

BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Petition of:
WESTERN WAHKIAKUM COUNTY
TELEPHONE COMPANY, d/b/a
WAHKIAKUM WEST TELEPHONE

For Minimal Regulation of
Bundled Telecommunications Services

Docket No. UT-

PETITION OF WESTERN WAHKIAKUM
COUNTY TELEPHONE COMPANY, d/b/a
WAHKIAKUM WEST TELEPHONE FOR
MINIMAL REGULATION OF BUNDLED
TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES

1. This petition is brought by Western Wahkiakum County Telephone Company, d/b/a Wahkiakum West Telephone ("Wahkiakum"), 19 Miller Point Road, PO Box 99, Rosburg, WA 98643.

Wahkiakum is represented in this matter by:

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2. Wahkiakum requests the Commission to subject its future packaged and bundled intrastate telecommunications services to minimal regulation pursuant to Chapter 26, Laws 2007, Section 2(1) ("the law").

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3. Wahkiakum is a telecommunications company registered with the Commission but is not classified as a competitive telecommunications company. Wahkiakum is thus a “noncompetitive telecommunications company” under the law.

APPLICATION OF THE LAW

4. The law applies to noncompetitively classified telecommunications companies and provides that (a) the noncompetitively classified service components of packages and bundles subject to minimal regulation shall remain available on a stand-alone basis under tariff, (b) the price of such packages and bundles must not be less than the cost of the tariffed components plus the cost of any competitively classified components, and (c) the availability and prices of the stand-alone noncompetitively classified components be displayed in the company’s tariff and on its web site.
5. The law also states that “minimal regulation” has the same meaning as under RCW 80.36.330. The meaning of minimal regulation is described in RCW 80.36.330(2), which requires companies at a minimum to (a) keep their accounts according to Commission rules, (b) file financial reports as required by the Commission, and (c) cooperate with Commission investigations of customer complaints. This subsection previously also provided that minimal regulation included the use of price lists rather than tariffs, but 2006 legislation required the withdrawal of price lists and precludes the filing of new price lists, with the result that services subject to minimal regulation are detariffed.¹
6. For purposes of RCW 19.86.170, actions or transactions associated with Wahkiakum’s bundles and packages that are not governed by RCW and WAC provisions administered by the Commission shall not be deemed otherwise permitted, prohibited, or regulated by the commission.

¹ RCW 80.36.333. The Commission has revised its rules accordingly. General Order R-540 (March 30, 2007; revised April 20, 2007), Docket No. UT-060676.

WAHKIAKUM'S PACKAGES AND BUNDLES

7. Wahkiakum requests minimal regulation of the following categories of packages and bundles:

Bundle	Description	Examples
Tariffed service(s) ²	Two or more tariffed services.	Custom calling features; or access line plus custom calling features
Tariffed service(s) + competitive service(s) ³	Two or more services, with a minimum of one tariffed service and one competitive service.	Access line plus long distance service
Tariffed + competitive + non-regulated service(s) ⁴	Three or more services, with a minimum of one tariffed service, one competitive service and one non-regulated service.	Access line, long distance and inside wire maintenance and/or Internet service
Tariffed + non-regulated service	Two or more services, with a minimum of one tariffed service and one non-regulated service.	Access line and inside wire maintenance and wireless service and/or video service

Examples of Wahkiakum's bundles and packages that in the future may be offered in Washington include, but are not limited to: bundling long distance service or Internet services, or both, with basic local service or with basic local service plus vertical features. Wahkiakum does not offer any bundles or packages at the current time.

REQUEST FOR MINIMAL REGULATION

8. Wahkiakum requests that its bundles and packages of telecommunications services be subject to minimal regulation as described in the law. The law recognizes the distinction between packages and bundles on the one hand and the noncompetitive, regulated service components of such

² "Tariffed service" means an intrastate telecommunications service subject to the Commission's jurisdiction which has not been classified as competitive under RCW 80.36.330.

³ "Competitive service" means a service provided by Wahkiakum that the Commission has classified as competitive under RCW 80.36.330 and/or a service provided by a company classified as competitive under RCW 80.36.320.

⁴ "Non-regulated services" includes services provided by Wahkiakum that are not within the Commission's jurisdiction and services provided by other companies (Wahkiakum affiliates and non affiliates) that are not subject to Commission regulation.

packages and bundles when offered on a stand-alone basis on the other. The package or bundle is a service offering in its own right and will be provided pursuant to non-tariffed rates, terms and conditions, with consumers having the option to instead acquire the noncompetitive, regulated service components of such bundles and packages on a stand-alone basis pursuant to tariff and full regulation under the Commission's rules. The pricing of packages and bundles shall be governed exclusively by Chapter 26, laws 2007, Section 2(1). Accordingly, RCW and WAC provisions that are incompatible with the concepts of packages and bundles as service offerings and of minimal regulation will not apply to Wahkiakum's bundles and packages that include telecommunications services that, on a stand-alone basis, are tariffed and fully regulated.

Wahkiakum requests that the Commission specify that the following do not apply to Wahkiakum's packages and bundles under minimal regulation:

- a. RCW 80.36.100,
- b. RCW 80.36.110,
- c. RCW 80.36.150(5),
- d. WAC 480-80 other than WAC 480-80-141,
- e. WAC 480-120-103(1)(a), and
- f. WAC 480-120-161(4)(b), (c), (d) and (e); (5)(a); (6); (7)(a), (b), in part, as to calculation of time and distance charges, and (c); and (11).

9. Wahkiakum requests that the Commission's order granting this petition be effective upon issuance. Wahkiakum will treat any new packages and bundles introduced thereafter as being subject to minimal regulation. Currently, Wahkiakum does not offer any packages and bundles in its tariffs.

CONCLUSION

10. Wahkiakum requests that the Commission issue an order subjecting the Company's current and future bundles and packages to minimal regulation as described in this petition.

DATED this 24th day of September, 2009.

WESTERN WAHKIAKUM COUNTY TELEPHONE
COMPANY

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