

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

In the Matter of the Petition of

ASOTIN TELEPHONE COMPANY,
D/B/A TDS TELECOM;
CONSOLIDATED
COMMUNICATIONS OF
WASHINGTON COMPANY, LLC;
HAT ISLAND TELEPHONE
COMPANY; HOOD CANAL
TELEPHONE CO. INC.; INLAND
TELEPHONE COMPANY; KALAMA
TELEPHONE COMPANY; LEWIS
RIVER TELEPHONE COMPANY,
D/B/A TDS TELECOM; MASHELL
TELECOM, INC., D/B/A RAINIER
CONNECT; MCDANIEL
TELEPHONE COMPANY, D/B/A TDS
TELECOM; PIONEER TELEPHONE
COMPANY; PEND OREILLE
TELEPHONE COMPANY, D/B/A RTI
PEND OREILLE TELECOM;
SKYLINE TELECOM, INC.; ST.
JOHN TELEPHONE, INC.; TENINO
TELEPHONE COMPANY; THE
TOLEDO TELEPHONE CO., INC.;
WESTERN WAHAKIUM COUNTY
TELEPHONE COMPANY; AND
WHIDBEY TELEPHONE COMPANY,
D/B/A WHIDBEY TELECOM,

To Establish an Alternative Form of
Regulation.

DOCKET UT-200898

NOTICE OF VIRTUAL
PREHEARING CONFERENCE
**(Set for Tuesday, December 15, 2020,
at 1:30 p.m.)**

1 On November 2, 2020, Asotin Telephone Company, d/b/a TDS Telecom; Consolidated Communications of Washington Company, LLC; Hat Island Telephone Company; Hood Canal Telephone Company Co. Inc.; Inland Telephone Company; Kalama Telephone Company; Lewis River Telephone Company, d/b/a TDS Telecom; Mashell Telecom, Inc., d/b/a Rainer Connect; McDaniel Telephone Company, d/b/a TDS Telecom; Pioneer

Telephone Company, Pend Oreille Telephone Company, d/b/a RTI Pend Oreille Telecom; Skyline Telecom, Inc.; St. John Telephone, Inc.; Tenino Telephone Company; The Toledo Telephone Co., Inc.; Western Wahkiakum County Telephone Company; and Whidbey Telephone Company, d/b/a Whidbey Telecom (collectively, the Petitioners) filed with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) a petition (Petition) to establish an alternative form of regulation.

2 **STATUTORY AUTHORITY:** The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter under Title 80 RCW, and has legal authority to regulate telecommunication companies. The statutes that apply to this matter include Chapters 80.01 RCW, 80.04 RCW, and 80.36 RCW, including but not limited to RCW 80.01.040, RCW 80.01.070, RCW 80.04.110, RCW 80.04.380 and RCW 80.36.080. The rules that apply to this matter include those within Chapters WAC 480-120, relating to telecommunications companies.

3 The Commission will hear this matter under the Administrative Procedure Act (APA), particularly Part IV of Chapter 34.05 RCW relating to adjudications. The provisions of the APA that relate to this proceeding include, but are not limited to RCW 34.05.413, RCW 34.05.422, RCW 34.05.431, RCW 34.05.440, RCW 34.05.449, and RCW 34.05.452. The Commission will also follow its procedural rules in WAC 480-07 in this proceeding.

4 **THE COMMISSION GIVES NOTICE That it will hold a virtual prehearing conference in this matter at 1:30 p.m. on December 15, 2020. To participate by phone, please call (253) 372-2181 and enter the Conference ID: 531 756 422#. To participate via the Microsoft Teams application, use the following link: [Click here to join the meeting](#) .**

5 The purpose of the prehearing conference is to consider requests for intervention, resolve scheduling matters including establishing dates for distributing evidence, to identify the issues in the proceeding, and determine other matters to assist the Commission in resolving the matter, as listed in WAC 480-07-430.

6 **INTERVENTION:** Persons seeking to intervene in the proceeding must file written petitions to intervene at least three business days before the date of the prehearing conference. *See* WAC 480-07-355(a). Party representatives must file a notice of appearance with the Commission no later than the business day before the conference. *See* WAC 480-07-345(2). Any party or witness in need of an interpreter or other assistance should fill out the form attached to this Notice and return it to the Commission. The Commission will set the time and place for the evidentiary hearings at the prehearing conference or by later written notice.

