

August 29, 2014

Dr. Burl Haar Executive Secretary Minnesota Public Utilities Commission 121 7<sup>th</sup> Place East, Suite 350 St. Paul, MN 55101

Re: In the Matter of Frontier Communications of Minnesota's

Proposal to Join an Existing AFOR Plan of its Corporate

Affiliate Citizens Telecommunications Company of Minnesota

MPUC Docket No. P405/AR-11-562

Dear Dr. Haar:

On February 13, 2012, the Commission issued its "Order Approving Frontier's Alternative Form of Regulation Plan as Modified" in the above-referenced docket for Frontier Communications of Minnesota, Inc. ("Frontier"). That Alternative Form of Regulation Plan became effective March 1, 2012 and so will expire March 1, 2015. Section III C of that plan states that, "within six months prior to the termination of the Plan, Frontier shall file with the Commission notice that it proposes a new plan, extend the existing plan, or revert to rate of return regulation".

In compliance with that requirement, in this filing Frontier notifies the Commission that it is proposing a new alternative form of regulation plan to succeed the existing plan when it expires on March 1, 2015. The proposed plan is attached.

The substance of the proposed plan builds largely from the contents of the existing plan, modified to reflect the competitive and changing telecommunications marketplace in which Frontier operates.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (952) 491-5534, or scott.bohler@ftr.com.

Sincerely,

Scott Bohler

Manager, Government and External Affairs

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# STATE OF MINNESOTA BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Beverly Jones Heydinger Chair

David C. Boyd Commissioner
Nancy Lange Commissioner
Dan Lipschultz Commissioner
Betsy Wergin Commissioner

# FRONTIER COMMUNICATIONS OF MINNESOTA, INC.

# ALTERNATIVE FORM OF RETAIL REGULATION PLAN FOR THE STATE OF MINNESOTA

AFOR Plan Effective Date: March 1, 2015

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

I.	PREFACE	1
II.	DEFINITIONS	1
III.	PRICE AND SERVICE QUALITY REGULATION	2
	A. Alternative Regulation	
	B. Effective Date	
	C. Duration and Renewal	
IV.	CLASSIFICATION, RATES, AND PRICES FOR RETAIL SERVICES	2
	A. General Provisions	
	B. Price-Regulated Services	
	C. Flexibly-Priced Services	
	D. Non-Price Regulated Services	
	E. Customer Incentives.	
	F. Special Pricing Issues	
	G. Cost Recovery	
	H. Exogenous Costs	
	I. Changes Related to Access Charge Reductions	
	J. Required Commission Action	
V.	SERVICE QUALITY	10
	A. Standards and Customer Remedies	
	B. Applies to Normal Operating Conditions	
	C. Customer Remedies	
VI.	INVESTMENT PLAN	12
	A. Voice Services	
	B. Broadband Services	
	C. Reporting	15

#### I. PREFACE

Frontier Communications of Minnesota, Inc. ("Frontier") shall be subject to an alternative regulation plan in Minnesota as set forth in this AFOR Plan ("Plan" or "AFOR Plan") on the AFOR Plan Effective Date. The elements of the Plan are set forth in detail in the following sections.

The Plan is intended to allow consumers to enjoy the benefits of the competitive marketplace at affordable and equitable rates and with a quality of service consistent with Commission rules; to facilitate telecommunications alternatives; and to provide a regulatory environment with greater pricing flexibility and more consistent with the competitive telecommunications market in which Frontier operates.

#### II. DEFINITIONS

- **A. Commission.** Commission means the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission.
- **B. Department**. Department means the Minnesota Department of Commerce.
- C. Flexibly-Priced Services. Flexibly-priced services include retail services offered by Frontier that have not been classified as either price-regulated or non-price regulated. Specific services that are classified as flexibly-priced under this Revised Retail Plan are listed in Appendix A, Schedule 2.
- **D.** New Service(s). New services are those functions, features, or capabilities that are not offered by Frontier in Minnesota on the Plan Effective Date.
- **E.** Non-Price-Regulated Services. Non-price-regulated services are those retail services for which alternatives are competitively available. Specific services that are classified as non-price-regulated under this Plan are listed at Appendix A, Schedule 3.
- **F. Price-Regulated Services.** Price-regulated services are those retail services that are listed in Appendix A, Schedule 1 and as specified in Minnesota Statutes section 237.761.
- **G.** Tariff or Price List. Tariff means the schedule filed with the Commission that describes the rates, terms, and conditions of price-regulated services provided by Frontier. Price List means the schedule filed with the Commission that describes the rates, terms, and conditions of flexibly-priced or non-price-regulated services provided by Frontier.

