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7 **BEFORE THE WASHINGTON
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

8 IN RE

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10 PETITION OF HOOD CANAL
11 TELEPHONE CO., INC. TO RECEIVE
12 SUPPORT FROM THE UNIVERSAL
13 SERVICE COMMUNICATIONS
PROGRAM

DOCKET NO.

PETITION FOR SUPPORT

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15 COMES NOW Hood Canal Telephone Co., Inc. (the "Company") and, pursuant to Chapter
16 480-123 of the Washington Administrative Code ("WAC"), including, but not limited to, WAC
17 480-123-110, hereby petitions the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (the
18 "Commission") to receive support from the Universal Service Communications Program (the
19 "Program") for the Program year 2024.

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21 **I. Demonstration of Eligibility under WAC 480-123-100**

- 22 1. WAC 480-123-100(1)(a): The Company is a local exchange company as defined in WAC
23 480-120-021 that serves fewer than forty thousand access lines within the state.

- 1 2. WAC 480-123-100(1)(b): The Company is an incumbent local exchange carrier as defined
2 in 47 U.S.C. Sec. 251(h).
- 3 3. WAC 480-123-100(1)(c): The Company offers basic residential and business exchange
4 telecommunications services as set forth in WAC 480-120-021 and RCW 80.36.630.
- 5 4. WAC 480-123-100(1)(d): The Company has established a plan, as described in WAC 480-
6 123-110, to provide, maintain or enhance broadband service (See II.4, below).
- 7 5. WAC 480-123-100(1)(e): The Company has been designated by the Commission as an
8 eligible telecommunications carrier ("ETC") for purposes of receiving federal universal
9 services support pursuant to 47 C.F.R. Part 54 Subpart D - Universal Service Support for
10 High Cost Areas with respect to the service areas for which the Company is seeking
11 Program support.

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

- 14 1. WAC 480-123-110(1)(a): The name of the legal entity that provides communications
15 services and is seeking Program support is as follows: Hood Canal Telephone Co., Inc.
- 16 2. WAC 480-123-110(1)(b): A corporate organization chart showing the relationship between
17 the Company and affiliates as defined in RCW 80.16.010 is attached hereto as Exhibit 1. A
18 detailed description of any transactions between the Company and the affiliates named in
19 Exhibit 1 recorded in the Company's operating accounts is attached hereto as Exhibit 2.
- 20 3. WAC 480-123-110(1)(c): A service area map for the Company can be found at Sheet
21 No.105 of the Company's Tariff WN U-2.
- 22 4. WAC 480-123-110(1)(d): The Company's broadband plan to provide, maintain, or enhance
23 broadband services in its service area is attached hereto as Exhibit 3.

- 1 5. WAC 480-123-110(1)(f): An unsworn statement by a Company officer certifying that the
2 Company complies with state and federal accounting, cost allocation, and cost adjustment
3 rules pertaining to incumbent local exchange carriers is attached as Exhibit 4.
- 4 6. WAC 480-123-110(1)(g): The number of residential local exchange access lines served by
5 the Company as of December 31, 2022, was 182. The number of residential local exchange
6 access lines served by the Company as of December 31, 2021, was 273. The number of
7 business local exchange access lines served by the Company as of December 31, 2022, was
8 158. The number of business local exchange access lines served by the Company as of
9 December 31, 2021, was 167. The Company as of December 31, 2022 is capable of serving
10 1,443 locations with broadband speeds at or above 25/3 Mbps. The number of existing
11 broadband connections served by the Company as of December 31, 2022, was 1,237 The
12 number of existing broadband connections served by the Company as of December 31,
13 2021, was 1,194. The unbundled monthly recurring rate charged by the Company for
14 residential local exchange access service on December 31, 2022 and 2021, was \$18.00. The
15 unbundled monthly rate charged by the Company for single line business local exchange
16 access service on December 31, 2022 and 2021, was \$19.50. (The Company has other
17 business local exchange service rates, but the Company understands that WAC 480-123-
18 110(1)(g) is requesting the single line business local exchange access service rate.) The
19 unbundled monthly rate charged for broadband service as of December 31, 2022, and as of
20 December 31, 2021, is set out in the attached Exhibit 5. The foregoing counts are for the
21 Company's incumbent local exchange service area.
- 22 7. WAC 480-123-110(1)(h): The requested statements are attached as Exhibit 6.
- 23 8. WAC 480-123-110(1)(h)(i): An unsworn statement by a Company officer certifying that the
24 Company is in compliance with the Federal Communications Commission's obligation for
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1 deployment of broadband at speeds specified by the Federal Communications Commission
2 applicable to the Company and that the Company meets one of the eligibility criteria set out
3 in WAC 480-123-110(1)(j)(ii), (iii) or (iv) is attached at Exhibit 7.

4 9. All exhibits attached hereto are incorporated into this Petition as though fully set forth.

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7 Respectfully submitted this 20th day of October, 2023.

8 HOOD CANAL TELEPHONE CO., INC.

9 By Richard Buechel
Richard Buechel, President

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13 CERTIFICATION

14 I Richard Buechel, an officer of the Company that is responsible for the Company's business
15 and financial operations, hereby certify under penalty of perjury that the information and
16 representations set forth in the Petition, above, are accurate and the Company has not knowingly
17 withheld any information required to be provided to the Commission pursuant to the rules
18 governing the Program.

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21 Richard Buechel

22 Richard Buechel, President
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