

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON STATE
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

In the Matter of the Petition of)	DOCKET UT-143338
)	
TOLEDO TELEPHONE CO., INC.)	ORDER 01
)	
Petitioner,)	
)	
Seeking One-Time Exemption from)	ORDER GRANTING ONE-TIME
the Provisions of WAC 480-120-)	EXEMPTION FROM RULE
161(1) Relating to a Monthly Interval)	
for Bills)	
.....)	

BACKGROUND

- 1 On September 15, 2014, Toledo Telephone Co., Inc., (Toledo or Company) filed a petition requesting a one-time exemption from WAC 480-120-161(1). WAC 480-120-161(1) requires telecommunications companies to offer customers, at a minimum, the opportunity to receive billings on a monthly interval.
- 2 Toledo requests to change its bill cutoff date from the 23rd of each month to the last day of each month. The Company states that this change will make bill easier to understand for customers. This change does not affect local service. It will display the toll usage charges for each calendar month.
- 3 In order to implement this change in billing cycle, Toledo will need to send its first bill out after the change covering a thirty-seven day period of time rather than a thirty day period of time. As a result, Toledo is requesting an order allowing it to deviate from the rule on a one-time basis.

Commission staff reviewed the request and recommends granting Toledo's request for a one-time exemption. The Company also filed revisions for its tariff terms associated with the rule. Toledo plans to notify its customers in advance of the change in cutoff date once the Commission grants its request for one-time exemption of WAC 480-120-161(1).

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

- 4 (1) The Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission is an agency of the State of Washington vested by statute with the authority to regulate rates, rules,

regulations, practices, accounts, securities, and transfers of public service companies, including telecommunications companies. RCW 80.01.040; Chapter 80.04 RCW and Chapter 80.36 RCW.

- 5 (2) Toledo is engaged in the business of providing telecommunications services within the state of Washington and is a public service company subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission under the provisions of Chapter 80.36 RCW.
- 6 (3) Toledo is subject to the provisions of WAC 480-120-161(1), requiring telecommunications companies to use a monthly interval for billing purpose.
- 7 (4) WAC 480-120-015 provides that the Commission may grant an exemption from the provisions of any rule in Chapter 480-120 WAC, if consistent with the public interest, the purposes underlying regulation and applicable statutes.
- 8 (5) This matter was brought before the Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting on October 16, 2014.
- 9 (6) After review of the petition filed in Docket UT-143338 by Toledo on September 16, 2014, and giving due consideration, the Commission finds that the exemption is reasonable and should be granted.

ORDER

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 10 (1) After the effective date of this order, Toledo Telephone Co., Inc. is granted a one-time exemption from WAC 480-120-161(1), which requires telecommunications companies to use a monthly interval for billing.
- 11 (2) Toledo Telephone Co., Inc. will send out advance notice to inform its customers of this one time change for its billing cycle for toll charges.
- 12 (3) The proposed tariff revision will take effect after the effective date of this order.

- 13 (4) The Commission retains jurisdiction over the subject matter and Toledo Telephone Co., Inc. to effectuate the provisions of this Order.

The Commissioners, having determined this Order to be consistent with the public interest, directed the Secretary to enter this Order.

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective October 16, 2014.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

STEVEN V. KING, Executive Director and Secretary