# III. PRICE AND SERVICE QUALITY REGULATION

# A. Alternative Regulation.

Frontier's retail services are not subject to rate of return regulation or earnings investigations pursuant to sections 237.075 or 237.081 of Minnesota Statutes during the term of the Plan. Similarly, except as otherwise specified in the Plan, Frontier is not subject to the provisions of sections 237.57 or 237.59 of Minnesota Statutes during the term of the Plan. Except as provided herein, the Commission retains its authority under section 237.081 to investigate matters other than rate of return and earnings and to issue appropriate orders, and the Department retains its authority under sections 216A.07 and 237.15 to investigate matters other than the rate of return and earnings of the Company. Nothing in this section limits the Commission's jurisdiction or authority over Frontier's wholesale services.

#### **B.** Effective Date.

This Plan is effective at 12:00 midnight on March 1, 2015 (the "Plan Effective Date").

#### C. Duration and Renewal.

The Plan shall be adopted pursuant to the requirements of Minn. Stat. § 237.766, subd. 2, and will continue for a period of three (3) years (36 consecutive months) from the Plan Effective Date.

Pursuant to Minn. Stat. 237.766, subd 1, within six months prior to the termination of the Plan, Frontier shall file with the Commission notice that it proposes a new plan, extend the existing plan, or revert to rate of return regulation.

# IV. CLASSIFICATION, RATES AND PRICES FOR RETAIL SERVICES

#### A. General Provisions.

#### 1. Initial Classification.

- **a**. Specific telephone services that are subject to regulatory oversight are described in the Plan and listed in Appendix A, Schedules 1 and 2. Existing services that are not specifically identified in Appendix A, Schedules 1, 2, or 3, will be classified as price regulated if in Tariff #1, as flexibly priced if in Tariff #2, and as non-price-regulated if in Tariff #3.
- **b.** All services offered by Frontier which are not telephone services and/or are not subject to regulation by the Commission are not subject to regulation under this Plan.

Such services include, but are not limited to, radio common carrier services, customer premise equipment, billing and collection services, inside wiring, broadband services, and services tariffed in the Federal jurisdiction. Nothing in this Plan adds to or reduces in any way the authority of the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission, the Department of Commerce or the Office of the Attorney General.

#### 2. The Introduction of New Services.

#### a. Filing.

As provided in Minn. Stat. § 237.761, subd. 7, at the time Frontier first offers a service, Frontier shall file a tariff or price list with the Commission, along with the proposed classification for the service and a written explanation of why the service classification is consistent with Minn. Stat. § 237.761. New services may be offered to customers one (1) day after filing.

#### b. Classification.

If no interested party or the Commission objects to Frontier's classification within thirty (30) days from the date of filing, Frontier's proposed classification is approved. Frontier shall have twenty (20) days to respond to any objections. After such further proceedings as may be appropriate the Commission shall make a final determination as to the appropriate classification within one-hundred-twenty (120) days from the date of the filing of the new service. If the Commission does not act within one-hundred-twenty (120) days, the classification is approved as filed.

#### 3. Tariffs and Price Lists.

Within 90 days of Commission approval of this Plan, Frontier shall update its tariffs and price lists consistent with the terms of this Plan.

## **B.** Price-Regulated Services.

# 1. Permitted Changes and Procedures for Changes for Price-Regulated Services.

The "Regulated Price" of a service is the price of the service on the effective date of this Plan. Frontier may, on its own initiative, reduce the rate for a price-regulated service below the Regulated Price and may subsequently increase those prices of price-regulated services that had been reduced at Frontier's initiation up to the Regulated Price without Commission approval.

Frontier may file for a rate change for price-regulated services under the following procedures. In the event Frontier proposes a price increase above the Regulated Price of a Price-Regulated Service, the proposal shall be supported by affirmative evidence.

## a. Price Caps for Certain Price-Regulated Services.

Frontier shall not increase the price of one-party basic local residential service (R1) or the installation or service restoration charges associated with one-party basic local residential service (R1) for the first year of this Plan. Frontier shall not increase the price of one-party basic business service (B1) for the first year of this Plan. After the first year of the Plan Frontier may increase the monthly rate for one-party basic local residential service (R1) and one-party basic business service (B1) up to a total of \$2 over the remaining term of the Plan and Frontier may increase the installation and service restoration charges associated with these services up to \$2 over the remaining term of the Plan..

