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Section III Seventh Revised Sheet 8 Cancels Sixth Revised Sheet 8

ASOTIN TELEPHONE COMPANY

Washington

## BASIC LOCAL EXCHANGE ACCESS LINE SERVICE

## A. LOW-INCOME ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

Low-Income Assistance Programs consist of Lifeline Assistance. This program was developed to (T) reduce rates for low income customers. The Company participates in the Lifeline Program to (T) increase the availability of telecommunications services to all consumers in its serving areas. The structure of the program is outlined in the following paragraphs.

- 1. <u>Lifeline Assistance</u>
  - a. General Lifeline Assistance reduces an eligible customer's monthly rates for local service.
  - b. Regulations
    - 1) Federal Lifeline Assistance is available to all residential customers who meet the eligibility requirements stated in 47 CFR 54.409.
- (D) (D) (D)

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

Medicaid, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)(a/k/a Food Stamps), Supplemental Security Income (SSI), federal public housing assistance or Section 8 (a Federal Housing Assistance Program administered by the Dept. of Urban Development), Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), Temporary Assistance to Needy Families, or the National School Lunch's free lunch program.

Customers will also qualify for Lifeline Assistance if their household income is at or below 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines.

- b) Beginning October 1, 2000, eligibility has been expanded to permit lowincome 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); or (4) National School Lunch Program (free meals program only), or (5) Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations
- As a participant in Lifeline Assistance, customers are eligible to receive Toll Restriction Service at no charge. This service will only be provided at the customer's request.

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TITLE: Vice President - Rates & Tariffs

BY: Joel Dohmeier