Revised Sheet 21.1

Arizona

Cancels Third Revised Sheet 21.1

LOW-INCOME ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

A. LOW-INCOME ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS (Continued)

1. Lifeline Assistance (Continued)

b. Regulations (Continued)

- 6) Participants in Lifeline Assistance shall not be disconnected from Local Service for non-payment of toll charges. In addition, the Company will not deny re-establishment of local service to customers who are eligible for Lifeline Assistance and have previously been disconnected for non-payment of toll charges. Lifeline Assistance will not be connected if an outstanding balance is owed by the customer for local service.
- 7) Partial payments that are received from Lifeline customers will first be applied to local service charges and then to any outstanding toll charges.
- 8) Verification of a customer's continuing eligibility shall be performed by the Company on an annual basis.
- 9) Records will be maintained by the Company in accordance with Arizona Corporation Commission Decision No. 67941 and FCC C.F.R. 54.417.
- 10) One Lifeline discount is allowed per household. The FCC defines "household" as any individual or group living together at the same address as one economic unit.

c. Credits

The following credits* will apply for each customer eligible for Lifeline Assistance:

	<u>Monthly Credit*</u>	
1) Federal Lifeline Assistance Benefit	(1)	(T)
2) Additional Federal Credit to Residential Access Line for eligible tribal land residents who qualify under either 1.b.1 a) or b)	(2)	

* Credit amount will not exceed the total of the Subscriber Line Charge and the Residential Local Exchange rate.

(1) Authorized FCC rate.

(2) Credit up to \$25.00 and not to exceed a base of \$0.00.

GENERAL EXCHANGE TARIFF

Exchange ALL
Section 3
Original Sheet 22.2

ARIZONA TELEPHONE COMPANY
Arizona

LOW-INCOME ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

A. LOW-INCOME ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS (Continued)

4. Arizona Telephone Assistance Program

Customers of this service will receive a seventeen percent (17%) reduction on service charges. The credit is applicable only to the customer's principle residence line. State support is provided in accordance with A.R.S 46.701, et. seq. The Arizona Department of Economic Security instructs the Company on which accounts the benefits are to be applied to.

(N)

(N)