

Frontier Telephone Companies  
Tariffs FCC Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 10, 11, 13, and 14  
Description and Justification  
Transmittal No. 80  
December 15, 2017

1. Introduction

Frontier Telephone Companies ("Frontier") submits herewith its Description and Justification ("D&J") in support of changes to its Access Tariffs made under Transmittal No. 80. This filing is made on behalf of the exchange carriers issuing Frontier Telephone Companies Tariffs FCC Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 10, 11, 13, and 14.

2. USF Recovery Charge

On December 14, 2017, the Commission released a *Public Notice*, Proposed First Quarter 2018 Universal Service Contribution Factor, DA 17-1203 ("*1Q18 USF Notice*"). The *1Q18 USF Notice* proposes a universal service contribution factor of 19.5% for the first quarter of 2018. In this filing, Frontier changes its USF Recovery Charge<sup>1</sup> rate element for Tariffs FCC Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 10, 11, 13, and 14 to 19.5% in keeping with the change in the underlying contribution factor.

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<sup>1</sup> This rate element is called "Universal Service Fund (USF) Recovery Charge" in Tariffs FCC Nos. 1, 2, and 3; "Federal Universal Service Fund (FUSF) Surcharge" in Tariffs FCC Nos. 4, 5, 6, 11, 13, and 14; and "Federal Universal Service Charge (FUSC)" in Tariff FCC No. 10.

### 3. Company Consolidation

In this filing, Frontier updates company names to reflect the merger of the following existing Frontier companies for administrative purposes. In each state the listed companies will be merged into one entity with the surviving legal entity noted.

#### **Alabama**

Frontier Communications of the South, LLC (surviving legal entity)

Frontier Communications of Alabama, LLC

Frontier Communications of Lamar County, LLC

#### **Georgia**

Frontier Communications of Georgia LLC (surviving legal entity)

Frontier Communications of Fairmount LLC

#### **Tennessee**

Citizens Telecommunications Company of Tennessee (surviving legal entity)

Citizens Telecommunications Company of the Volunteer State

#### **Wisconsin**

Frontier Communications of Wisconsin, LLC (surviving legal entity)

Rhineland Telephone, LLC

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Frontier Communications of Mondovi, LLC

Frontier Communications- St. Croix, LLC

Frontier Communications of Viroqua, LLC

4. Competitive/Non-Competitive Wire Centers

In this filing Frontier also fixes the “competitive” status of certain wire centers for special access purposes. These wire centers were inadvertently listed incorrectly on tariff pages on the filing made with transmittal 78 & 79. These changes will affect tariffs no. 1, 2, 3, 5 & 14. End user channel termination rates are frozen, regardless of competitive status, until February 1, 2018 according to the terms of the 2017 BDS Order.