7 **THE COMMISSION GIVES NOTICE That any party who fails to attend or participate in the prehearing conference set by this Notice, or any other stage of this proceeding, may be held in default under RCW 34.05.440 and WAC 480-07-450.**

8 The names and mailing addresses of all known parties and their known representatives are as follows:

Petitioners: Asotin Telephone Company, d/b/a TDS Telecom
Gail Long
P.O. Box 1004
Redmond, OR 97756
Gail.long@tdstelecom.com

Consolidated Communications of Washington
Company, LLC
Kevin Kastor
350 S. Loop 336 W.
Conroe, TX 77304
kevin.kastor@consolidated.com

Hat Island Telephone Company
Donna Hilty
14888 SR 525
Langley, WA 98260
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Hood Canal Telephone Co., Inc.
d/b/a Hood Canal Communications
Richard F. Buechel
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Inland Telephone Company
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Lewis River Telephone Company,
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Gail Long
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Mashell Telecom, Inc., d/b/a Rainer Connect
Danielle Clausen
P.O. Box 639
Eatonville, WA 98328
danielle.clausen@rainier.com

McDaniel Telephone Company, d/b/a TDS Telecom
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Pioneer Telephone Company
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P.O. Box 207
Lacrosse, WA 99143-0207
dfilan@pionnet.com

Pend Oreille Telephone Company,
d/b/a RTI Pend Oreille Telecom
892 W. Madison Ave.
Glenns Ferry, ID 83623
susan.case@ruraltel.org

Skyline Telecom, Inc.
Delinda Kluser
One Telephone Drive
P.O. Box 609
Mount Vernon, OR 97865
deedeek@otconnections.net

St. John Telephone, Inc.
Eric Trump
P.O. Box 268
St. John, WA 99171
eric@stjohncable.com

Tenino Telephone Company
Rick Vitzthum
P.O. Box 4405
Tenino, WA 98589
rvitzthum@scattercreek.net

The Toledo Telephone Co., Inc.
Philip Cappalonga
P.O. Box 669
Toledo, WA 98591
phil@toledotel.com

Western Wahkiakum County Telephone Company
Carol Larson
P.O. Box 99
Rosburg, WA 98643
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Whidbey Telephone Company,
d/b/a Whidbey Telecom
Donna Hilty
14888 SR 525
Langley, WA 98260
donna.hilty@whidbeytel.com

Representative: Richard A. Finnigan
2112 Black Lake Blvd. SW
Olympia, WA 98502
(360) 956-7001
rickfinn@localaccess.com

Commission: Washington Utilities and Transportation
Commission
P.O. BO 47250
Olympia, WA 98504-7250

Representative: Jennifer Cameron-Rulkowski
Assistant Attorney General
Washington state Attorney General's Office
UTC Division
P.O. Box 40128
Olympia, WA 98504-0128
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jennifer.cameron-rulkowski@utc.wa.gov

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Ann.paisner@atg.wa.gov

- 9 The Commissioners of the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission and Administrative Law Judge Gregory J. Kopta, from the Commission's Administrative Law Division, will preside during this proceeding.¹
- 10 The Attorney General has designated Lisa W. Gafken, Nina Suetake, and Ann N.H. Paisner, of the Public Counsel Unit to represent the public. You may use the Commission's address, shown below, for contacting Public Counsel, or you may contact Public Counsel directly by writing or calling, using the address, email address, or telephone number listed below.
- 11 The Commission will give parties notice of any other procedural phase of the proceeding in writing or on the record, as appropriate during this proceeding.

DATED at Lacey, Washington, and effective November 10, 2020.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

MARK L. JOHNSON
Executive Director and Secretary

Inquiries may be addressed to:

Executive Director and Secretary
Washington State Utilities and
Transportation Commission
P.O. Box 47250
Olympia, WA 98504-7250
(360) 664-1160
records@utc.wa.gov

-or- Public Counsel Unit
Office of the Attorney General
800 Fifth Avenue, Suite 2000
Seattle, WA 98104-3188
(206) 464-7744
utility@atg.wa.gov

¹ Judge Kopta can be reached by email at gregory.kopta@utc.wa.gov or by phone at (360) 664-1355.

NOTICE

Hearing facilities are accessible to persons with disabilities. Smoking is prohibited. If limited English-speaking, hearing-impaired parties or witnesses are involved in a hearing and need an interpreter, a qualified interpreter will be appointed at no cost to the party or witness.

If you need an interpreter, or have other special needs, please fill out and return this form to:

Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission
Attention: Mark L. Johnson
P.O. Box 47250
Olympia, WA 98504-7250

(PLEASE SUPPLY ALL REQUESTED INFORMATION)

Docket: _____

Case Name: _____

Hearing Date: _____ Hearing Location: _____

Primary Language: _____

Hearing Impaired: (Yes) _____ (No) _____

Do you need a certified sign language interpreter:

Visual _____ Tactile _____

Other type of assistance needed: _____

English-speaking person who can be contacted if there are questions:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone (_____) _____