#### b. Rate Changes for Price-Regulated Services.

Changes in tariffs for price-regulated services shall become effective under the following timelines: a) language changes and promotions, one day after filing the tariff; b) rate reductions, one day after filing the tariff, c) significant changes in the condition of service, 20 days after filing the tariff; and d) proposals to increase prices, 30 days after filing the tariff and providing notice to customers.

#### c. Procedures for Objection to Price Increases for Price-Regulated Services.

Any interested person may file an objection with the Commission, or the Commission on its own motion may act within 30 days of the notice. In its objection, the interested person or the Commission shall specify the manner in which Frontier's proposal violates state law or Commission rules or is otherwise not in the public interest. The Commission may suspend a rate change for good cause pending a PUC determination. If, after receipt of a valid objection or upon its own motion, the Commission within 120 days of the date of notice makes specific findings based on substantial evidence demonstrating that Frontier's proposal violates state law or Commission rules or is otherwise not in the public interest, it may disapprove the requested increase or approve a lesser increase. If the Commission does not make such a determination within 120 days, the proposal shall be deemed approved. If no objection is filed or the Commission on its own motion does not act within 30 days of Frontier's filing, the price increase(s) shall be deemed approved.

Frontier shall be permitted to institute rate changes as provided in Minnesota Statute section 237.762, subd. 5.

# 2. Discontinuance of Price-Regulated Service.

- **a.** Frontier reserves the right, pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 237.767, to seek approval from the Commission to discontinue the provision of a service that has been classified as a price-regulated service in accordance with the procedures set forth below.
- shall file with the Commission a petition to discontinue a price-regulated service. At the same time, Frontier shall provide notice of such filing to the affected customers of its intent to discontinue the service. Parties shall have ten days from the date of the filing to file initial comments on the petition. Reply comments may be filed five days after the initial comments. If no comments are filed, the proposed changes shall go into effect on the date specified by the Company. If comments are filed, or issues raised by the Commission, the Commission shall hold such hearings as it deems appropriate and issue its final order within 120 days of the filing of the petition by Frontier.

# 3. Reclassification of Price Regulated Services to Flexibly-Priced Services.

Except for the services listed in Minn. Stat. § 237.761, subd. 3, when the Company presents documentation that any one of the following conditions is present, the Commission shall reclassify the price-regulated service as "flexibly-priced."

- (1) That the service is not essential for providing local telephone service or access to the local telephone network; or
- (2) That the service is not integrally related to privacy, health or safety of the Company's customers; or
- (3) That a reasonable alternative exists within the relevant market or geographic area on reasonably comparable terms and conditions.

## C. Flexibly-Priced Services.

## 1. Permitted Price Changes and Procedures for Flexibly-Priced Services.

Specific services or categories of services that are classified as flexibly-priced services under this Plan are listed in Appendix A, schedule 2.

**2.** The following section sets forth the procedures for adjusting the price lists for flexibly priced services during the term of the Plan.

#### a. Price Decreases.

Frontier may file for price decreases at any time. Decreases will be effective on the day after the filing, unless a later time period is designated by Frontier. If Frontier has decreased a price, Frontier may subsequently increase that price back to the price level existing at the Plan Effective Date, notwithstanding the provisions of IV.C.1.c.

#### b. Price Increases.

Frontier may file for rate increases at any time. Frontier may implement price increases for flexibly priced services 20 days after filing with the Commission and the provision of notice to affected customers.

# c. Procedures for Objection to Price Increases to Flexibly-Priced Services.

In the event Frontier proposes a price increase to a flexibly-priced service, any interested person may file an objection with the Commission or the Commission on its own motion may act within 20 days of the notice. In its objection, the interested person or the Commission shall include the manner in which Frontier's proposal violates state law or Commission rules or otherwise is not in the public interest. If, after receipt of a valid objection, the Commission within 120 days of the date of notice makes specific findings based on substantial evidence demonstrating that Frontier's proposal violates state law, or Commission rules or is otherwise not in the public interest, it may disapprove the requested increase or approve a lesser increase. If the Commission does not make such a determination within 120 days, the proposal shall be considered approved. If no objection is filed within 20 days of Frontier's filing, the price increase(s) shall be deemed approved.

