

State Of WASH UTIL. AND TRANSH COMMISSION

July 30, 2019

Mr. Mark L. Johnson, Executive Director and Secretary Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission PO Box 47250
Olympia, WA 98504-7250

Re: Petition to Receive Support from the State Universal Communications Services Program Pursuant to WAC 480-123-100 and 480-123-110

CLAIM OF CONFIDENTIALITY

Dear Mr. Johnson:

Pursuant to WAC 480-123-100 and WAC 480-123-110, Pioneer Telephone Company ("Company") hereby petitions the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission ("WUTC") to receive support from the State Universal Communications Services Program for the Program year 2020.

The petition for support and exhibits that are specified in WAC 480-123-100 and WAC 480-123-110 accompany this letter and, together with this letter, are being filed electronically. The electronic filing includes .pdf format files for this letter, the petition and the exhibits. Exhibits 4 have also been provided in Excel format per WUTC staff request.

Please note that portions of the information in the accompanying exhibits are being filed on a confidential basis pursuant to WAC 480-07-160, in that certain of the information contained therein constitutes valuable and confidential commercial information, including financial information. In addition to the Company, its parent company, Pioneer Telephone Holding Company, Inc., might be directly affected by disclosure of the confidential information. Both confidential (unredacted) and redacted versions accompany this letter.

Sincerely,

Durand Co President

Enclosures

1 2 3 4 5 6 **BEFORE THE WASHINGTON** UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION 7 8 IN RE 9 DOCKET NO. PETITION OF PIONEER TELEPHONE 10 COMPANY TO RECEIVE SUPPORT PETITION FOR SUPPORT FROM THE STATE UNIVERSAL 11 COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES **PROGRAM** 12 13 COMES NOW Pioneer Telephone Company (the "Company") and, pursuant to Chapter 14 480-123 of the Washington Administrative Code ("WAC") including, but not limited to, WAC 480-15 123-110, hereby petitions the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (the 16 17 "Commission") to receive support from the State Universal Communications Services Program 18 established in RCW 80.36.650 (the "Program") for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019. 19 20 I. Demonstration of Eligibility under WAC 480-123-100 21 1. WAC 480-123-100(1)(a): The Company is a local exchange company as defined in WAC 22 480-120-021 that serves less than forty thousand access lines within the state. 23 24 25 26 PETITION OF PIONEER TELEPHONE COMPANY TO RECEIVE SUPPORT FROM THE STATE UNIVERSAL COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES PROGRAM - 1

- 2. WAC 480-123-100(1)(b): The Company is an incumbent local exchange carrier as defined in 47 U.S.C. Sec. 251(h).
- 3. WAC 480-123-100(1)(c): The Company offers basic residential and business exchange telecommunications services as set forth in WAC 480-120-021 and RCW 80.36.630.
- 4. WAC 480-123-100(1)(d): The Company's rates for residential local exchange service, plus mandatory extended area service charges, are no lower than the local urban rate floor established by the Commission as the benchmark rate based on the Federal Communications Commission's national local urban rate floor pursuant to 47 C.F.R. Sec. 54.318 in effect on the date of this Petition.¹
- 5. WAC 480-123-100(1)(e): The Company has been designated by the Commission as an eligible telecommunications carrier for purposes of receiving federal universal services support pursuant to 47 C.F.R. Part 54 Subpart D Universal Service Support for High Cost Areas with respect to the service area for which the Company is seeking Program support.

II. Demonstration of Eligibility under WAC 480-123-110

1. WAC 480-123-110(1)(a): The name of the legal entity that provides communications services and is seeking Program support is as follows: Pioneer Telephone Company.

¹ On April 15, 2019, the FCC released a Report and Order (FCC 19-32) in its WC Docket No. 10-90, repealing 47 C.F.R. Sec. 54.318 and eliminating the national local urban rate floor, effective June 6, 2019. The Program was designed with a minimum rate floor component. In light of the FCC's Order (FCC 19-32), Commission Staff has provided guidance that, for purposes of the Program, the local urban rate floor benchmark be considered to have been set at each petitioning company's rates for local exchange service, plus mandatory extended area service charges, in effect as of December 31, 2018.

- 2. WAC 480-123-110(1)(b): A corporate organization chart showing the relationship between the Company and all affiliates as defined in RCW 80.16.010, is attached hereto as Exhibit 1. A detailed description of any transactions between the Company and the affiliates named in Exhibit 1 recorded in the Company's operating accounts is attached hereto as Exhibit 2.
- 3. WAC 480-123-110(1)(c): A service area map for the Company can be found at Sheet No.2.2 in Section IV of the Company's Tariff WN U-3.
- 4. WAC 480-123-110(1)(d): A demonstration that the Company's customers are at risk of rate instability or service interruption or cessation in the absence of support from the Program is attached hereto as Exhibit 3.
- 5. WAC 480-123-110(1)(e)(i): On the Commission's prescribed form, attached hereto as Exhibit 4, are copies of the Company's balance sheet as of December 31, 2018, and December 31, 2017, and copies of the Company's statements of income and retained earnings or margin for the years ended December 31, 2018 and December 31, 2017. In addition, certain service information requested by the Commission is included in Exhibit 4.
- 6. WAC 480-123-110(1)(e)(ii): A copy of the parent Company's consolidated annual financial statements for the years ended December 31, 2018 and December 31, 2017, are attached as hereto Exhibit 5.
- 7. WAC 480-123-110(1)(e)(iii): Information demonstrating the Company's earned rate of return on a total Washington unseparated regulated operations basis for each of the two prior years, calculated in the manner prescribed by the Commission, is provided in Exhibit 4 attached hereto.

- 8. WAC 480-123-110(1)(e)(iv): Information demonstrating the Company's earned return on equity on a total company (regulated and non-regulated) Washington basis for each of the two prior years, calculated in the manner prescribed by the Commission, is provided in Exhibit 5.
- 9. WAC 480-123-110(1)(e)(v): Information detailing all of the Company's assets and revenues from the balance sheets, statements of income and retained earnings or margin in the same format and detail as is required to complete USDA-RUS Operating Report for the prior two years is presented on Exhibit 6 attached hereto.
- 10. WAC 480-123-110(1)(e)(vi): A statement under penalty of perjury from a Company officer with personal knowledge and responsibility certifying that no corporate operations adjustment to existing support mechanisms required by the Federal Communications Commission applied to the Company for the prior two years is attached hereto as Exhibit 7.
- 11. WAC 480-123-110(1)(e)(vii): Exhibit 4 contains additional supporting information requested by the Commission.
- 12. WAC 480-123-110(1)(e)(viii): A statement under penalty of perjury from a Company officer with personal knowledge and responsibility certifying that the Company complies with state and federal accounting, cost allocation, and cost adjustment rules pertaining to incumbent local exchange companies is attached hereto as Exhibit 8.
- 13. WAC 480-123-110(1)(f): A complete copy of the FCC Form 481 filed by the Company or on its behalf with the Federal Communications Commission for the calendar year preceding

the current year has already been filed with the Commission. See the Company's filing in Docket No. UT-190005 filed on or about July 1, 2019.

14. WAC 480-123-110(1)(g): The number of residential local exchange access lines served by the Company as of December 31, 2018, was 445, all of which were within the geographic area for which the Company is seeking support. The number of residential local exchange access lines served by the Company as of December 31, 2017, was 472, all of which were within the geographic area for which the Company is seeking support. The number of business local exchange access lines served by the Company as of December 31, 2018, was 159, all of which were within the geographic area for which the Company is seeking support. The number of business local exchange access lines served by the Company as of December 31, 2017, was 166, all of which were within the geographic area for which the Company is seeking support.

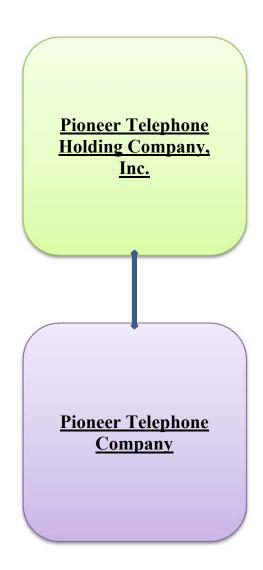
The monthly recurring rate charged by the Company for residential local exchange access service on December 31, 2018 and 2017, was \$18.00. The rate charged by the Company for single line business local exchange access service on December 31, 2018 and 2017, was \$18.00. (The Company has other business local exchange service rates, but the Company understands that WAC 480-123-110(1)(g) is requesting the single line business local exchange access service rate.)

15. WAC 480-123-110(1)(h): The specified statement is attached hereto as Exhibit 9.

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1	16. The 2011 Rate of Return Carrier Base Period Revenue amount on line 4 of the CAF ICC
2	Data Collection Report for the period of July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020 is \$454,357 and has
3	not changed from prior filings for Pioneer Telephone Company.
4	17. All exhibits attached hereto are incorporated in this Petition as though fully set forth.
5	
6	
7 8	Respectfully submitted this 30 th day of July, 2019.
9	PIONEER TELEPHONE COMPANY
10	
11	CERTIFICATION
12	I, Durand Cox, an officer of Pioneer Telephone Company (the "Company") that is responsible for the Company's business and financial operations, hereby certify under penalty of
13	perjury that the information and representations set forth in the Petition, above, are accurate and the
14	Company has not knowingly withheld any information required to be provided to the Commission pursuant to the rules governing the Program.
15	Dated at LaCrosse, Washington this 30 th day of July, 2019.
16	
17	By: Luce a-Cor
18	Title: Durand Cox, President
19	
20 21	
$\begin{bmatrix} 21 \\ 22 \end{bmatrix}$	
23	
24	
25	
26	PETITION OF PIONEER TELEPHONE COMPANY TO RECEIVE SUPPORT FROM THE STATE UNIVERSAL COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES PROGRAM - 6

EXHIBIT 1 CORPORATE ORGANIZATION CHART



PETITION OF PIONEER TELEPHONE COMPANY TO RECEIVE SUPPORT FROM THE STATE UNIVERSAL COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES PROGRAM – EXHIBIT 1, PAGE – 1

EXHIBIT 2

AFFILIATED TRANSACTIONS

Pioneer Telephone Company ("Company") has affiliated transactions with its parent holding company Pioneer Telephone Holding Company, Inc. During 2018, these transactions consisted of the following:

- The Company provides wholesale DSL service to the parent and charges the parent for such services at rates set forth in the applicable tariff of the National Exchange Carrier Association, Inc. ("NECA").
- The Company provides the parent with special access service, for which the parent is charged by the Company at applicable NECA tariff rates.
- The Company provides customer service support on behalf of the parent with respect to services furnished by the parent to end user customers. The Company is reimbursed by the parent for such services, based on time devoted to such service, to which fully loaded labor rates are applied.
- The Company provides billing and collection services to the parent with respect to retail internet access service furnished by the parent to the Company's end user customers. The cost of these services is identified through the Company's FCC Part 64 procedures as a reduction of operating expenses.
- The Company purchases from the parent web hosting service, email delivery and internet access at rates equivalent to the rates the parent charges to its similarly situated retail customers
- The parent pays federal income taxes due with respect to income earned by the Company, and is reimbursed by the Company for the Company's allocated share of such taxes.

