

October 29, 2020

Mr. William Seuffert
Executive Secretary
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
121 7th Place East, Suite 350
St. Paul, MN 55101

Re: Response to Minnesota Public Utilities Commission Request for Information in Docket No. 20-747

Dear Mr. Seuffert:

Enclosed please find the Initial Comments for Zumbrota Telephone Company as a High Cost ETC in Docket No. P999/CI-20-747.

Please call me at 651-621-8306 with any questions.

Sincerely,

/s/ Mary T. Buley

Mary T. Buley
Telecommunications Consultant

Enclosure

cc: Mark Aaberg, Hanson Communications

Initial Comments for Zumbrot Telephone Company as a High Cost ETC in Minnesota
PUC Docket No. 20-747

1. Current number of Lifeline Customers as of 9/30/20
 - a. Study Area Code: (361515) 22 lifeline customers

2. How are Lifeline Services Advertised:

Zumbrot Telephone Company (“Zumbrot”) advertises Lifeline on its website at:

<https://zumbrot.hcinet.net/residential/residential-pricing/>

In addition, Zumbrot advertises lifeline in the local newspaper and provides annually a bill message concerning lifeline services.

3. Provide Samples of Lifeline Advertising: Attached is Exhibit 1 which is a scan of Zumbrot’s webpage on lifeline services. Exhibit 2 includes copies of the newspaper ad and the annual bill message on lifeline services.
4. No Comments.

Exhibit 1 for Zumbrota Telephone Company Website page on Lifeline Service



- Home
- About Hanson
- ▼ Contact Us
- Check Email
- Bill Pay
- Sign Up Today!

Residential Pricing



Local Residential Phone Service **\$22.50/mo**

- Basic Telephone Landline, Local Number, 911 Service

Unlimited Long Distance **\$14.95/mo**

- Unlimited calling anywhere in the US, Alaska, Hawaii, Canada, Guam, Puerto Rico, US Virgin Islands, American Samoa.
- Requires Local Residential Phone Service (not included).
- Basic long distance is also available, please call for pricing.

7 Cent Plan **\$4.95/mo**

- 7 cents a minute to call anywhere in the US, Alaska, Hawaii, Guam, Puerto Rico, US Virgin Islands, American Samoa.
- Requires Local Residential Phone Service (not included).
- Basic long distance is also available, please call for pricing.

Having trouble paying for phone or internet service?

You may qualify for the Telephone Assistance Plan (TAP) and federal Lifeline Program. Program eligibility is based on income. TAP is limited to landline home service. Lifeline credits may be used for internet services, in addition to landline services. Contact us at 507-732-5103 or visit the below websites for information or an application.

- Telephone Discounts
- Lifeline Program Application Form
- Lifeline Program Household Worksheet

Our Services

- Residential
 - Residential Pricing
 - Calling Features
- Business

Quick Contacts

Phone: (507) 732-5103

FAX: (507) 732-7806

INTERNET SUPPORT: (800) 528-7667

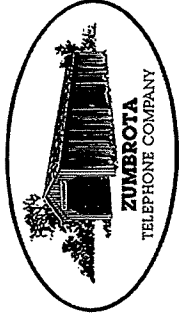
Welcome to the Gigahood!

High Speed Fiber Optic Internet

Click here to learn more about this exciting opportunity, and how you can get ready for our amazing high speed internet!

Service Application

Online Form (beta test)



Phone or Internet Discounts for Low Income Users

As a Zumbrota Telephone Company customer, you may qualify for one of three programs that provide assistance to you in paying your monthly telephone or broadband bill. This federally funded program will provide a credit each month on your bill.

Some limitations apply.

Please contact our office 507-732-5103.

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Phone Discounts for Low-Income Users

As a Minnesota consumer, you may qualify for one of the three programs that provide assistance with paying your telephone and broadband bill. Data shows that many Minnesota consumers are not aware of their eligibility for these programs.

Lifeline:

This is a federally funded program that will provide a credit of up to \$9.25 each month on your phone or broadband bill. To be eligible, you must be enrolled in one of the following programs:

- Medicaid
- Supplement Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) (food stamps)
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Federal Public Housing Assistance (FPHA)
- Veterans Pension or Survivors Benefit Programs

If you are not on the above programs, but your income is at or below 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines, you may also apply for and receive the discount. You will need to attach proof of your income to your application.

Telephone Assistance Plan (TAP):

This program offers an additional \$7.00 monthly discount on your phone bill. Eligibility requirements are the same as Lifeline above.

Link -Up:

This national program will pay up to 50% of your local telephone service connection and installation charges, up to a maximum of \$30.

Eligibility requirements are the same as for Lifeline list above.

Telephone Equipment Distribution (TED) Provides equipment for those who have hearing loss, speech, and/or mobility impairments that limit their use of a standard telephone.

To be eligible, you must:

- Have phone or broadband service or applied for phone or broadband service; and
- Meet income guidelines.
- Contact the Zumbrota Telephone Company for more information or an application

Persons in Family Unit	48 Contiguous State and D.C.
- 1	\$17,226
- 2	\$23,274
- 3	\$29,322
- 4	\$35,370
- 5	\$41,418
- 6	\$47,466
- 7	\$53,514
- 8	\$59,562

For Each Additional Person add \$6,048

Contact Zumbrota Telephone Company for more information or an application (320) 732-5103