## d. Other Changes to the Price List.

All other changes to the price list shall be effective after filing, on the date designated by Frontier.

# 3. Reclassification of Flexibly-Priced Services to Non-Price Regulated Services.

The Commission shall reclassify a flexibly-priced service as a non-price regulated service pursuant to Minn. Stat. §237.761, subd. 5.

## 4. Discontinuance of a Flexibly-Priced Service.

- **a.** Frontier reserves the right, pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 237.767, to seek approval from the Commission to discontinue the provision of a service that has been classified as flexibly-priced in accordance with the procedures set forth below.
- b. At least 30 days prior to the proposed date of discontinuance of flexibly-priced services, Frontier shall file with the Commission a petition to discontinue a flexibly-priced service. At the same time, Frontier shall provide notice of such filing to the affected customers of its intent to discontinue the service. Parties shall have ten days from the date of the filing to file initial comments on the petition. Reply comments may be filed five days after the initial comments. If no comments are filed, the proposed changes shall go into effect on the date specified by the Company. If comments are filed, or issues raised by the Commission, the Commission shall hold such hearings as it deems appropriate and issue its final order within 120 days of the filing of the petition by Frontier.

## D. Non-Price Regulated Services.

- 1. Permitted Price Changes and Procedures for Price Changes for Non-Price-Regulated Services.
- **a.** Frontier may change its prices for non-price-regulated services pursuant to the procedure set forth below. Prices for these services may be increased or may be reduced.
- b. Frontier may implement price changes and other miscellaneous changes for non-price-regulated services immediately upon notice to the Commission by filing a revised price list reflecting the change and the effective date of the change. Prices for these services are not subject to approval or investigation by the Commission except as expressly permitted by Minn. Stat. § 237.770 and § 237.771. Affected customers will be provided notice at least 20 days in advance of the change.

## 2. Discontinuance of a Non-Price-Regulated Service.

Commission approval to discontinue a non-price-regulated service is not required. Frontier will give its customers and the Commission 30 days notice prior to discontinuing a non-price-regulated service.

#### E. Customer Incentives.

Frontier may offer incentives to customers to purchase or continue to purchase services from Frontier including a waiver of non-recurring charges and a waiver of monthly rate(s) on selected services as determined by the Company.

If required by federal law, a customer incentive provided pursuant to this section will be made available for resale by qualified carriers reselling the Company's service.

## F. Special Pricing Issues.

Frontier may offer special pricing arrangements on the same regulatory terms and conditions that apply to competitive local exchange carriers as set forth in Minnesota Rule 7812.2210, subpart 5, section (A) and (B), and other applicable law. The customer contracts for services priced with special pricing arrangements are not required to be routinely filed, but shall be provided to the Commission, the Department or the OAG upon request. Each service offering with special pricing arrangements must be identified in the tariff and contain the rules and conditions for which special pricing may be offered. To the extent prohibited by federal or state law or the Commission, Frontier shall not give preference or discriminate in providing services, products, or facilities to an affiliate or to its own or an affiliate's retail department that sells to consumers.

## G. Cost Recovery.

To the extent that a lawful order or mandate of a governmental authority requires investments that impose network, facility relocation or infrastructure-related costs on Frontier, Frontier has the right to recover those costs from its customers. Frontier shall propose rate changes pursuant to this Plan to recover those costs. If the Commission disapproves Frontier's proposed rates, it must approve an alternative that allows for full recovery of the imposed cost. The Commission may not impose a cost recovery mechanism with which Frontier does not concur.

# H. Exogenous Costs.

If the Commission, Legislature or other government entities with appropriate jurisdiction impose new costs on Frontier or changes in Frontier's revenues (collectively referred to as "Exogenous Changes") incurred after the effective date of the Plan and during the effective period of this AFOR, Frontier may petition to recover Exogenous Changes, including but not limited to changes in the intrastate financial impact of: changes in EAS routes and/or compensation, including changes in intercarrier compensation; comprehensive local service rate restructuring; rate deaveraging; changes in state or federal universal service or funding payments; changes in local, state or federal taxes; changes in the Commission's application of jurisdictional separations, the Uniform System of Accounts or other mandatory Financial

Accounting Standards Board accounting standards; assessments related to the use of telephone numbers, including mandated number conservation efforts; financial impacts of government mandates to construct specific telecommunications infrastructure or develop systems beyond that contemplated by this Plan, and for which Frontier would not otherwise be compensated through some other manner under the plan.