EXHIBIT 3

DEMONSTRATION OF RISK OF RATE INSTABILITY OR SERVICE INTERRUPTION OR CESSATION

The Company has been taking significant steps to address the issues of rate instability and the possibility of service interruption or cessation. Those efforts continue and are supported by the state Universal Communications Service Program.

There are two primary risks facing the Company. One is financial uncertainty. The second is growing competition. These risks are related to one another.

The Company has been working over the past several years to address growing competition. The Company has taken steps to increase the availability and attributes of broadband services offered by the Company. To do this, the Company has made additional investments in regulated plant of approximately \$5,189,000 during the period January 1, 2011 through December 31, 2018.

One of the reasons the Company made this investment is that the Company has seen some migration of customers to wireless or other service as the customer's sole method of telecommunications. Since 2011, the Company has lost 104 access lines, this is over 15 percent of the Company's access lines. Obviously, a loss of customers equates to a loss of revenue without a corresponding reduction in expenses.

This trend of access line loss was made worse by actions of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) which required that the Company increase its rates to remain eligible for full federal USF support. Thus, the FCC interjected more rate instability. Since 2012, the Company has increased its local exchange service rates in order to be in compliance with the national urban rate floor prescribed by the FCC. Those rate increases have tended to stimulate a surge in disconnection of service by customers. The process of increasing rates was placed on moratorium by the FCC. However, the moratorium, while welcome, only provides a respite for the time being. The threat of future rate increases still remains.

As an example of why state Universal Communications Service Program support is needed, the Company's receipt of revenue from the traditional Washington intrastate universal service access rate element and related pooling fund were terminated effective July 1, 2014. Since then, the loss of revenues derived from the traditional universal service access rate element has been offset by revenues received by the Company as a result of its participation in the Program. Using 2012 as a base-line, the Company is facing a loss of traditional universal service fund revenues of approximately \$15,580 per year if its participation in the Program is not renewed.

As another example, some of the financial uncertainty that the Company faces stems from the USF/ICC Transformation Order issued by the FCC.¹ The USF/ICC Transformation Order has built in an automatic decline in the Company's intrastate and interstate access revenues. The intercarrier compensation portion of the Transformation Order introduces a concept of a baseline year for calculating terminating access and reciprocal compensation revenues and provides support from the Connect America Fund ("CAF") based on the base line year. However, the base-line year revenues (from which the level of CAF support is derived) are reduced iteratively by five percent each year. The CAF support reduction began in July 2012. Projecting through the year ending June 30, 2020, including reductions that occurred July 1, 2019, the Company has seen a reduction in support from the base-line revenue of approximately \$152,927.

In an effort to address the uncertainty of federal support, the Company elected model support from the FCC known as the Alternative Connect America Cost Model (ACAM). This program started in 2017 and under the program, the Company's federal support will be fixed and will be funded for ten years through 2026. Since the initial election of ACAM, there have been two additional updates to the ACAM offer with new buildout obligations with higher speed requirements and the period has been extended to two more years until 2028. However, the support comes with strings. The Company is constructing fiber-to-the-home throughout its study area to comply with the ACAM buildout obligations to provide high-quality broadband to 884 locations by the end of 2028. Plant additions of approximately \$3.2 million for 2018 were related to the fiber-to-the-home project. Projected plant additions for 2019 for the fiber-to-the-home project is approximately \$2.6 million. Total construction portion for the fiber-to-the-home project is estimated to be approximately between \$6 and \$7 million. Approximately \$1.7 million of the Company's current outstanding accounts payable balance is attributed to the fiber-to-the-home project.

ACAM replaces high-cost loop and broadband support formerly known as interstate common line support. ACAM increased support revenues by approximately \$375,000 from 2016 to 2018. However, the ACAM support is designated to the Company's buildout obligations noted above. To meet the buildout obligations, the Company will be required to provide funds above and beyond what it will receive in ACAM support. It is a guess where this will put the Company at the end of the day. ACAM is a tradeoff that offers some stability but requires greater investment.

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¹ In the Matter of Connect America Fund, A National Broadband Plan for Our Future, Establishing Just and Reasonable Rates for Local Exchange Carriers, High-Cost Universal Service Support, Developing an Unified Intercarrier Compensation Regime, Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service, Lifeline and Link-Up, Universal Service Reform - Mobility Fun, WC Docket No. 10-90, GN Docket No. 09-51, WC Docket No. 07-135, WC Docket No. 05-337, CC Docket No. 01-92, CC Docket No. 96-45, WC Docket No. 03-109, WT Docket No. 10-208, Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, FCC 11-161 (rel. Nov. 18, 2011)(USF/ICC Transformation Order).

The combination of factors noted above creates a situation in which, without support from the state Universal Communications Services Program, the Company may be faced with a choice of increasing rates further or reducing service in order to be able to match expenses to revenues. Neither choice presents a viable path for providing continued high quality service to customers. The dilemma presented by these choices reflects the risk of rate instability or service interruption or cessation to which the Company is subject. The Company's goal is that through the use of ACAM funds and state Universal Communications Service Program funds, the Company will be able to provide a viable rural broadband services network. That effort is a work in progress and has not been achieved as yet.

STATE USF FILING FINANCIAL TEMPLATE NON-"S CORP" COMPANIES

Company Name: (Below)
PIONEER TELEPHONE COMPANY

	Balance	Part 64	Adj. Balance		Balance	Part 64	Adj. Balance
ASSETS	End of Year	Adj to NonReg	End of Year	LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY	End of Year	Adj to NonReg	End of Year
	2017 (A)	2017 (B)	2017 (C)		2017 (A)	2017 (B)	2017 (C)
CURRENT ASSETS				CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Cash and Equivalents	1,367,357		1,367,357	25. Accounts Payable	41,844		41,844
Cash-RUS Construction Fund			0	26. Notes Payable			0
3. Affiliates:				27. Advance Billings and Payments			0
a. Telecom, Accounts Receivable			0	28. Customer Deposits	300		300
b. Other Accounts Receivable			0	29. Current Mat. L/T Debt			0
c. Notes Receivable			0	30. Current Mat. L/T Debt Rur. Dev.			0
4. Non-Affiliates:				31. Current Mat Capital Leases			0
a. Telecom, Accounts Receivable	24,869		24,869	32. Income Taxes Accrued	2,785		2,785
b. Other Accounts Receivable	,		0	33. Other Taxes Accrued	64,556		64,556
c. Notes Receivable			0	34. Other Current Liabilities	161,618		161,618
5. Interest and Dividends Receivable			0	35. Total Current Liabilities (25 thru 34)	271,103	0	271,103
6. Material-Regulated	208,722		208,722	LONG-TERM DEBT	,		,
7. Material-Nonregulated	,		0	36. Funded Debt-RUS Notes			0
8. Prepayments	12,186		12,186	37. Funded Debt-RTB Notes			0
Other Current Assets	510,068		510,068	38. Funded Debt-FFB Notes			0
10. Total Current Assets (1 Thru 9)	2,123,202	0	2,123,202	39. Funded Debt-Other			0
, ,	, ,			40. Funded Debt-Rural Develop. Loan			0
				41. Premium (Discount) on L/T Debt			0
NONCURRENT ASSETS				42. Reacquired Debt			0
11. Investment in Affiliated Companies				43. Obligations Under Capital Lease			0
a. Rural Development	0		0	44. Adv. From Affiliated Companies	130,055		130,055
b. Nonrural Development	0		0	45. Other Long-Term Debt			0
12. Other Investments				46. Total Long-Term Debt (36 thru 45)	130,055	0	130,055
a. Rural Development	0		0	OTHER LIAB. & DEF. CREDITS			
b. Nonrural Development			0	47. Other Long-Term Liabilities			0
13. Nonregulated Investments (B1)	35,277	5,134	40,411	48. Deferred Income Taxes	390,049	217,778	607,827
14. Other Noncurrent Assets			0	49. Other Deferred Credits (D)			0
15. Deferred Charges			0	50. Other Jurisdictional Differences			0
16. Jurisdictional Differences			0	51. Total Other Liab. & Def. Credits (47 thru 50)	390,049	217,778	607,827
17. Total noncurrent Assets (11 thru 16)	35,277	5,134	40,411	EQUITY			
				52. Cap. Stock Outstanding & Subscribed	56,052		56,052
PLANT, PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT				53. Additional Paid-in-Capital			0
18. Telecom Plant-In-Service	13,709,528	(42,139)	13,667,389	54. Treasury Stock			0
19. Property Held for Future Use			0	55. Membership and Capital Certificates	1		0
20. Plant Under Construction	5,218		5,218	56. Other Capital			0
21. Plant Adj., Nonop Plant & Goodwill			0	57. Patronage Capital Credits	1		0
22. Accumulated Depreciation (CR.)	(9,410,284)	37,005	(9,373,279)	58. Retained Earnings or Margins (B2)	5,615,682	(217,778)	5,397,904
23. Net Plant (18 thru 21 less 22)	4,304,462	(5,134)	4,299,328	59. Total Equity (52 thru 58)	5,671,734	(217,778)	5,453,956
24. TOTAL ASSETS (10+17+23)	6,462,941	0	6,462,941	60. TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY (35+46+51+59)	6,462,941	0	6,462,941

Footnotes:

(A) - As reported on RUS Form 479

(B) - Part 64 adjustments from regulated

to nonregulated.

(C) - Adjusted Balance after Part 64

Footnotes:

(B1) - Part 64 offset to nonreg investment

(B2) - Part 64 offset to retained earnings

(D) - Excludes deferred taxes

Line 48, column A Deferred FIT does note include excess Deferred FIT because for GAAP purposes it was directly expensed. Line 48, column B includes the excess Deferred FIT expense added back to Deferred FIT for cost study purposes required by NECA/FCC for normalization.

