ITEM NO. CA14

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF OREGON
STAFF REPORT
PUBLIC MEETING DATE: June 23, 2015

REGULAR ____ **CONSENT** X **EFFECTIVE DATE** July 1, 2015

DATE: June 9, 2015

TO: Public Utility Commission

FROM: Jim Stanage

THROUGH: Jason Eisdorfer, Bryan Conway, and Bruce Hellebuyck

SUBJECT: UNITED TELEPHONE COMPANY OF THE NORTHWEST: (Docket No. ADV 52/Advice No. OR 15-03) Adds Home Phone II back into the Tariff, which was inadvertently omitted in Advice No. OR15-01.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the filed tariff be allowed to go into effect.

DISCUSSION:

United Telephone Company of the Northwest dba CenturyLink (United) proposes to establish Home Phone II service. Home Phone II was inadvertently omitted from when the new Tariff No. 4 (Advice No. OR15-01) went into effect March 1, 2015. Advice No. OR15-01 was made pursuant to Order No. 14-347 in Docket No. UM 1686, which established a *Price Plan* for United effective October 7, 2014.

The filing was submitted on May 29, 2015, and thus, complies with United *Price Plan*, Section P, which requires tariff changes to be filed at least thirty days prior to their effective dates. Telecommunications utilities are required under ORS 759.175 to submit tariff filings to the Commission whenever they intend to make changes to their service offerings, including their rates, terms, or conditions of service.

Home Phone II includes one flat rate access line, flat rate EAS, and a choice of 17 calling features. Voice Messaging can be added to the bundle for an additional monthly charge of $1.55. The monthly rate does not include the recurring charges for the qualifying long distance plan. The proposed monthly rate for Home Phone II is $28.95 per line, which is the same as it was previously.

In order to be eligible for Home Phone II, a customer must subscribe to either CenturyLink Communications, LLC, Home Phone II Per Minute long distance plan or Home Phone II Unlimited long distance plan to qualify for the proposed bundle. Both long distance plans are non-regulated services and require additional charges. However, a $3.90 discount off the Home Phone II monthly rate will apply to the first 12 months of either long distance plan.

When the company filed Advice No. 337 previously proposing to establish Home Phone II, which was allowed at the Commissions November 19, 2015, public meeting, it submitted a cost study that shows the proposed rate covers the cost of service. This would continue to be the case here.

PROPOSED COMMISSION MOTION:

The United tariff proposed in Advice No. OR15-03 be allowed to go into effect.

UnitdOR15-03.HomePhoneII