The Commission may, upon petition, grant recovery of any Exogenous Change through the associated rate including price-regulated rates. Nothing in the Plan alters legal rights Frontier may have related to revenue neutrality set forth by law. Frontier shall have the right to recover federally authorized rates or charges during the term of this Plan. All changes related to local service provider long-term number portability (LNP) are treated in this Plan as federally authorized rates or charges.

Any costs to Frontier resulting from any legislatively authorized local taxes, franchise fees, or special surcharges imposed by local or regional governmental units on the services provided by Frontier under the plan may be recovered through a separate line items on Frontier's bill and recovered only from customers living within the jurisdiction that imposed the surcharge and who subscribe to the service upon which the surcharge is imposed.

Prior to imposing a surcharge on customer bills, Frontier shall file a tariff with the Commission identifying the surcharge amount to be added on the customer bill. The filing shall provide any necessary supporting calculations for determining the surcharge amount and the basis upon which the underlying costs qualify as Exogenous Costs under the Plan. The tariff will become effective 60 days after filing and after notice to the local or regional government unit, unless the Commission receives an objection within the 60 day period to treating the costs as Exogenous Costs under the Plan. If the Commission receives any such objection, it shall determine whether or not the costs qualify as Exogenous Costs within 120 days of the original tariff filing. Frontier shall have the burden to demonstrate that the costs qualify as Exogenous Costs and qualify for recovery under this Plan.

Frontier may petition the Commission for recovery of any Exogenous Change at any time. Frontier shall be allowed to implement approved increases to its Regulated Prices to recover the financial impacts of Exogenous Changes.

# I. Changes Related to Access Charge Reductions.

In the event the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission or Federal Communications Commission mandates a reduction in the access charges Frontier may petition the Commission with a proposal to offset the revenue losses.

Nothing in this AFOR plan precludes Frontier from implementing any federally mandated or authorized changes related to access charges.

# J. Required Commission Action.

Where this Plan requires Commission action within a specified period, if the Commission fails to act, the filing or proposal submitted by Frontier is deemed accepted and approved.

# V. SERVICE QUALITY

#### A. Standards and Customer Remedies

Frontier will be governed by the Commission's service quality standards, appearing in Chapter 7810 of the Commission's Rules. In addition, the certain specific individual customer remedies will apply.

# **B.** Applies to Normal Operating Conditions

The service quality standards and customer remedies apply only to normal operating conditions and do not establish a level of performance to be achieved where circumstances are beyond Frontier's control. Frontier is exempted from the otherwise applicable individual customer remedies if it is prevented from meeting a quality of service standard because of conditions caused by persons, things, or events outside the reasonable control of Frontier, that Frontier could not have reasonably anticipated and prevented, or circumstances that endanger the safety of Frontier employees or members of the public, including: (1) delays of a local government unit in granting approval for obtaining easements, permits or access to rights-of-way; where Frontier has made a timely application for any permits; (2) the customer, including but not limited to, no access to customer's premises, delays caused by the customer's construction project or lack of facilities or the customer choosing a later appointment than offered; (3) delays caused by a vendor in the delivery of equipment where Frontier has made a timely order or request; (4) other delays outside the control of Frontier, including, but not limited to, acts of God, explosions or fires, floods, frozen ground, tornadoes, severe weather, epidemics,

injunction, war, acts of terrorism, strikes or work stoppages, or negligent or willful misconduct by customers or third parties including outages originating from the introduction of a computer virus onto the provider's network. Events caused by Frontier employees or contractors are not outside Frontier's control for the purpose of the Plan.

#### C. Customer Remedies

#### 1. Installation

If Frontier is unable to provide primary local exchange service (that is, the first access line to the customer providing local dial tone and local usage necessary to receive a call to a customer) within three business days, or on the requested installation date, if later, for Company reasons, Frontier shall waive the one-time installation charge for primary line connections, and shall also offer the customer free of charge a telephone number, a directory assistance listing, and the customer's choice of either:

- 1) Free remote call forwarding of that number until service is provisioned; or
- 2) A free voice mailbox to which the customer's calls may be directed until service is provisioned.

The company shall give priority installation commitments to customers who identify critical medical situations. Critical medical situations are identified as infants on monitoring systems, individuals on life support systems, or other life-threatening emergencies. If the delay is due to customer actions or other force majeure conditions, then no remedy will be required.