PETITION OF PIONEER TELEPHONE COMPANY TO RECEIVE SUPPORT FROM THE STATE UNIVERSAL COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES PROGRAM - EXHIBIT 4, PAGE - 2

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State USF Petition Filing Requirement -WAC 480-123-110(1)(e) Current Year Balance Sheet

Company Name: (Below)
PIONEER TELEPHONE COMPANY

	Balance	Part 64	Adj. Balance		Balance	Part 64	Adj. Balance
ASSETS	End of Year	Adj to NonReg	End of Year	LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY	End of Year	Adj to NonReg	End of Year
	2018 (A)	2018 (B)	2018 (C)		2018 (A)	2018 (B)	2018 (C)
CURRENT ASSETS				CURRENT LIABILITIES			
1. Cash and Equivalents	340,140		340,140	25. Accounts Payable	864,465		864,465
2. Cash-RUS Construction Fund			0	26. Notes Payable			0
3. Affiliates:				27. Advance Billings and Payments			0
a. Telecom, Accounts Receivable			0	28. Customer Deposits	509		509
b. Other Accounts Receivable			0	29. Current Mat. L/T Debt			0
c. Notes Receivable			0	30. Current Mat. L/T Debt Rur. Dev.			0
4. Non-Affiliates:				31. Current Mat Capital Leases			0
a. Telecom, Accounts Receivable	23,688		23,688	32. Income Taxes Accrued	105,790		105,790
b. Other Accounts Receivable			0	33. Other Taxes Accrued	64,774		64,774
c. Notes Receivable			0	34. Other Current Liabilities	152,544		152,544
5. Interest and Dividends Receivable			0	35. Total Current Liabilities (25 thru 34)	1,188,082	0	1,188,082
6. Material-Regulated	176,237		176,237	LONG-TERM DEBT			
7. Material-Nonregulated			0	36. Funded Debt-RUS Notes			0
8. Prepayments	11,572		11,572	37. Funded Debt-RTB Notes			0
9. Other Current Assets	298,609		298,609	38. Funded Debt-FFB Notes			0
10. Total Current Assets (1 Thru 9)	850,246	0	850,246	39. Funded Debt-Other			0
				40. Funded Debt-Rural Develop. Loan			0
				41. Premium (Discount) on L/T Debt			0
NONCURRENT ASSETS				42. Reacquired Debt			0
11. Investment in Affiliated Companies				43. Obligations Under Capital Lease			0
a. Rural Development			0	44. Adv. From Affiliated Companies	232,788		232,788
b. Nonrural Development			0	45. Other Long-Term Debt			0
12. Other Investments				46. Total Long-Term Debt (36 thru 45)	232,788	0	232,788
a. Rural Development			0	OTHER LIAB. & DEF. CREDITS			
b. Nonrural Development			0	47. Other Long-Term Liabilities			0
13. Nonregulated Investments (B1)	35,277	3,689	38,966	48. Deferred Income Taxes	338,571	204,106	542,677
14. Other Noncurrent Assets			0	49. Other Deferred Credits (D)			0
15. Deferred Charges			0	50. Other Jurisdictional Differences			0
16. Jurisdictional Differences			0	51. Total Other Liab. & Def. Credits (47 thru 50)	338,571	204,106	542,677
17. Total noncurrent Assets (11 thru 16)	35,277	3,689	38,966	EQUITY			
				52. Cap. Stock Outstanding & Subscribed	56,052		56,052
PLANT, PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT				53. Additional Paid-in-Capital			0
18. Telecom Plant-In-Service	16,929,017	(45,487)	16,883,530	54. Treasury Stock			0
19. Property Held for Future Use			0	55. Membership and Capital Certificates			0
20. Plant Under Construction			0	56. Other Capital			0
21. Plant Adj., Nonop Plant & Goodwill			0	57. Patronage Capital Credits			0
22. Accumulated Depreciation (CR.)	(10,160,349)	41,798	(10,118,551)	58. Retained Earnings or Margins (B2)	5,838,698	(204,106)	5,634,592
23. Net Plant (18 thru 21 less 22)	6,768,668	(3,689)	6,764,979	59. Total Equity (52 thru 58)	5,894,750	(204,106)	5,690,644
24. TOTAL ASSETS (10+17+23)	7,654,191	0	7,654,191	60. TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY (35+46+51+59)	7,654,191	0	7,654,191

Footnotes:

(A) - As reported on RUS Form 479

(B) - Part 64 adjustments from regulated

to nonregulated.

(C) - Adjusted Balance after Part 64

Footnotes:

(B1) - Part 64 offset to nonreg investment

(B2) - Part 64 offset to retained earnings

(D) - Excludes deferred taxes

PETITION OF PIONEER TELEPHONE COMPANY TO RECEIVE SUPPORT FROM THE STATE UNIVERSAL COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES PROGRAM - EXHIBIT 4, PAGE - 3

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Company Name: (Below)
PIONEER TELEPHONE COMPANY

	Adjusted	Adjusted		Adjusted	Adjusted
ASSETS	Prior Year	Current Year	LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY	Prior Year	Current Year
	Balance 2017	Balance 2018		Balance 2017	Balance 2018
CURRENT ASSETS			CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Cash and Equivalents	1,367,357	340,140	25. Accounts Payable	41,844	864,465
2. Cash-RUS Construction Fund	0	0	26. Notes Payable	0	0
3. Affiliates:			27. Advance Billings and Payments	0	0
a. Telecom, Accounts Receivable	0	0	28. Customer Deposits	300	509
b. Other Accounts Receivable	0	0	29. Current Mat. L/T Debt	0	0
c. Notes Receivable	0	0	30. Current Mat. L/T Debt Rur. Dev.	0	0
4. Non-Affiliates:			31. Current Mat Capital Leases	0	0
a. Telecom, Accounts Receivable	24,869	23,688	32. Income Taxes Accrued	2,785	105,790
b. Other Accounts Receivable	0	0	33. Other Taxes Accrued	64,556	64,774
c. Notes Receivable	0	0	34. Other Current Liabilities	161,618	152,544
5. Interest and Dividends Receivable	0	0	35. Total Current Liabilities (25 - 34)	271,103	1,188,082
6. Material-Regulated	208,722	176,237	LONG-TERM DEBT		
7. Material-Nonregulated	0	0	36. Funded Debt-RUS Notes	0	0
8. Prepayments	12,186	11,572	37. Funded Debt-RTB Notes	0	0
9. Other Current Assets	510,068	298,609	38. Funded Debt-FFB Notes	0	0
10. Total Current Assets (1 Thru 9)	2,123,202	850,246	39. Funded Debt-Other	0	0
			40. Funded Debt-Rural Develop. Loan	0	0
			41. Premium (Discount) on L/T Debt	0	0
NONCURRENT ASSETS			42. Reacquired Debt	0	0
11. Investment in Affiliated Companies			43. Obligations Under Capital Lease	0	0
a. Rural Development	0	0	44. Adv. From Affiliated Companies	130,055	232,788
b. Nonrural Development	0	0	45. Other Long-Term Debt	0	0
12. Other Investments			46. Total Long-Term Debt (36-45)	130,055	232,788
a. Rural Development	0	0	OTHER LIAB. & DEF. CREDITS		
b. Nonrural Development	0	0	47. Other Long-Term Liabilities	0	0
13. Nonregulated Investments	40,411	38,966	48. Deferred Income Taxes	607,827	542,677
14. Other Noncurrent Assets	0	0	49. Other Deferred Credits	0	0
15. Deferred Charges	0	0	50. Other Jurisdictional Differences	0	0
16. Jurisdictional Differences	0	0	51. Total Other Liab. & Def. Credits (47 thru 50)	607,827	542,677
17. Total noncurrent Assets (11 thru 16)	40,411	38,966	EQUITY		
			52. Cap. Stock Outstanding & Subscribed	56,052	56,052
PLANT, PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT			53. Additional Paid-in-Capital	0	0
18. Telecom Plant-in-Service	13,667,389	16,883,530	54. Treasury Stock	0	0
19. Property Held for Future Use	0	0	55. Membership and Capital Certificates	0	0
20. Plant Under Construction	5,218	0	56. Other Capital	0	0
21. Plant Adj.,Nonop Plant & Goodwill	0	0	57. Patronage Capital Credits	0	0
22. Accumulated Depreciation (CR.)	(9,373,279)	(10,118,551)	58. Retained Earnings or Margins	5,397,904	5,634,592
23. Net Plant (18 thru 21 less 22)	4,299,328	6,764,979	59. Total Equity (52 thru 58)	5,453,956	5,690,644
24. TOTAL ASSETS (10+17+23)	6,462,941	7,654,191	59. TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY (35+46+51+59)	6,462,941	7,654,191

Footnote:

Adjusted Balances represents balances after Part 64 adjustments.

PETITION OF PIONEER TELEPHONE COMPANY TO RECEIVE SUPPORT FROM THE STATE UNIVERSAL COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES PROGRAM - EXHIBIT 4, PAGE - 4

State USF Petition Filing Requirement -WAC 480-123-110 (1)(e) Prior and Current Year Rate Base

Company Name: (Below)
PIONEER TELEPHONE COMPANY

		B/S	Adj. Balance	Adj. Balance	Average
Line #	Description	Line	End of Year	End of Year	Adj End of Year
		#	2017	2018	Balance
	Average Rate Base:				
1	Total Regulated Adjusted Telecom Plant-In-Service	18	13,667,389	16,883,530	15,275,460
2	Total Property Held for Future Use	19	0	0	0
3	Total Regulated Adjusted Accumulated Depreciation (CR)	22	(9,373,279)	(10,118,551)	(9,745,915)
4	Total Regulated Materials & Supplies	6	208,722	176,237	192,480
5	Deferred Income Taxes (CR) * - Manually input		(607,827)	(542,677)	(575,252)
6	Total Regulated Rate Base		3,895,005	6,398,539	5,146,772

Footnotes:

- 1. Normal balance of deferred operating income taxes and accumulated depreciation is a credit.
- 2. Deferred Income Taxes (Line 5) may not equal the Balance Sheet Deferred Income Taxes (Line 48) if the later includes non-operating.
 - 3. Adjusted balance includes Part 64 adjustments

PETITION OF PIONEER TELEPHONE COMPANY TO RECEIVE SUPPORT FROM THE STATE UNIVERSAL COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES PROGRAM - EXHIBIT 4, PAGE - 5

Page 5 of 12 7/16/2019

State USF Petition Filing Requirement -WAC 480-123-110 (1)(e) Prior and Current Year Access Lines

Company Name: (Below)
PIONEER TELEPHONE COMPANY

		Prior Year	Current Year		
Line #	Description	End of Yr.	End of Yr.	Difference	%
		Balance - 2017	Balance - 2018		Change
	Access Lines:				
1	Residential	472	445	(27)	-5.7%
2	Business	166	159	(7)	-4.2%
3	Total	638	604	(34)	-5.3%

Note: If 2017 does not equal last year's petition and template, explain.

