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BEFORE THE WASHINGTON
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

IN RE

PETITION OF PEND OREILLE
TELEPHONE COMPANY TO RECEIVE
SUPPORT FROM THE UNIVERSAL
SERVICE COMMUNICATIONS
PROGRAM

DOCKET NO.

PETITION FOR SUPPORT

COMBS NOW Pend Oreille Telephone Company (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 2021.

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

1. WAC 480-123-100(1)(a): The Company is a local exchange company as defined in WAC 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 13 **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: Pend Oreille Telephone Company
- 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. ¹
18 A detailed description of any transactions between the Company and the affiliates named in
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21 Exhibit 1 recorded in the Company's operating accounts is attached hereto as Exhibit 2. ²

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24 ¹ Pursuant to agreement with Commission Staff, Exhibit 1 is limited to those affiliates having transactions
25 with the Company that are to be identified in Exhibit 2.

- 1 3. WAC 480-123-110(1)(c): A service area map for the Company can be found at Sheet No.
2 102 in of the Company's Tariff WN U-1.
- 3 4. WAC 480-123-110(1)(d): The Company's broadband plan to provide, maintain, or enhance
4 broadband services in its service area is attached hereto as Exhibit 3.
- 5 5. WAC 480-123-110(1)(f): A sworn statement by a Company officer certifying that the
6 Company complies with state and federal accounting, cost allocation, and cost adjustment
7 rules pertaining to incumbent local exchange carriers is attached as Exhibit 4.
- 8 6. WAC 480-123-110(1)(g): The number of residential local exchange access lines served by
9 the Company as of December 31, 2019, was 1019 The number of residential local exchange
10 access lines served by the Company as of December 31, 2018, was 1063 The number of
11 business local exchange access lines served by the Company as of December 31, 2019, was
12 305 The number of business local exchange access lines served by the Company as of
13 December 31, 2018, was 314 The number of broadband connections served by the
14 Company as of December 31, 2019, was 782 The number of broadband connections served
15 by the Company as of December 31, 2018, was 795. The unbundled monthly recurring rate
16 charged by the Company for residential local exchange access service on December 31,
17 2019, was 18.00. The unbundled monthly recurring rate charged by the Company for
18 residential local exchange access service on December 31,
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20 2018, was 25.03. The unbundled monthly rate charged by the Company for single line
21 business local exchange access service on December 31, 2019, was 25.03. The
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24 ² Exhibit 2 also includes transactions between the Company and Little Valley Elk Ranch. Pursuant to
25 agreement with the Commission Staff, Exhibit 2 is limited to transactions other than employment
26 compensation and benefits pursuant to employ benefit plans.

1 unbundled monthly rate charged by the Company for single line business local exchange
2 access service on December 31, 2018, was 25.03. The unbundled monthly rate charged for
3 broadband service as of December 31, 2019, and as of December 31, 2018, is set out in the
4 attached Exhibit 5.

5 7. WAC 480-123-110(1)(h): The requested statements are attached as Exhibit 6.

6 8. WAC 480-123-110(1)(h)(i): A sworn statement by a Company officer certifying that the
7 Company is in compliance with the Federal Communications Commission's obligation for
8 deployment of broadband at speeds specified by the Federal Communications Commission
9 applicable to the Company and that the Company meets one of the eligibility criteria set out
10 in WAC 480-123-110(1)(j)(ii), (iii) or (iv) is attached at Exhibit 7.

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

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14 Respectfully submitted this 8 day of September 2020.

15 PEND OREILLE TELEPHONE COMPANY

16 By Michael J. Martell, Vice-President

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19 CERTIFICATION

20 I Michael J. Martell, an officer of the Company that is responsible for the Company's
21 business and financial operations, hereby certify under penalty of perjury that the information and
22 representations set forth in the Petition, above, are accurate and the Company has not knowingly
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1 withheld any information required to be provided to the Commission pursuant to the rules
2 governing the Program.

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Michael J. Martell, Vice-President