#### 2. Out of Service

If Frontier fails to reinstate basic primary residential service within 48 hours and basic primary business service within 24 hours of the outage or a later date requested by the customer for the repair to be made, for Company reasons, Frontier will provide the customer a pro rata adjustment (i.e.,  $1/30^{th}$ ) of the monthly recurring charge for the first two days (Residential) and one day (Business) that there is a service outage. Frontier shall provide the customer \$5 for each day thereafter that the Residential customer is out-of-service and \$10 for each day the Business customer is out-of-service.

The company shall give priority repair commitments to customers who identify critical medical situations. Critical medical situations are identified as infants on monitoring systems, individuals on life support systems, or other life-threatening emergencies. If the missed

restoration of service is due to events beyond Frontier's reasonable control (e.g. force majeure), then no remedy will be required.

## 3. Repeat Trouble

For instances of the same trouble for voice service reported on the same access line within 30 days, Frontier will credit individual residential customer(s) \$5 for each like-occurrence and business customer(s) \$10 for each like-occurrence.

The company shall give priority repair commitments to customers who identify critical medical situations, such as infants on monitor systems, life support systems, or other life-threatening emergencies.

# 4. Repair Appointments

If the company misses a repair ticket commitment date for voice service, and the customer is required to be at the premises, Frontier will provide a remedy to the customer which may include a credit on the bill of the affected customer in the amount of \$10 for a residential customer or \$20 for a business customer for each trouble report. However, if the missed commitment is due to events beyond Frontier's reasonable control (e.g., the customer's failure to provide Frontier with adequate or correct information or failure to arrange for access to the premises, or force majeure events, etc.), then no remedy will be required.

## VI. INVESTMENT PLAN

## A. Voice Services

Frontier will continue to deploy a network designed to meet the future needs of its telecommunications customers. Frontier has built a network that includes thousands of miles of fiber and copper cable linking homes and businesses that is maintained and enhanced as market demands require. Maintaining, preserving, and rehabilitating this expansive network will remain a significant portion of Frontier's annual capital budget for the state of Minnesota. Frontier will continue to invest significant resources to maintain network reliability. This includes deploying backup systems that are designed to detect and repair system problems — often before customers ever experience any impacts to their service. These investments increase network redundancy, network diversity, and disaster recovery capabilities. Frontier has a history of extraordinary performance in times of crisis or natural disasters. Examples of network improvements

associated with network reliability/survivability and disaster recovery include: digital switching systems, self-healing network services, special metallic access systems and SONET technology.

Frontier's investment in the deployment of fiber optics throughout the interoffice trunking and feeder networks is an important component not only of a long-term network design but an ongoing necessity for greater efficiency, greater capacity, higher transmission quality and speeds, and better customer service. Copper network enhancements, fiber optics and associated next generation electronics are expected future investments to establish a future network that will meet the needs of customers.

Customer Local Area Signaling Service (CLASS) offerings are available to all of Frontier's Minnesota customers. CLASS is a group of features that use the SS7 overlay network to forward line and call-specific information between offices on interoffice calls. CLASS services available to Frontier's customers include: Caller ID (including Calling Name), Call Waiting ID, Automatic Busy Redial, Automatic Call Return, Special Call Forwarding, Special Call Acceptance, Call Block, Call Trace, Anonymous Call Block. Frontier's investment plan will ensure the continued availability of CLASS features to its customers.

Voice Mail is currently available to all of Frontier's customers. Frontier's investment will incorporate additional availability of voice messaging and the implementation of unified messaging platforms.

#### **B.** Broadband Services

While the Commission does not have regulatory jurisdiction over broadband services, encouraging the availability and enhancement of broadband service is a matter of public policy. Frontier has invested significantly in the deployment of broadband service and provides broadband service to all of its wire centers. Frontier will continue to expand its provisioning of advanced service offerings where reasonable customer demand exists. In addition to facility investment that will provide for growth and offer advanced network services, Frontier's investment will be directed toward network preservation and rehabilitation initiatives to continue to improve and maintain service quality.

Digital Subscriber Line (DSL) and Ethernet-based technologies have allowed Frontier to efficiently and quickly deploy high-speed data and voice service to end users over the existing infrastructure of traditional copper telephone lines. Downstream speeds reach up to 24 Mbps, depending in part upon the distance from the central office. Customers include residential

consumers, small and large businesses. DSL and Ethernet-based technologies are utilized by businesses, residences, schools, libraries and healthcare providers for Telecommuting, Internet Access, Computer Telephony Integration, Distance Learning, Remote LAN Access, video conferencing, video streaming and E-mail access. Frontier will continue to invest and expand the availability of broadband in Minnesota.