PETITION OF PIONEER TELEPHONE COMPANY TO RECEIVE SUPPORT FROM THE STATE UNIVERSAL COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES PROGRAM - EXHIBIT 4, PAGE - 6

Page 6 of 12 7/16/2019

Company Name: (Below)
PIONEER TELEPHONE COMPANY

		Prior Year	Part 64	Prior Year
Line #	Description	2017	Adj. to NonReg	Adjusted
2	2636.1p.16.11	(A)	(B)	2017 (C)
1	Local Network Services Revenues	151,899	(5)	151,899
2	Network Access Services Revenues	1,514,706		1,514,706
3	Long Distance Network Services Revenues	36,105		36,105
4	Carrier Billing and Collection Revenues	1,800		1,800
5	Miscellaneous Revenues	11,472		11,472
6	Uncollectible Revenues (Normal Balance is debit or in brackets)	91		91
7	Net Operating Revenues (1 thru 6)	1,716,073	0	1,716,073
8	Plant Specific Operations Expense	315,194	(37,156)	278,038
9	Plant Nonspecific Operations Expense (excluding Depreciation & Amort.)	43,184	12,945	56,129
10	Depreciation Expense	530,118	(1,669)	528,449
11	Amortization Expense	330,110	(1,003)	0
12	Customer Operations Expense	136,232	(6,147)	130,085
13	Corporate Operations	367,005	(20,941)	346,064
14	Total Operations Expenses (8 thru 13)	1,391,733	(52,968)	1,338,765
15	Operating Income or Margins (7 less 14)	324,340	52,968	377,308
16	Other Operating Income and Expenses ()	32.,3.0	32,300	0
17	State and Local Taxes	48,182	(990)	47,192
18	Federal Income Taxes (A1) - (LINE IS ZERO IF COMPANY IS S CORP)	(139,051)	233,612	94,561
19	Other Taxes	(133,031)	255,012	0
20	Total Operating Taxes (17+18+19)	(90,869)	232,622	141,753
21	Net Operating Income or Margins (15+16-20)	415,209	(179,654)	235,555
22	Interest on Funded Debt	113,203	(175)65.17	0
23	Interest Expense - Capital Leases			0
24	Other Interest Expense			0
25	Allowance for Funds Used During Construction (Record as a Credit)			0
26	Total Fixed Charges (22+23+24+25)	0	0	0
27	Nonoperating Net Income	15,702	-	15,702
28	Extraordinary Items	-, -		0
29	Jurisdictional Differences			0
30	Nonregulated Net Income (B1)	12,640	179,654	192,294
31	Total Net Income or Margins (21+27+28+29+30-26)	443,551	0	443,551
32	Total Taxes Based on Income	,		,
33	Retained Earning or Margins Beginning-of-Year	5,140,239		5,140,239
34	Miscellaneous Credits Year-to-Date	, ,		0
35	Dividends Declared (Common)			0
36	Dividends Declared (Preferred)			0
37	Other Debits Year-to-Date	(31,892)		(31,892)
38	Transfers to Patronage Capital	, , ,		0
39	Retained Earnings End-of-Period ((31+33+34)-(35+36+37+38)(A2)	5,615,682	0	5,615,682
40	Patronage Capital Beginning-of-Year	, ,		0
41	Transfers to Patronage Capital			0
42	Patronage Capital Credits Retired			0
43	Patronage Capital End-of-Year (40+41-42)	0	0	0
44	Annual Debt Service Payments			0
45	Cash Ratio ((14+20-10-11)/7)	0.4491	#DIV/0!	0.5548
46	Operating Accrual Ratio ((14+20+26)/7)	0.7580	#DIV/0!	0.8627
47	TIER ((31+26)/26)	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!
48	DSCR ((31+26+10+11)/44)	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!
	Footnator			l l

Footnotes:

- (A) As reported on RUS Form 479
- (A1) S Corps provide effective tax rate from Cost study on Page 9, Income Statement Summary Schedule Footnote
- (A2) Column A, Line 39 must equal Column A, Line 58 of Page 2, Balance Sheet
- (B) Part 64 adjustment from regulated to nonregulated
- (B1) Column B, automatic offset to Nonregulated Net Income (No impact to Retained Earnings)
- (C) Adjusted balance after Part 64 adjustments
 Ln 18, column includes Excess Deferred FIT expense removed

Page 7 of 12 7/16/2019

Company Name: (Below)
PIONEER TELEPHONE COMPANY

		Current Year	Part 64	Current Year
Line #	Description	2018	Adj. to NonReg	Adjusted
Line "	Description	(A)	(B)	2018 (C)
1	Local Network Services Revenues	146,768	(5)	146,768
2	Network Access Services Revenues	1,671,078		1,671,078
3	Long Distance Network Services Revenues	32,584		32,584
4	Carrier Billing and Collection Revenues	1,800		1,800
5	Miscellaneous Revenues	9,303		9,303
6	Uncollectible Revenues (Normal Balance is debit or in brackets)	(1,151)		(1,151)
7	Net Operating Revenues (1 thru 6)	1,860,382	0	1,860,382
8	Plant Specific Operations Expense	275,628	(24,701)	250,927
9	Plant Nonspecific Operations Expense (excluding Depreciation & Amort.)	36,984	14,573	51,557
10	Depreciation Expense	750,065	(1,991)	748,074
11	Amortization Expense	750,005	(1,331)	748,074
12	Customer Operations Expense	88,743	(3,068)	85,675
13	Corporate Operations	363,508	(21,214)	342,294
14	Total Operations Expenses (8 thru 13)	1,514,928	(36,401)	1,478,527
15	Operating Income or Margins (7 less 14)	345,454	36,401	381,855
16	Other Operating Income and Expenses ()	343,434	30,401	0
17	State and Local Taxes	60,769	(1,082)	59,687
18	Federal Income Taxes (A1) - (LINE IS ZERO IF COMPANY IS S CORP)	57,571	30,154	87,725
19	Other Taxes	37,371	(65,942)	(65,942)
20	Total Operating Taxes (17+18+19)	118,340	(36,870)	81,470
21	Net Operating Income or Margins (15+16-20)	227,114	73,271	300,385
22	Interest on Funded Debt	227,114	73,271	0
23	Interest Expense - Capital Leases			0
24	Other Interest Expense			0
25	Allowance for Funds Used During Construction (Record as a Credit)			0
26	Total Fixed Charges (22+23+24+25)	0	0	0
27	Nonoperating Net Income	29,079	0	29,079
28	Extraordinary Items	29,079		29,079
29	Jurisdictional Differences			0
30	Nonregulated Net Income (B1)	7,912	(73,271)	(65,359)
31	Total Net Income or Margins (21+27+28+29+30-26)	264,105	(73,271)	264,105
32	Total Taxes Based on Income	204,103	U	204,103
33	Retained Earning or Margins Beginning-of-Year	5,615,682		5,615,682
34	Miscellaneous Credits Year-to-Date	3,013,062		3,613,682
35	Dividends Declared (Common)			0
36	Dividends Declared (Common) Dividends Declared (Preferred)			0
	Other Debits Year-to-Date	41 000		-
37 38	Transfers to Patronage Capital	41,089		41,089 0
39	Retained Earnings End-of-Period ((31+33+34)-(35+36+37+38)(A2)	5,838,698	0	5,838,698
40	Patronage Capital Beginning-of-Year	3,030,090	U	3,636,698
41				0
41	Transfers to Patronage Capital Patronage Capital Credits Retired			0
	0 1	0	0	0
43 44	Patronage Capital End-of-Year (40+41-42) Annual Debt Service Payments	-	U	0
45		0.4747	#DIV/0!	0.4364
45	Cash Ratio ((14+20-10-11)/7)	0.4747		0.4364
46 47	Operating Accrual Ratio ((14+20+26)/7)	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0! #DIV/0!	0.8385 #DIV/0!
	TIER ((31+26)/26)			,
48	DSCR ((31+26+10+11)/44)	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!
	Footnotes:			

Footnotes:

- (A) As reported on RUS Form 479
- (A1) S Corps provide effective tax rate from Cost study on Page 9, Income Statement Summary Schedule Footnote
- (A2) Column A, Line 39 must equal Column A, Line 58 of Page 3, Balance Sheet
- (B) Part 64 adjustment from regulated to nonregulated
- (B1) Column B, automatic offset to Nonregulated Net Income (No Impact to Retained Earnings)
- (C) Adjusted balance after Part 64 adjustments
 - Ln 18, column C total is Operating FIT
 - Ln 19, column B includes amortized Excess Deferred FIT expense
 - Ln 19, column B total is Operating Deferred FIT

