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| 7 | BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION | |
| 8 | IN RE | |
| 9 | | DOCKET NO. |
| 10 | PETITION OF CONSOLIDATED COMMUNICATIONS OF WASHINGTON | PETITION FOR SUPPORT |
| 11 | COMPANY, LLC TO RECEIVE SUPPORT FROM THE UNIVERSAL SERVICE COMMUNICATIONS PROGRAM | |
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| 15 | COMES NOW Consolidated Communications of Washington Company, LLC (the "Company") and, pursuant to Chapter 480-123 of the Washington Administrative Code ("WAC"), including, but not limited to, WAC 480-123-110, hereby petitions the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (the "Commission") to receive support from the Universal Service Communications Program (the "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 th | ousand access lines within the state. |
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| | PETITION OF CONSOLIDATED COMMUNICATIONS OF WASHINGTON COMPANY, LLC. TO RECEIVE SUPPORT FROM THE UNIVERSAL SERVICE COMMUNICATIONS PROGRAM - 1 | |

- WAC 480-123-100(1)(b): The Company is an incumbent local exchange carrier as defined in 47 U.S.C. Sec. 251(h).
 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 has established a plan, as described in WAC 480-123-110, to provide, maintain or enhance broadband service (See II.4, below).
- 5. WAC 480-123-100(1)(e): The Company has been designated by the Commission as an eligible telecommunications carrier ("ETC") 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 areas for which the Company is seeking Program support.

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

- WAC 480-123-110(1)(a): The name of the legal entity that provides communications services and is seeking Program support is as follows: Consolidated Communications of Washington Company, LLC.
- WAC 480-123-110(1)(b): A corporate organization chart showing the relationship between the Company and affiliates as defined in RCW 80.16.010 is attached hereto as Exhibit 1. 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.
 WAC 480-123-110(1)(c): The service area maps for the Company can be found at Sheet Nos. 55, 56 and 57 in Section 5 of the Company's Tariff WN U-1.

PETITION OF CONSOLIDATED COMMUNICATIONS OF WASHINGTON COMPANY, LLC. TO RECEIVE SUPPORT FROM THE UNIVERSAL SERVICE COMMUNICATIONS PROGRAM - 2

¹ Exhibit 1 includes all affiliates of the Company and the affiliates having transactions with the Company that are identified in Exhibit 2 are highlighted.

- 4. WAC 480-123-110(1)(d): The Company's broadband plan to provide, maintain, or enhance broadband services in its service area is attached hereto as Exhibit 3.
 - 5. WAC 480-123-110(1)(f): A sworn statement by a Company officer certifying that the Company complies with state and federal accounting, cost allocation, and cost adjustment rules pertaining to incumbent local exchange carriers is attached as Exhibit 4.
- 6. WAC 480-123-110(1)(g): The number of residential local exchange access lines served by the Company as of December 31, 2022, was 5,519. The number of residential local exchange access lines served by the Company as of December 31, 2021, was 6,197. The number of business local exchange access lines served by the Company as of December 31, 2022, was 2,941. The number of business local exchange access lines served by the Company as of December 31, 2021, was 3,169. These business line totals correspond to the unbundled monthly business rates listed below. The number of broadband connections served by the Company as of December 31, 2022, was 10,787. The number of broadband connections served by the Company as of December 31, 2021, was 11,625. The Company's latest Broadband Data Collection (BDC) report, as of December 2022, indicates that the Company now has approximately 37% of BDC reportable locations capable of broadband speeds of 25 Mbps downstream / 3 Mbps upstream, or better. The unbundled monthly recurring rate charged by the Company for residential local exchange access service on December 31, 2022, was \$16.00 for the Ellensburg and Selah exchanges and \$18.00 for the Yelm exchange. The unbundled monthly recurring rate charged by the Company for residential local exchange access service on December 31, 2021, was the

same. The unbundled monthly rate charged by the Company for single line business local exchange access service on December 31, 2022, was \$18.52 for the Ellensburg and Selah exchanges and \$24.00 for the Yelm exchange. The unbundled monthly rate charged by the

PETITION OF CONSOLIDATED COMMUNICATIONS OF WASHINGTON COMPANY, LLC. TO RECEIVE SUPPORT FROM THE UNIVERSAL SERVICE **COMMUNICATIONS PROGRAM - 3**

| 1 | Company for single line business local exchange access service on December 31, 2021, was | |
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| 2 | the same. The Company has other business local exchange service rates, but the Company | |
| 3 | understands that WAC 480-123-110(1)(g) is requesting the single line business local | |
| 4 | exchange access service rate. The unbundled monthly rate charged for broadband service as | |
| 5 | of December 31, 2022, and as of December 31, 2021, is set out in the attached Exhibit 5. | |
| 6 | 7. WAC 480-123-110(1)(h): The requested statements are attached as Exhibit 6. | |
| 7 | 8. WAC 480-123-110(1)(h)(i): A sworn statement by a Company officer certifying that the | |
| 8 | Company is in compliance with the Federal Communications Commission's obligation for | |
| 9 | deployment of broadband at speeds specified by the Federal Communications Commission | |
| 10 | applicable to the Company and that the Company meets one of the eligibility criteria set out | |
| 11 | in WAC 480-123-110(1)(j)(ii), (iii) or (iv) is attached at Exhibit 7. | |
| 12 | 9. All exhibits attached hereto are incorporated into this Petition as though fully set forth. | |
| 13 | Respectfully submitted this 3rd day of August, 2023. | |
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| 15 | Consolidated Communications of Washington | |
| 16 | Company, LLC. | |
| 17 | Michael X | |
| 18 | Michael JS | |
| 19 | Michael J. Shultz Sr. Vice President – Regulatory & Public Policy | |
| 20 | SI. Vice President – Regulatory & Public Policy | |
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| 26 | PETITION OF CONSOLIDATED COMMUNICATIONS OF WASHINGTON COMPANY, LLC. TO RECEIVE SUPPORT FROM THE UNIVERSAL SERVICE COMMUNICATIONS PROGRAM - 4 | |

CERTIFICATION

I, Michael J. Shultz, an officer of the Company that is responsible for the Company's business and financial operations, and as set forth in RCW 5.50.050, I declare under penalty of perjury under the law of Washington, that the information and representations set forth in the Petition, above, are true and correct and the Company has not knowingly withheld any information required to be provided to the Commission pursuant to the rules governing the Program. Signed on the 18th day of October, 2023, at Gibsonia, Pennsylvania.

Michael By:

Michael J. Shultz Sr. Vice President – Regulatory & Public Policy

PETITION OF CONSOLIDATED COMMUNICATIONS OF WASHINGTON COMPANY, LLC. TO RECEIVE SUPPORT FROM THE UNIVERSAL SERVICE **COMMUNICATIONS PROGRAM - 5**