Consistent with Frontier's deployment of broadband services, Frontier will continue its commitment to link schools, libraries, technical colleges, hospitals, colleges and universities, and local governments together with technology. Frontier will actively respond to demands from schools, libraries, technical colleges, hospitals, colleges and universities, and local governments in its service area.

Frontier recognizes the State goal for broadband deployment identified in Minn. Stat. §237.012: "all state residents and businesses have access to high-speed broadband that provides minimum download speeds of ten to 20 megabits per second and minimum upload speeds of five to ten megabits per second." As the State and the Commission endeavor to advance toward this goal, Frontier also intends to continue its expansion of broadband service, both into unserved areas and increasing the speed available in its service areas. Just as important, Frontier is expanding its transport infrastructure to support greater speed and capacity to meet the demands of retail and wholesale customers. Investment will be directed to both expand the geographic reach of broadband availability as well as to provide increased speed and capacity. These efforts may be addressed through the expansion of the current DSL facilities as well as the employment of other advanced technologies. As the statute recognizes, the service speeds it identifies are goals. Ubiquitous provision of these service goals is not economically viable presently, nor is it clear when it may become so. Given that the particular marketplace, consumer demand, and cost considerations drive the sustainability of service, progress toward this state goal will necessarily be incremental and will vary by geographic location and availability of state and federal support programs targeted to deployment of high-speed services.

The FCC is implementing changes in the federal support mechanisms for broadband deployment. Frontier will actively seek to obtain any additional federal funding that may become available for broadband deployment.

Expansion of broadband service and keeping pace with growing network usage from applications such as streaming video require significant capital investments and resources for

ongoing operational support, the availability of which largely depends upon the revenues Frontier is able to generate. Thus, changes which reduce Frontier's revenue will have an adverse impact upon the ability of the company to support broadband expansion. In particular, government mandated reductions in Frontier's access revenues without mechanisms to offset the lost revenues would hinder the expansion of broadband.

# C. Reporting

Beginning in 2016, Frontier will submit a report to the Commission that identifies the investments in technological and infrastructure enhancements it has made during the previous calendar year. The report will be filed by March 1 of each year.

## PRICE-REGULATED SERVICES

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Section 3 <u>Local Service</u>

Business One Party
 Business Key Trunk
 Business PBX Trunk
 Semi-public
 Residence One Party
 School One Party
 School Key Trunk
 School PBX Trunk

- Payphone

Extended Area Service

Business One Party
 Business Key Trunk
 Business PBX Trunk
 Semi-public
 Residence One Party
 School One Party
 School Key Trunk
 School PBX Trunk

- Payphone

Rotary Hunt Service

Versaline (basic local service component only)

FrontierWorks ABC Solutions (basic local service component only)

Section 4 Service Ordering Charge

Line Connection Charges

Semi-Public Paystation Handling

Maintenance Visit Charge Restoration Charge Returned Check Charge

Section 5 Private Listing Service

Semi-private Listing Service

**Operator Services** 

Section 6 Foreign Exchange Service

Adjacent Exchange Service

Section 7 Extension, PBX Station, and Tie Line Mileage

**Bridged Line Services** 

**Direct Inward Dialing Services** 

Direct Inward-Outward Dialing (DIOD) Service

Toll Restriction Service Central Office Blocking Caller ID Blocking – Per Call

Call Tracing

Section 8 911 Emergency Trunks

Enhanced 911 Emergency Services Emergency Transport Backup

E911 Surcharge

Section 9 Interconnection of Cellular Mobile Carriers

Section 11 N11 Services

Note. The rates, prices, tariffs, or charges to a business customer subscribing to four or more business lines in a competitive area as defined in Minn. Stat. 237.411 are only subject to sections 237.07, subdivision 1; 237.66; and 237.663, and are not subject to any rules imposing rate or price restrictions beyond those sections, to other orders or investigation of local rates under section 237.081 or other rate and price requirements of this Plan.