Company Name: PIONEER TELEPHONE COMPANY

		Adjusted	Adjusted
Line #	Description	Prior Year	Current Year
	'	2017	2018
1	Local Network Services Revenues	151,899	146,768
2	Network Access Services Revenues	1,514,706	1,671,078
3	Long Distance Network Services Revenues	36,105	32,584
4	Carrier Billing and Collection Revenues	1,800	1,800
5	Miscellaneous Revenues	11,472	9,303
6	Uncollectible Revenues (Normal Balance is debit or in brackets)	91	(1,151)
7	Net Operating Revenues (1 thru 6)	1,716,073	1,860,382
8	Plant Specific Operations Expense	278,038	250,927
9	Plant Nonspecific Operations Expense (excluding Depreciation & Amort.)	56,129	51,557
10	Depreciation Expense	528,449	748,074
11	Amortization Expense	0	0
12	Customer Operations Expense	130,085	85,675
13	Corporate Operations	346,064	342,294
14	Total Operations Expenses (8 thru 13)	1,338,765	1,478,527
15	Operating Income or Margins (7 less 14)	377,308	381,855
16	Other Operating Income and Expenses ()	0	0
17	State and Local Taxes	47,192	59,687
18	Federal Income Taxes (A1) - (LINE IS ZERO IF COMPANY IS S CORP)	94,561	87,725
19	Other Taxes	0,301	(65,942)
	Total Operating Taxes (17+18+19)	141,753	81,470
21	Net Operating Income or Margins (15+16-20)	235,555	300,385
22	Interest on Funded Debt	233,333	0
23	Interest Expense - Capital Leases	0	0
24	Other Interest Expense	0	0
25	Allowance for Funds Used During Construction (Record as a Credit)	0	0
26	Total Fixed Charges (22+23+24+25)	0	0
27	Nonoperating Net Income	15,702	29,079
28	Extraordinary Items	0	0
29	Jurisdictional Differences	0	0
30	Nonregulated Net Income	192,294	(65,359)
31	Total Net Income or Margins (21+27+28+29+30-26)	443,551	264,105
32	Total Taxes Based on Income	1.10,001	20 1,103
33	Retained Earning or Margins Beginning-of-Year	5,140,239	5,615,682
34	Miscellaneous Credits Year-to-Date	0	0
35	Dividends Declared (Common)	0	0
36	Dividends Declared (Preferred)	0	0
37	Other Debits Year-to-Date	(31,892)	41,089
38	Transfers to Patronage Capital	(31,632)	11,005
39	Retained Earnings or Margins End-of-Period ((31+33+34)-(35+36+37+38)	5,615,682	5,838,698
40	Patronage Capital Beginning-of-Year	0	0
41	Transfers to Patronage Capital	0	0
42	Patronage Capital Credits Retired	0	0
43	Patronage Capital End-of-Year (40+41-42)	0	0
44	Annual Debt Service Payments	0	0
45	Cash Ratio ((14+20-10-11)/7)	0.5548	0.4364
46	Operating Accrual Ratio ((14+20+26)/7)	0.8627	0.8385
47	TIER ((31+26)/26)	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!
48	DSCR ((31+26+10+11)/44)	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!
	2001. [[02 : 20 : 20 : 22]] 77]	1101470.	#DIV/0.

Footnote 2017 2018

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(A1) S Corporation Effective Tax Rate (2 decimal places):

Note:

Adjusted Income Statement reflects Part 64 Adustments (Regulated to Nonregulated).

State USF Petition Filing Requirement -WAC 480-123-110 (1)(e) Prior and Current Year Access Revenue Detail

Company Name: (Below)
PIONEER TELEPHONE COMPANY

			Prior Year	Current Year
Line #	Description	Part 32	2017	2018
		Account		
1	End User Revenue (SLC, ARC, etc.)	5081	79,315	78,361
2	Switched Access (excluding USF):	5082		
2a	Intrastate		52,257	50,376
2b	Interstate (includes CAF)		179,217	242,522
3	Special Access:	5083		
3a	Intrastate		13,641	23,169
3b	Interstate		201,059	208,432
4	Federal USF (except CAF and ACAM/BLS)	Varies	332	0
5	Federal USF (ACAM or BLS)	Varies	861,730	923,923
6	State USF	Varies	127,155	144,295
7	Other*			
8	Total (must equal line 2 of Income Stmt.)		1,514,706	1,671,078
9	Line 2 of Income Stmt.		1,514,706	1,671,078
10	Difference		0	0

Footnote:

PETITION OF PIONEER TELEPHONE COMPANY TO RECEIVE SUPPORT FROM THE STATE UNIVERSAL COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES PROGRAM -EXHIBIT 4, PAGE - 10

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^{* -} if > than 5% of Access revenue total, provide description below.

State USF Petition Filing Requirement -WAC 480-123-110 (1)(e) Out-of-Period and Pro Forma Adjustments

Company Name: (Below)
PIONEER TELEPHONE COMPANY

Description of Out-of-Period (OOP) - 2018 (As Recorded) OR	Year		Part 32 Account	
Pro Forma (PF)Adjustment for Current Year Petition or Reversing from Prior Year		OOP or PF?	Debit	Credit
Adjustment #1:				
Adjustment #2:				
Adjustment #3:				
Adjustment #4				
Adjustment #5				

PETITION OF PIONEER TELEPHONE COMPANY TO RECEIVE SUPPORT FROM THE STATE UNIVERSAL COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES PROGRAM -EXHIBIT 4, PAGE - 11

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State USF Petition Filing Requirement -WAC 480-123-110 (1)(e) Rate of Return and Consoldiated Return on Equity

Company Name: (Below)
PIONEER TELEPHONE COMPANY

		Company	Staff
Line #	Description	2018	2018
		(A)	(B)
1	Rate Base (Jan. 1)	3,895,005	3,895,005
2	Rate Base (Dec 31)	6,398,539	6,398,539
3	Average Rate Base	5,146,772	5,146,772
4	Net Operating Income	300,385	300,385
5	Out-of-Period Adjustments Net of FIT		
6	Adjusted Net Operating Income	300,385	300,385
7	Earned Regulated Rate of Return	5.84%	5.84%

Footnotes:

- (A) Column A to be completed by Company,
- (B) Column B should equal Column A, but may include any Staff Adjustments

PETITION OF PIONEER TELEPHONE COMPANY TO RECEIVE SUPPORT FROM THE STATE UNIVERSAL COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES PROGRAM - EXHIBIT 4, PAGE - 12

Page 12 of 12 7/16/2019

State USF Petition Filing Requirement - WAC 480-123-110(e) Prior and Current Year Broadband and Gross Capital Expenditures

Exhibit 4.1 - Statistics

SHADED INFORMATION IS DESIGNATED AS CONFIDENTIAL PER WAC 480-07-160

Compan	y Name: ((Below)
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PIONEER TELEPHONE COMPANY

	Prior Year	Current Year		
Description	End of Yr.	End of Yr.	Difference	%
	Balance - 2017	Balance - 2018		Change
Broadband Connections:				
Residential				
Business				
Total				
Gross Regulated Capital Expenditures**:				
Total Annual Amount				

PIONEER TELEPHONE HOLDING COMPANY, INC. AND SUBSIDIARY

Reviewed Consolidated Financial Statements

December 31, 2018 and 2017

PIONEER TELEPHONE HOLDING COMPANY, INC. AND SUBSIDIARY

Reviewed Consolidated Financial Statements

December 31, 2018 and 2017

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S REVIEW REPORT1		
REVIEWED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS		
Consolidated Balance Sheets	2-3	
Consolidated Statements of Income	4	
Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income	5	
Consolidated Statements of Stockholders' Equity	6	
Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows	7-8	
Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements	9-18	



Independent Accountant's Review Report

Board of Directors Pioneer Telephone Holding Company, Inc. and Subsidiary LaCrosse, Washington

We have reviewed the accompanying consolidated financial statements of Pioneer Telephone Holding Company, Inc. and Subsidiary (a corporation) (the "Company"), which comprise the consolidated balance sheets as of December 31, 2018 and 2017, and the related consolidated statements of income, comprehensive income, stockholders' equity and cash flows for the years then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements. A review includes primarily applying analytical procedures to management's financial data and making inquiries of Company management. A review is substantially less in scope than an audit, the objective of which is the expression of an opinion regarding the consolidated financial statements as a whole. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion.

Management's Responsibility for the Consolidated Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these consolidated financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the consolidated financial statements that are free from material misstatement whether due to fraud or error.

Accountant's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to conduct the review engagements in accordance with Statements on Standards for Accounting and Review Services promulgated by the Accounting and Review Services Committee of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Those standards require us to perform procedures to obtain limited assurance as a basis for reporting whether we are aware of any material modifications that should be made to the consolidated financial statements for them to be in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We believe that the results of our procedures provide a reasonable basis for our conclusion.

Accountant's Conclusion

Based on our reviews, we are not aware of any material modifications that should be made to the accompanying consolidated financial statements in order for them to be in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

JOHNSON, STONE & PAGANO, P.S.

Johnson, Stone a Paguo, P.S.

January 25, 2019

PETITION OF PIONEER TELEPHONE COMPANY TO RECEIVE SUPPORT FROM THE STATE UNIVERSAL COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES PROGRAM – EXHIBIT 5, PAGE - 3

REVIEWED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

PETITION OF PIONEER TELEPHONE COMPANY TO RECEIVE SUPPORT FROM THE STATE UNIVERSAL COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES PROGRAM – EXHIBIT 5, PAGE - 4

PIONEER TELEPHONE HOLDING COMPANY, INC. AND SUBSIDIARY

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

December 31, 2018 and 2017

2018 2017

ASSETS

CURRENT ASSETS

Cash and cash equivalents
Short-term investments
Accounts receivable
Materials and supplies - at average cost
Prepaid expenses

Total Current Assets

INVESTMENTS AND OTHER ASSETS

Rural Telephone Finance Co-operative capital certificates Investment in land and building - less accumulated depreciation of

Total Investments and Other Assets

PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

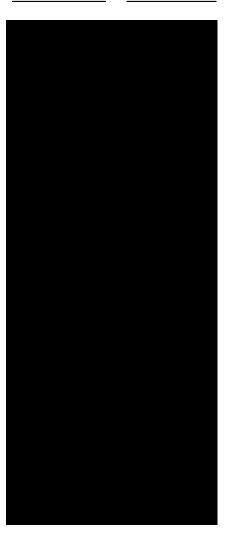
Land

Depreciable plant and equipment Allowances for depreciation deduction

Plant under construction

Total Property, Plant and Equipment

TOTAL ASSETS



PETITION OF PIONEER TELEPHONE COMPANY TO RECEIVE SUPPORT FROM THE STATE UNIVERSAL COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES PROGRAM – EXHIBIT 5, PAGE - 5

REDACTED

PIONEER TELEPHONE HOLDING COMPANY, INC. AND SUBSIDIARY

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS (Continued)

December 31, 2018 and 2017

LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY

CURRENT LIABILITIES

Accounts payable
Taxes, other than income taxes
Other current liabilities
Deferred revenue

Total Current Liabilities

DEFERRED FEDERAL INCOME TAXES

Total Liabilities

STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY

Common stock, no par value;
Authorized - shares
Issued and outstanding - shares
Retained earnings
Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss)

Total Stockholders' Equity

TOTAL LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY

2018

2017

PETITION OF PIONEER TELEPHONE COMPANY TO RECEIVE SUPPORT FROM THE STATE UNIVERSAL COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES PROGRAM – EXHIBIT 5, PAGE - 6

REDACTED

PIONEER TELEPHONE HOLDING COMPANY, INC. AND SUBSIDIARY

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME

Years Ended December 31, 2018 and 2017

2018 2017

REVENUES

Telecommunications service revenues Other operating revenues

Total Revenues

EXPENSES

Operating expenses
General and administrative
Depreciation and amortization
Other operating expenses
Taxes, other than income taxes

