

REPORT OF INLAND TELEPHONE COMPANY UNDER THE
WASHINGTON UNIVERSAL COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES PROGRAM
IN COMPLIANCE WITH WAC 480-123-130

July 1, 2024

Docket No. 230617

File electronically

1. WAC 480-123-130(1)(a) - Access Lines Served [NECA 1.3 working loops]

	<u>January 1, 2023</u>	<u>December 31, 2023</u>
Residential	1,194	1,089
Business	273	264

WAC 480-123-130(1)(a) – Broadband Subscribers*

	<u>January 1, 2023</u>	<u>December 31, 2023</u>
Voice/Data	1,015	915
Data Only	1,412	1,516

*Subscribers taking speeds greater than or equal to 25/3 Mbps

	<u>January 1, 2023</u>	<u>December 31, 2023</u>
Voice/Data	267	484
Data Only	729	623

2. WAC 480-123-130(1)(b) - Use of Support

The funds received by the Company from the universal communications services program in calendar year 2023 represent monies that the Company formerly received through the Washington Exchange Carrier Association (WECA) pooling process and the reduction of support under the Federal Communications Commission’s (FCC’s) Connect America Fund InterCarrier Compensation Fund (CAF ICC) program. As such, the funds from the universal communications services program contributed to defrayal of the ongoing operation and maintenance expenses of the Company. The funds from the universal communication services program are contributing to the Company's ongoing provision of high-quality basic telecommunications service to customers residing in the area the Company serves.

In December 2023, the Company received \$401,899 from the universal communications services program for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024.

During the first six months of 2024, the Company continues to construct fiber-to-the-premise (“FTTP”) in its Uniontown exchange. The Company has completed the towns of Uniontown and Colton proper and is currently working on construction to more remote customers in the Uniontown exchange; adding 3 new FTTP locations and upgraded 14 locations to FTTP for the period July 1, 2023, through May 31, 2024. In the Prescott exchange, the Company added 1 new DSL location and upgraded 2 locations to VDSL. The Company has a contractor installing fiber-to-the curb. As of the date of this report, the contractor has completed the installation on the south side of the town of Prescott and is now working on the north side of the town. Company personnel will complete the connection for FTTP. In the Dewatto exchange, the Company has installed VDSL Cabinets for its Dewatto exchange; adding 4 DSL locations, 4 VDSL locations and upgraded 134 locations from DSL to VDSL. The Company has started installing fiber for its fiber-to-the premises build; currently on both sides of the Erickson Lake (approximately 24 locations). In the Roslyn exchange, the Company added 15 FTTP locations. Attached to this filing is a spreadsheet (20240610 522423 SERVICEABLE LOCATIONS.xlsx) that contains all serviceable locations as of May 31, 2024; those added from July 1, 2023, to May 31, 2024, have check marks in the two columns to the far right (columns R and S).

Since the Company did not borrow any funds for these projects, the funds received from the Washington Universal Communications Services Program can be viewed as contributing to the Company's ability to perform these projects, including, without limitation, the repayment of loan funds for prior construction. In the second half of 2024, the Company plans on installing fiber-to-the-premise in portions of its Dewatto exchange, continue to construct to more of the outlying customers in its Uniontown exchange and working on further FTTP upgrades in its Prescott exchange. In order to complete FTTP to all serviceable locations, the Company has submitted an application to the RUS for a Re-Connect loan. If the Re-Connect loan is granted, these plans will change with the Dewatto Exchange being first on the Company’s list for FTTP construction

3. WAC 480-123-130(1)(c) – Broadband Buildout Deployment

As reported in the HUBB (High Cost Universal Broadband) for A-CAM II Support as of December 31, 2023, the Company has reported 1,111 funded serviceable locations at 25 Mbps down/3 Mbps up or greater (522423 USAC BDC MILESTONES.pdf). As of May 2, 2019, USAC had the Company’s obligation at 1,805 total serviceable locations. The HUBB has not changed to indicate the Company’s obligation under Enhanced A-CAM.

4. WAC 480-123-130(1)(d) - Unfilled Consumer Requests for New Basic Telecommunications Service*

None

* Service requests that are ongoing but still within normal processing times are not counted as unfulfilled.

5. WAC 480-123-130(1)(g) – FCC Broadband Data Collection (BDC)

When the BDC is submitted to the FCC, Inland will submit a copy of the submitted data to the WUTC by September 1, 2024, under Docket UT-240058.

6. WAC 480-123-130(1)(i) - FCC Form 477

This form was previously filed on February 29, 2024, under Docket UT-240062

7. WAC 480-123-130(1)(h) - Report on Operational Efficiencies/Business Plan Modifications

The Company continually reviews its operations to determine if efficiencies can be achieved. The Company already has a plan in place to concentrate on improving broadband service while continuing to provide high-quality basic telecommunications service to the customers that are located within the area that the Company serves. The funds received from the universal communications services program can be viewed as assisting in the Company's efforts to obtain operational efficiencies.

The Company has not modified its business plan from the previous year's submission. The Company had originally believed that the increased deployment of VDSL carrier cabinets (shortening loop lengths) could satisfy regulatory requirements as well as consumer wants. As described in paragraph 2, the Company is installing more fiber-to-the-premise as well as VDSL to satisfy regulatory requirements and consumers wants and needs.

8. WAC 480-123-130(1)(j) and (k) - Other information

N/A

Certified Statement as required by WAC 480-123-130(1)(e) and WAC 480-123-130(1)(f):

I, James K. Brooks, am an officer of Inland Telephone Company, and upon personal knowledge and with responsibility therefor, hereby certify under penalty of perjury, that Inland Telephone Company materially complied with Commission rules under Chapter 480-120 WAC that are applicable to the Company and its provision of service within the areas for which the Company received universal communications services program support. In addition, I certify that the Company has committed to deploy broadband to at least those locations comprising the broadband deployment obligation established by the Commission per WAC 480-123-120(5).

Signed at Roslyn, Washington this 18th day of June, 2024.


James K. Brooks
Treasurer/Controller