## PRICE-REGULATED SERVICES

State Access	<u>Tariff</u>	
Section 1	Switched	Access Serv

Section 4 Switched Access Services

-Local Transport

-End Office Switching

-800 Data Base Access Service -Abbreviated Dialing Arrangement

Section 6 Billing and Collection Services

Section 8 Additional Engineering, Additional Labor, and Miscellaneous Charges for Price

Regulated Services

Section 9 Facility Access Order Charges for Switched Access Service

Section 11 Special Facilities Routing of Switched Access Service

Section 14 Carrier Common Line Access Service

## FLEXIBLY PRICED SERVICES

Tariff #2

Section 3 Customer Calling Services

**Advanced Customer Calling Services** 

Service Packages

Section 4 Directory Assistance Call Service

**Additional Listings** 

Section 5 Private Line Service

768 Kbps Symmetric 10BaseT Ethernet Transmission Service

Intrawirecenter Digital Special Access Service

Section 6 VersaLine Service Bundle

Frontier Choices Tier Bundle

FrontierWorks Small BusinessSolutions FrontierWorks Business Connections Frontier Small Business Advantage Frontier Digital Phone Service Frontier Business Unlimited Service Frontier Digital Phone Essentials Frontier Business Essentials

Frontier Digital Phone Plus Service

Frontier Business Metro

Stay Connected Seasonal Service

Frontier Digital Phone Essentials 1 - 2010Frontier Digital Phone Essentials 3 - 2010

Frontier Digital Phone Nationwide Unlimited with Essentials 1 - 2010 Frontier Digital Phone Nationwide Unlimited with Essentials 3 - 2010 Frontier Digital Phone Nationwide Unlimited Plus with Essentials 1 - 2010 Frontier Digital Phone Nationwide Unlimited Plus with Essentials 3 – 2010

Frontier Business Nationwide Unlimited Service I and II

Frontier Business Local Unlimited I and II ISDN – Primary Rate Interface Bundle Frontier Digital Phone Essentials

Frontier Digital Phone Unlimited (Leader)
Frontier Digital Phone Unlimited Plus (Leader)
Frontier Digital Phone Unlimited (Challenger)
Frontier Digital Phone Unlimited Plus (Challenger)

Frontier Simply Unlimited Service – Leader Frontier Simply Unlimited Service - Challenger

Section 7 Personal Paging

Section 9 Fire Bar Equipment

Section 10 Line Extension Charges

**Construction Charges** 

**Business Traffic Study Service** 

Section 11 Customer Transfer Service

**Toll Terminal Service** 

Simplified Message Desk Interface

Note. The rates, prices, tariffs, or charges to a business customer subscribing to four or more business lines in a competitive area as defined in Minn. Stat. 237.411 are only subject to sections 237.07, subdivision 1; 237.66; and 237.663, and are not subject to any rules imposing rate or price restrictions beyond those sections, to other orders or investigation of local rates under section 237.081 or other rate and price requirements of this Plan.

#### Frontier Communications of Minnesota, Inc.

Appendix A Schedule 2, Page 2

Message Waiting Indication Call Transfer Service

Customized/ Same Number Service

Selective Ringing Service

Section 13 Integrated Services Digital Network Services

Basic Rate Interface (BRI) Integrated Services Digital Network Service Primary Rate Interface (PRI) Integrated Services Digital Network Service

Section 14 Switched 56 Digital Service

Switched DS1 Service

Frontier T-Advantage Digital Service

State Access Tariff

Section 5 Special Access Services

Analog Services
 Voice Grade Service
 Video Service
 Digital Services
 Digital Data Access Service
 Analog Service
 Wideband Analog Service
 Wideband Digital Service
 High Capacity Service

Section 7 Specialized Service or Arrangements

Section 8 Additional Engineering, Additional Labor, and Miscellaneous Charges for

Flexibly Priced Services

Section 9 Facility Access Order Charges for Special Access Services

Section 10 Special Construction

Section 11 Special Facilities Routing of Special Access Service

Note. The rates, prices, tariffs, or charges to a business customer subscribing to four or more business lines in a competitive area as defined in Minn. Stat. 237.411 are only subject to sections 237.07, subdivision 1; 237.66; and 237.663, and are not subject to any rules imposing rate or price restrictions beyond those sections, to other orders or investigation of local rates under section 237.081 or other rate and price requirements of this Plan.

## NON-PRICE-REGULATED SERVICES

Tariff #3

Section 3 Centrex Programming Charge

Digital Centrex Service

Automatic Call Distribution Service

Section 4 Billing and Collection Service

Section 5 Public Telephone Service

Semi-Public Telephone Service

**Booths** 

N/A Yellow Page Directory Advertising N/A White Page Directory Advertising