Total Expenses

Operating Income

OTHER INCOME (EXPENSE)

Interest and dividend income Gain on sale of investments Miscellaneous expense

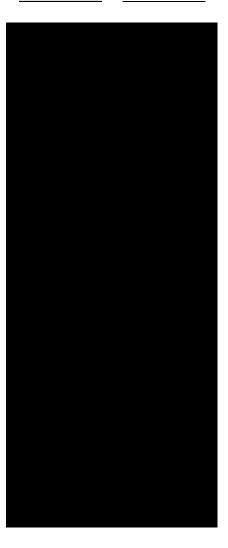
Total Other Income

Income Before Income Taxes

INCOME TAXES

Deferred expense

NET INCOME



PETITION OF PIONEER TELEPHONE COMPANY TO RECEIVE SUPPORT FROM THE STATE UNIVERSAL COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES PROGRAM – EXHIBIT 5, PAGE - 7

REDACTED

PIONEER TELEPHONE HOLDING COMPANY, INC. AND SUBSIDIARY

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

Years Ended December 31, 2018 and 2017

NET INCOME

OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (LOSS)

Unrealized gains (losses) on investments, net of deferred income taxes benefits (2018 - 2017 -)

COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

2018 2017

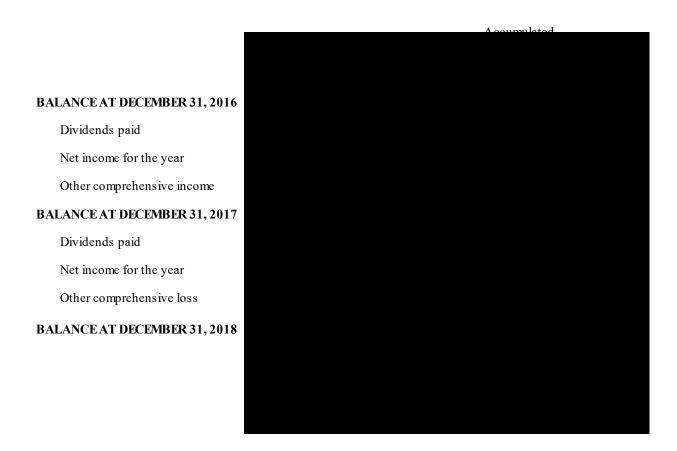
PETITION OF PIONEER TELEPHONE COMPANY TO RECEIVE SUPPORT FROM THE STATE UNIVERSAL COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES PROGRAM – EXHIBIT 5, PAGE - 8

REDACTED

PIONEER TELEPHONE HOLDING COMPANY, INC. AND SUBSIDIARY

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY

Years Ended December 31, 2018 and 2017



PETITION OF PIONEER TELEPHONE COMPANY TO RECEIVE SUPPORT FROM THE STATE UNIVERSAL COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES PROGRAM – EXHIBIT 5, PAGE - 9

REDACTED

PIONEER TELEPHONE HOLDING COMPANY, INC. AND SUBSIDIARY

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

Years Ended December 31, 2018 and 2017

2018 2017

CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

Net income

Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities
Gain on sale of investments
Depreciation of plant and equipment
Deferred federal income taxes
Net change in operating assets and liabilities

Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities

CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES

Purchases of short-term investments Proceeds from sale of short-term investments Salvage from disposal of telecommunications plant Additions to property, plant and equipment

Net Cash Used by Investing Activities

CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES

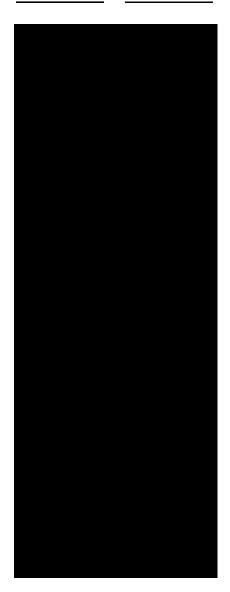
Dividends paid

Net Cash Used by Financing Activities

NET DECREASE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

Cash and Cash Equivalents at Beginning of Year

CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT END OF YEAR



PETITION OF PIONEER TELEPHONE COMPANY TO RECEIVE SUPPORT FROM THE STATE UNIVERSAL COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES PROGRAM – EXHIBIT 5, PAGE - 10

REDACTED

PIONEER TELEPHONE HOLDING COMPANY, INC. AND SUBSIDIARY

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS (Continued)

Years Ended December 31, 2018 and 2017

COMPONENTS OF NET CHANGE IN OPERATING ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

(Increase) decrease in assets Accounts receivable

Materials and supplies

Prepaid expenses

Increase (decrease) in liabilities

Accounts payable

Taxes, other than income taxes

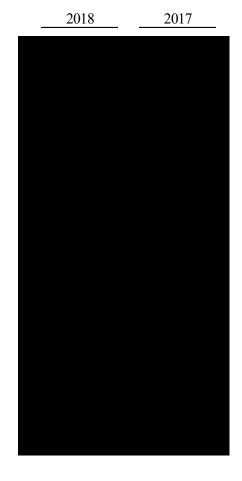
Other current liabilities

Deferred revenue

NET CHANGE IN OPERATING ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

SUPPLEMENTAL DISCLOSURE OF NONCASH INVESTING TRANSACTIONS

Extension and replacement of telecommunications plant included in accounts payable



PETITION OF PIONEER TELEPHONE COMPANY TO RECEIVE SUPPORT FROM THE STATE UNIVERSAL COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES PROGRAM – EXHIBIT 5, PAGE - 11

REDACTED

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 2018 and 2017

NOTE 1 - NATURE OF OPERATIONS AND SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The accounting and reporting policies of Pioneer Telephone Holding Company, Inc. and Subsidiary (the "Company") conform with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America and practices within the telecommunications industry. The policies that materially affect financial position, results of operations and cash flows are summarized as follows:

Organization

Several years ago, the stockholders reorganized their interest in Pioneer Telephone Company ("Pioneer") by exchanging their stock in Pioneer for stock in Pioneer Telephone Holding Company, Inc., making Pioneer a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company. The method used in accounting for the business combination was the pooling of interests method.

Principles of Consolidation

The consolidated financial statements include the accounts of the Company and its whollyowned subsidiary, Pioneer Telephone Company. All material intercompany accounts and transactions have been eliminated in consolidation.

Operations

The Company is engaged in providing telecommunications local exchange, network access, long distance, other telecommunications services, broadband access services and internet access services to customers in Adams and Whitman Counties in eastern Washington.

Pioneer is a small rate-of-return carrier. The Federal Communications Commission ("FCC") Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking ("FCC 11-161") and Report and Order, Order and Order on Reconsideration and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, ("FCC 16-33") have reformed the universal service and intercarrier compensation systems. These reforms have modified the manner in which Pioneer recovers its telecommunications revenue requirements.

Regulation

Pioneer is subject to the accounting and rate regulation policies of the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission ("WUTC") and adheres to the FCC Uniform System of Accounts for Class B telephone companies as prescribed by the FCC under Part 32.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

For purposes of the statements of cash flows, the Company considers cash to be cash on hand, in checking accounts, money market accounts and time certificates of deposit with maturities of less than one year.

PIONEER TELEPHONE HOLDING COMPANY, INC. AND SUBSIDIARY

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 2018 and 2017

NOTE 1 - NATURE OF OPERATIONS AND SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

Short-term Investments

Short-term investments consist of investments in equities, mutual funds, bond mutual funds and bonds. The Company classifies the investments as "available for sale," and the investments are stated at fair value. Realized gains and losses are calculated using the average cost method and are included in income; unrealized gains and losses are reported in other comprehensive income on the statements of comprehensive income.

Materials and Supplies

Materials and supplies are stated at average cost or net realizable value.

Fair Value Measurements

The Company measures fair value of its assets, liabilities and related disclosures in accordance with a hierarchy based on defined inputs. The hierarchy prioritizes the inputs underlying fair value measurements and requires that valuation techniques maximize the use of observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs. The three levels of inputs essentially distinguish the relative reliability of inputs to fair value measurements. Level 1 inputs are more reliable and objective than Level 2 inputs, which are in turn more reliable and objective than Level 3 inputs. In arriving at a fair value measure, the Company is required to determine the level in the fair value hierarchy within which a fair value measurement ultimately falls and provide disclosure of such determinations.

Accounts Receivable

The Company extends credit to its business and residential customers based upon a written credit policy. Service interruption is the primary vehicle for controlling losses. Accounts receivable are recorded when subscriber bills, carrier access bills and exchange carrier associations' settlement statements are rendered. Certain exchange carrier associations' settlements are subject to out-of-period adjustments and are recorded during the year in which they become determinable. Accounts receivable are written off when they are determined to be uncollectible. The Company believes no allowance for doubtful accounts is necessary at December 31, 2018 and 2017 as balances over 90 days overdue represent \(\bigcup_{\circ}\)% of the total balance at December 31, 2018.

Accounting for Long-lived Assets

The Company periodically reviews its long-lived assets, such as property, plant and equipment for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of an asset may not be recoverable. Recoverability of assets to be held and used is measured by a comparison of the carrying amount of an asset to estimated undiscounted future cash flows expected to be generated by the asset. If the carrying amount of an asset exceeds its estimated future cash flows, an impairment charge is recognized by the amount by which the carrying amount of the asset exceeds the fair value of the asset. At December 31, 2018 and 2017, management has determined that there were no material impairment charges to be recorded as of those dates.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 2018 and 2017

NOTE 1 - NATURE OF OPERATIONS AND SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

Property, Plant and Equipment

Property, plant and equipment are stated at cost and are depreciated on a straight-line basis for accounting purposes. Lives used for calculating depreciation on telecommunications plant are in accordance with the rules of the WUTC and are based on the estimated economic useful lives of the assets. Likewise, lives used for calculating depreciation on all other property and equipment are based on the estimated economic useful lives of the assets.

Telecommunications Plant Retirements

When an asset is retired or otherwise disposed of, the cost of the asset is removed from the asset account and charged to the related allowance for depreciation. Similarly, the cost of removal and salvage proceeds are charged or credited to the allowance for depreciation. Consequently, no gain or loss upon disposition is recognized.

Revenue Recognition, Major Customers and Services

Services provided by the Company include primarily local network, network access services, long distance access services and broadband access services included in telecommunications service revenues. In the normal course of Pioneer's business, certain network access revenues are subject to out-of-period adjustments. Such adjustments are normal occurrences and are recorded by Pioneer during the year in which they become determinable.

Network access service revenues, which represent a major portion of Pioneer's operating revenues, are derived from the provision of exchange access services to interexchange carriers or to an end user of telecommunication services beyond Pioneer's local network.

Revenues for certain interstate access services are currently received through tariffed access charges filed by the National Exchange Carrier Association ("NECA") with the FCC on behalf of the NECA member companies. These access charges are billed by Pioneer to interstate interexchange carriers and pooled with like-revenues from all NECA member companies. The pooled access charge revenues received by Pioneer are based upon the actual cost of providing interstate access services, plus a return on the investment dedicated to providing these services. Pooled access charge revenues are estimated at December 31 each year and are subject to adjustment. Such adjustments are normal occurrences and are recorded by Pioneer during the year in which they occur.

The FCC 11-161 modified and replaced the existing universal system and intercarrier compensation systems with universal service reform and intercarrier compensation reform. A Connect America Fund ("CAF") has been established to replace all existing high-cost support mechanisms and set broadband service requirements. Alongside the broadband service rules,

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 2018 and 2017

NOTE 1 - NATURE OF OPERATIONS AND SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

Revenue Recognition, Major Customers and Services (Continued)

reforms to establish a framework to limit reimbursements for excessive capital and operating expenses were implemented as of July 1, 2012 and phase-outs of certain support payments occurred. Intercarrier compensation reform adopts a uniform bill-and-keep framework as the ultimate end state for all telecommunications traffic exchanged with Pioneer. Intercarrier compensation rates are capped and the disparity between intrastate and interstate terminating end office rates are being brought to parity in two steps as outlined in FCC 11-161. The state's public utilities commissions will be overseeing the modifications to rates in intrastate tariffs. Limits on carriers' total eligible recovery will reflect existing downward trends on intercarrier compensation revenues with declining switching costs and minutes of use.

As part of FCC 16-33 Universal Service Reform ("USF") order, rate-of-return telecommunication carriers have been given an option of remaining on a legacy support mechanism that includes broadband data-only service funding or electing a model-based support funding mechanism with an emphasis on broadband obligation deployment to begin implementation February 1, 2017. Pioneer has elected the model-based support mechanism called Alternative Connect America Model ("A-CAM") that replaced the High Cost Loop Support and Connect America Fund Broadband Loop Support funding. A-CAM funding is a set guaranteed amount for ten years in exchange for Pioneer to complete broadband build out obligations to its serving area.

The established rate of return of 11.25% used for interstate pooled settlements and other interstate revenue requirements are to be transitioned over six years to 9.75% by July 2021 by a rate of return reduction of .25% each July per FCC order. As of July 2018 and 2017, the rate of return was reduced to 10.50% and 10.75%, respectively.

Pioneer continues to review the reforms and modifications to the support that it receives and understands that those reforms and modifications could have an adverse effect on Pioneer's revenues and cash flow. Revenue impacts are subject to change based on future data submissions and further clarification from the FCC.

Revenues for intrastate access services are received through tariffed access charges filed by Pioneer at the WUTC. Once filed, the tariffed access charges become effective if specifically approved by the WUTC or allowed to become effective by operation of law. The intrastate switched access charges are billed by Pioneer to intrastate interexchange carriers. Intrastate special access charges are also billed to intrastate interexchange carriers that order such services and, in some cases, to retail customers that order special access services.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 2018 and 2017

NOTE 1 - NATURE OF OPERATIONS AND SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

Revenue Recognition, Major Customers and Services (Continued)

In July 2014, the WUTC implemented a state universal communications service program ("State USF Program") that temporarily replaced the terminated universal service support pool ("Traditional USF") and also replaced the cumulative reduction in support Pioneer received from the federal Connect America Fund. The State USF Program began January 2015, and annual disbursements from the State USF Program comprised of the Traditional USF and the disbursement of the cumulative CAF deficit support are scheduled to occur in January of the following State USF Program years, assuming Pioneer continues to be eligible under the program. The State USF Program year runs from July 1 to June 30. In 2018, Pioneer received \$152,645 from the state USF Program for the period July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019, and recorded deferred revenue of \$76,320 for the unearned portion. In 2017, Pioneer received \$135,944 from the State USF Program for the period July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018, and recorded deferred revenue of \$67,972 for the unearned portion. The State USF Program is scheduled to last for five program years and will expire June 30, 2019 unless extended by the state.

For some of the services that the Company provides to its customers, the Company relies upon services and facilities supplied to it by other companies. Any material disruption of the services or facilities supplied to the Company by other companies could potentially have an adverse effect upon the Company's operating results.

Federal Income Taxes

The Company provides federal income taxes for the effects of transactions reported in the financial statements and consists of taxes currently due and deferred income taxes. The Company and its subsidiary file federal income taxes on a consolidated basis. The consolidated tax liability of the affiliated group is allocated based on each company's contribution to consolidated taxable income.

The Company utilizes the liability method of accounting for income taxes. Under the liability method, deferred taxes are determined based on the temporary differences between the financial statement and tax basis of assets and liabilities using tax rates expected to be in effect during the years in which the basis differences reverse. A valuation allowance is recorded when it is more likely than not that some of the deferred tax assets will not be realized.

Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results may differ from those estimates and assumptions used in preparing the accompanying consolidated financial statements

PIONEER TELEPHONE HOLDING COMPANY, INC. AND SUBSIDIARY

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 2018 and 2017

NOTE 1 - NATURE OF OPERATIONS AND SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

Subsequent Events

The management of the Company evaluated for subsequent events and transactions for potential recognition and disclosure through January 25, 2019, the date of completion of the accountant's review procedures.

NOTE 2 - CONCENTRATION OF CREDIT RISK

The Company maintains cash balances and certificates of deposit at six financial institutions in eastern Washington, insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation ("FDIC") up to \$250,000. The Company periodically maintains cash balances in excess of the federally insured limits. At December 31, 2018, the Company's cash balances exceeded the federally insured limit by

In addition, at December 31, 2018, the Company deposits totaling in money market funds with a broker-dealer. The funds are insured by the Securities Investor Protection Corporation up to \$500,000 for brokerage accounts with a limit of \$250,000 for claims of uninvested cash balances and additional brokerage insurance through the broker-dealer's underwriters as stated in the broker-dealer account agreement.

The Company's accounts receivable are subject to potential credit risk as they are concentrated in and around LaCrosse and Endicott, Washington and are unsecured.

NOTE 3 - FAIR VALUE DISCLOSURES

Fair value of assets measured on a recurring basis at December 31, 2018 and 2017 were as follows:

ionows.		Fair Value Measurements		
December 31, 2018 Fixed Income Investments Corporate bonds Equities Bond mutual funds Mutual funds Co-operative capital certificates	Fair Value	Quoted Prices in Active Markets For Identical Assets (Level 1)	Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Other Subjective Inputs (Level 3)
PETITION OF PIONEER TELEPHONE COMPANY TO RECEIVE SUPPORT FROM THE STATE UNIVERSAL COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES PROGRAM – EXHIBIT 5, PAGE - 17			RE	EDACTED

PIONEER TELEPHONE HOLDING COMPANY, INC. AND SUBSIDIARY

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 2018 and 2017

NOTE 3 - FAIR VALUE DISCLOSURES (Continued)

Fair Value Measurements **Quoted Prices** in Active Significant Markets Other Other Observable For Identical Subjective Inputs Inputs Assets Fair Value (Level 1) (Level 2) (Level 3)

December 31, 2017

Fixed Income Investments

Corporate bonds

Equities

Bond mutual funds

Mutual funds

Co-operative capital certificates

Investments valued using Level 1 inputs are based on unadjusted quoted market prices within active markets. Investments valued using Level 2 inputs are based primarily on quoted prices for similar assets in active or inactive markets. Level 3 inputs are based on the Company's own assumptions on how knowledgeable parties would price assets or liabilities, and are developed using the best information available in the circumstances.

During 2018, the Company sold some of its investments resulting in a gain of with proceeds received of with the company sold some of its investments resulting in a gain of with proceeds received of with the company sold some of its investments resulting in a gain of with proceeds received of the company sold some of its investments resulting in a gain of with proceeds received of the company sold some of its investments resulting in a gain of the company sold some of its investments.

NOTE 4 - DEPRECIABLE PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

The following is a summary of asset classifications and estimated useful lives for depreciable plant and equipment:

-15-

Pioneer Telephone Holding Company, Inc.
Internet access equipment
Pioneer Telephone Company
Support assets
Central office assets
Cable and wire facilities
Nonregulated equipment

Total
PETITION OF PIONEER TELEPHONE COMPANY TO
RECEIVE SUPPORT FROM THE STATE UNIVERSAL
COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES PROGRAM –
EXHIBIT 5, PAGE - 18

Useful Lives
(Years) 2018 2017

REDACTED

PIONEER TELEPHONE HOLDING COMPANY, INC. AND SUBSIDIARY

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 2018 and 2017

NOTE 4 - DEPRECIABLE PLANT AND EQUIPMENT (Continued)

Depreciation Expense

The provision for depreciation on depreciable plant and equipment in service for the years ended December 31, 2018 and 2017 was and and provided plant.

NOTE 5 - INCOME TAXES

The Company recognizes deferred federal income taxes for differences between the basis of assets and liabilities for financial statement and income tax purposes. The deferred tax assets and liabilities represent future income tax return consequences of those differences, which will either be taxable or deductible when the assets and liabilities are recovered or settled. The differences relate to the following:

- Depreciable assets' lives and methods of calculating depreciation for financial and income tax reporting.
- Accounting for short-term investments at fair market value for financial reporting purposes and cost for income tax purposes.
- Carryforward of a net operating loss for income tax purposes.

The tax effects of temporary differences that give rise to significant portions of deferred tax (assets) liabilities consist of the following:

Property, plant and equipment Short-term investments Net operating loss carryforward



Components of consolidated federal income taxes are as follows:

Deferred expense 2018 2017

The Company has a consolidated net operating loss carryforward at December 31, 2018 of approximately from 2011 that is available for 20 years from the year of loss.

PIONEER TELEPHONE HOLDING COMPANY, INC. AND SUBSIDIARY

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 2018 and 2017

NOTE 5 - INCOME TAXES (Continued)

The Company has not established a valuation allowance at December 31, 2018 and 2017 for the deferred tax benefit that existed at that date related to the net operating loss carryforward. Management believes that the Company's future taxable income will be enough to absorb and to prevent a net operating loss carryforward from expiring unused.

On December 19, 2017, the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (the "Act") was enacted, which includes many significant changes to the then existing tax code. Among the changes included in the Act, corporate tax rates will be set at 21% for periods beginning January 1, 2018, which represents a significant decrease from the 34% current effective tax rate for the year ended December 31, 2017. Under accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the Company is required to recognize changes in tax laws and rates on deferred tax assets and liabilities in the period in which the new legislation is enacted through current deferred tax expense from operations. As such, deferred tax assets and liabilities in 2017 were remeasured using the newly effective tax rate, which is the rate expected to be in effect when the deferred assets and liabilities are expected to reverse. Had deferred tax assets been measured using the effective tax rate of 34%, deferred tax assets would have decreased in 2017 and deferred tax liabilities would have increased in 2017. As such, net deferred income tax expense of has been reported in the accompanying consolidated statements of income for the year ended December 31, 2017. Due to the remeasurement of deferred tax assets and liabilities using the enacted rate of 21%, deferred tax assets decreased and deferred tax liabilities decreased in 2017.

NOTE 6 - LEASES

Pioneer leases certain bandwidth and transport services from a local telecommunications provider on a month-to-month basis. Lease payments are per month in 2018 and 2017, respectively.

Pioneer leases certain telecommunications facilities and power from CenturyTel of Washington, Inc. on a month-to-month basis. Pioneer pays a monthly rate of applicable taxes.

PIONEER TELEPHONE HOLDING COMPANY, INC. AND SUBSIDIARY

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 2018 and 2017

NOTE 7 - RETIREMENT PLAN

Pioneer has a 401(k) profit sharing plan (the "Plan"). Eligibility for participation in the Plan begins after one year of service and attainment of age 21. The Plan allows for employee elective deferrals up to the maximum allowed by law. The Plan provides for discretionary matching contributions and discretionary profit sharing contributions as determined by Pioneer. Such contributions have a 6-year graded vesting schedule with any forfeitures used to reduce the Pioneer contributions to either the discretionary matching or profit sharing contributions. Pioneer's contributions were of participation elective contributions with a maximum of and of eligible employee compensation in 2018 and 2017. Pioneer's discretionary contributions charged to expense were and in 2018 and 2017, respectively.

NOTE 8 - CONTINGENCIES

During 2018, Pioneer began construction of its fiber to the home project. The estimated total cost of the project is estimated to be approximately . At December 31, 2018, Pioneer has incurred approximately in construction costs.

OPERATING REPORT FOR TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMPANIES

COMPANY NAME

PIONEER TELEPHONE COMPANY

PERIOD ENDING December 31, 2018

CERTIFICATION

We hereby certify that the entries in this report are in accordance with the accounts and other records of the system and reflect the status of the system to the best of our knowledge and belief.

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		PAR	Γ A BALANCE SHEET		
		BALANCE			BALANCE
	BALANCE	END OF		BALANCE	END OF
ASSETS	PRIOR YEAR	PERIOD	LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY	PRIOR YEAR	PERIOD
CURRENT ASSETS			CURRENT LIABILITIES		
1. Cash and Equivalents	1,367,357	340,140	25. Accounts Payable	41,844	864,465
2. Cash-RUS Construction Fund			26. Notes Payable		
3. Affiliates:			27. Advance Billings and Payments		
a. Telecom, Accounts Receivable			28. Customer Deposits	300	509
b. Other Accounts Receivable			29. Current Mat. L/T Debt		
c. Notes Receivable			30. Current Mat. L/T Debt-Rur. Dev.		
4. Non-Affiliates:			31. Current Mat Capital Leases		
a. Telecom, Accounts Receivable	24,869	23,688	32. Income Taxes Accrued	2,785	105,790
b. Other Accounts Receivable	0	0	33. Other Taxes Accrued	64,556	64,774
c. Notes Receivable			34. Other Current Liabilities	161,618	152,544
5. Interest and Dividends Receivable			35. Total Current Liabilties	271,103	1,188,082
6. Material-Regulated	208,722	176,237	LONG-TERM DEBT		
7. Material-Nonregulated	0	0	36. Funded Debt-RUS Notes		
8. Prepayments	12,186	11,572	37. Funded Debt-RTB Notes		
Other Current Assets	510,068	298,609	38. Funded Debt-FFB Notes		
10. Total Current Assets (1 Thru 9)	2,123,202	850,246	39. Funded Debt-Other		
NONCURRENT ASSETS			40. Funded Debt-Rural Develop. Loan		
11. Investment in Affiliated Companies			41. Premium (Discount) on L/T Debt		
a. Rural Development			42. Reaquired Debt		
b. Nonrural Development			43. Obligations Under Capital Lease		
12. Other Investments			44. Adv. From Affilated Companies	130,055	232,788
a. Rural Development			45. Other Long-Term Debt		
b. Nonrural Development			46. Total Long-Term Debt (36 thru 45)	130,055	232,788
13. Nonregulated Investments	35,277	35,277	OTHER LIAB. & DEF. CREDITS		
14. Other Noncurrent Assets			47. Other Long-Term Liabilities		
15. Deferred Charges			48. Other Deferred Credits	390,049	338,571
16. Jurisdictional Differences			49. Other Jurisdictional Differences		
17. Total Noncurrent Assets (11 thru 16)	35,277	35,277	50. Total Other Liabilities and Deferred Credits (47 thru 49)	390,049	338,571
PLANT, PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT			EQUITY		
18. Telecom, Plant-in-Service	13,709,528	16,929,017	51. Cap. Stock Outstand. & Subscribed	56,052	56,052
19. Property Held for Future Use			52. Additional Paid-in-Capital		
20. Plant Under Construction	5,218	0	53. Treasury Stock		
21. Plant Adj. Nonop, Plant & Goodwill			54. Membership and Cap. Certificates		
22. Less Accumulated Depreciation	9,410,284	10,160,349	55. Other Capital		
23. Net Plant (18 thru 21 less 22)	4,304,462		56. Patronage Capital Credits		
24. TOTAL ASSETS (10+17+23)	6,462,941	7,654,191	57. Retained Earnings or Margins	5,615,682	5,838,698
,			58. Total Equity (51 thru 57)	5,671,734	5,894,750
			59. TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY (35+46+50+58)	6,462,941	7,654,191

OPERATING REPORT FOR TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMPANIES

Company Name: PIONEER TELEPHONE COMPANY

PERIOD ENDING: December 31, 2018

PART B. STATEMENTS OF INCOME AND RETAINED EARNINGS OR MARGINS

ITEM	PRIOR YEAR	THIS YEAR
Local Network Services Revenues	151,899	146,768
2. Network Acess Services Revenues	1,514,706	1,671,078
3. Long Distance Network Services Revenues	36,105	32,584
4. Carrier Billing and Collection Revenues	1,800	1,800
5. Miscellaneous Revenues	11,472	9,303
6. Uncollectible Revenues	(91)	1,151
7. Net Operating Revenues (1 thru 5 less 6)	1,716,073	1,860,382
8. Plant Specific Operations Expense	315,194	275,628
9. Plant Nonspecific Operations Expense (Excluding Depreciation & Amortization)	43,184	36,984
10. Depreciation Expense	530,118	750,065
11. Amortization Expense		
12. Customer Operations Expense	136,232	88,743
13. Corporate Operations Expense	367,005	363,508
14. Total Operating Expenses (8 thru 13)	1,391,733	1,514,928
15. Operating Income or Margins (7 less 14)	324,340	345,454
16. Other Operating Income and Expenses	·	
17. State and Local Taxes	48,182	60,769
18. Federal Income Taxes	(139,051)	57,571
19. Other Taxes		
20. Total Operating Taxes (17+18+19)	(90,869)	118,340
21. Net Operating Income or Margins (15+16-20)	415,209	227,114
22. Interest on Funded Debt		
23. Interest Expense - Capital Leases		
24. Other Interest Expense		
25. Allowance for Funds Used During Construction		
26. Total Fixed Charges (22+23+24-25)	0	0
27. Nonoperating Net Income	15,702	29,079
28. Extraordinary Items		
29. Jurisdictional Differences		
30. Nonregulated Net Income	12,640	7,912
31. Total Net Income or Margins (21+27+28+29+30-26)	443,551	264,105
32. Total Taxes Based on Income		
33. Retained Earnings or Margins Beginning-of-Year	5,140,239	5,615,682
34. Miscellaneous Credits Year-to-Date - Other Comprehensive Income		
35. Dividends Declared (Common)		
36. Dividends Declared (Preferred)		
37. Other Debits Year-to-Date - Other Comprehensive Loss	31,892	(41,089)
38. Transfers to Patronage Capital	Í	` '
39. Retained Earnings or Margins End-of-Period [(31+33+31) - (35+35+37+38)]	5,615,682	5,838,698

Exhibit 7 Report Corporate Operations Expense Adjustment As Required in WAC 480-123-110(1)(e)(vi)

I, Durand Cox, an officer of Pioneer Telephone Company with personal knowledge and responsibility, under penalty of perjury, hereby certify that no amount of corporate operations expense was required by 47 C.F.R. § 54.1308(a)(4)(ii) to be excluded by Pioneer Telephone Company ("Company") from corporate operations expense that, for 2018 and 2017, was input in both the high cost loop support and broadband loop support (in part, replacing interstate common line support) cost studies of the Company for the Company's study area(s) in the State of Washington.

Dated this 30th day of July, 2019

Durand Cox, President

EXHIBIT 8

FINANCIAL ACCOUNTING CERTIFICATE

I, Durand Cox, an officer of Pioneer Telephone Company (the "Company") with personal knowledge and responsibility, based upon my discussions with the outside consultants retained by the Company to handle such matters, under penalty of perjury, state that the Company complies with state and federal accounting, cost allocation and cost adjustment rules pertaining to incumbent local exchange companies.

Dated at LaCrosse, Washington this 30th day of July, 2019.

Durand Cox President

EXHIBIT 9

CONTINUED OPERATIONS CERTIFICATE

I, Durand Cox, an officer of Pioneer Telephone Company (the "Company"), under penalty of perjury, hereby certify that if the Company receives Program support, the Company will continue to provide communications services pursuant to its tariffs on file with the Commission throughout its service territory in Washington for which the Company is seeking and receives Program support during the entirety of 2020.

Dated at LaCrosse, Washington this 30th day of July, 2019.

Durand Cox. President