

DESCRIPTION AND JUSTIFICATION

The filing made on June 16, 2021, to be effective July 1, 2021, revises the Access Recovery Charge (ARC) pursuant to 47 CFR §51.917(e), and implements changes adopted in the Commission's 8YY Access Charge Reform Order (FCC 20-143, rel. Oct. 9, 2020) for the issuing carriers in the Alexicon Telecommunications Consulting, Inc. Tariff F.C.C. No. 1. This filing also revises, where applicable, the issuing carriers' special access service rates to reflect revisions in the interstate authorized rate-of-return as discussed further below. In addition, this filing revises, where appropriate, special access rates in compliance with the Commission's Consumer Broadband-Only Line rate and revenue requirement rules and decisions as discussed further below. Finally, Commission actions regarding Access Recovery Charge (ARC) imputation on Consumer Broadband-Only Lines are reflected in this tariff filing.

Lake Livingston Telephone Company exited Alexicon Telecommunications Consulting, Inc. Tariff F.C.C. No. 1 and is no longer reflected as an issuing carrier.

Issuing carrier Cordova Telephone Company has implemented and maintain a Consumer Broadband-only Loop (CBOL) rate in the Alexicon Tariff. The other issuing carriers have chosen to offer the CBOL service on a detariffed basis.

Issuing carriers Blue Earth Valley Telephone Company, Cannon Valley Telecom, Easton Telephone Company, and Eckles Telephone Company elected alternative regulation for certain business data services (BDS) pursuant to the Federal Communications Commission's *Rate-of-Return BDS Order* (FCC 18-146, rel. October 24, 2018). These carriers elected to detariff high-cap services effective July 2, 2019, and rates for low-cap services reflected in this tariff are determined in accordance with the *Rate-of-Return BDS Order* and the Commission's price cap regulation rules.

Hager Telecom, Inc. (Hager) elected alternative regulation for certain business data services (BDS) pursuant to the Federal Communications Commission's *Rate-of-Return BDS Order* (FCC 18-146, rel. October 24, 2018). Hager elected to detariff high-cap services effective July 1, 2020, and rates for low-cap services reflected in this tariff are determined in accordance with the *Rate-of-Return BDS Order* and the Commission's price cap regulation rules.

This Tariff is issued pursuant to 47 CFR §61.39, and as such, an annual tariff filing is required in 2021. The rates contained in this transmittal reflect, where applicable, the interstate rate of return adopted in the Commission's March 30, 2016 *Rate of Return Carrier USF Reform Order* (FCC 16-33) which is scheduled to decrease to 9.75% on July 1, 2021.

In addition to the revised tariff pages listed in the Transmittal Letter, the issuing carriers are providing information pursuant to the Wireline Competition Bureau's (Bureau) Orders in WC Docket No. 21-148, dated April 16, 2021 (DA 21-433) and May 14, 2021 (DA 21-568).

Alaska Plan and ACAM Support Recipients

Issuing carriers Cordova Telephone Company and Ketchikan Public Utilities d/b/a KPU Telecommunications participate in the Alaska Plan as adopted by the Commission in August 2016 (WC Docket No. 10-90, 16-271, FCC 16-115).

Issuing carriers Blue Earth Valley Telephone Company, Cannon Valley Telecom, Easton Telephone Company, and Eckles Telephone Company elected to receive high cost support pursuant to the Commission's alternative Connect America Model (ACAM) mechanism adopted in the *RoR Carrier USF Reform Order*. Hager elected to receive ACAM II support in accordance with *RoR Carrier USF Budget Order* (FCC 18-176, rel. December 18, 2018).

Consumer Broadband-Only Line Rates and Revenue Requirement

Pursuant to the Commission's Consumer Broadband-Only Line (CBOL) rules, carriers that did not elect model-based support under rules adopted in the *RoR Carrier USF Reform Order* are required to take certain actions to determine the CBOL-related revenue requirement and rates and the related calculation of Connect America Fund Broadband Loop Support (CAF BLS). For those carriers, which include issuing carriers Laurel Highland Telephone Company, Wamego Telephone Company and Yukon Waltz Telephone Company, this year's tariff filing is based on, and continues to be in compliance with, the Commission's *Second Order on Reconsideration and Clarification* (WC Docket No. 10-90, rel. February 16, 2018, FCC 18-13). This procedure ensures the amount of revenue requirement moved from the Special Access category to the CBOL category is consistent with Part 36 and Part 69 rules.

Finally, the determination of the issuing carriers' CAF BLS and CBOL rates reflects the waiver of the Budget Control Mechanism (BCM) adopted in the Commission's June 3, 2021 Order in WC Docket No. 10-90 (FCC 21-67).

8YY Access Charge Reform Order

Pursuant to the Commission's 8YY Access Charge Reform Order, rate-of-return incumbent LECs are required to transition certain interstate and intrastate toll-free originating end office rates to bill and keep over two years; adopt, where applicable, a new Joint Tandem Switched Transport (JTST) rate; and cap and transition database query charges. The rates contained in this tariff revision reflect the requirements in the 8YY Access Charge Reform Order, and the Bureau's May 14, 2021 Order (DA 21-568).

The Alexicon Tariff issuing carriers are including the material to be provided in support of 2020 annual access tariff filings, pursuant to the Bureau Orders listed above. This information includes the following Tariff Review Plan (TRP) schedules promulgated by the Bureau:

	<u>ACAM CARRIERS</u>
Blue Earth Valley Telephone Co.:	61.39 ILEC Special Access Reallocation Rate Ceiling CAF ROR ILEC ROR ILEC ICC Data Tariff Rate Comp CAF ROR ILEC True Up ROR ILEC RoR ILEC Summary Individual Study Area BDS TRP
Cannon Valley Telecom:	61.39 ILEC Special Access Reallocation Rate Ceiling CAF ROR ILEC ROR ILEC ICC Data Tariff Rate Comp CAF ROR ILEC True Up ROR ILEC RoR ILEC Summary Individual Study Area BDS TRP

Easton Telephone Company: 61.39 ILEC Special Access Reallocation
Rate Ceiling CAF ROR ILEC
ROR ILEC ICC Data
Tariff Rate Comp CAF ROR ILEC
True Up ROR ILEC
RoR ILEC Summary
Individual Study Area BDS TRP

Eckles Telephone Company: 61.39 ILEC Special Access Reallocation
Rate Ceiling CAF ROR ILEC
ROR ILEC ICC Data
Tariff Rate Comp CAF ROR ILEC
True Up ROR ILEC
RoR ILEC Summary
Individual Study Area BDS TRP

Hager Telecom, Inc. 61.39 ILEC Special Access Reallocation
Rate Ceiling CAF ROR ILEC
ROR ILEC ICC Data
Tariff Rate Comp CAF ROR ILEC
True Up ROR ILEC
RoR ILEC Summary
Individual Study Area BDS TRP

Cordova Telephone Co.: **AK PLAN CARRIERS**
61.39 ILEC Special Access Reallocation
Rate Ceiling CAF ROR ILEC
ROR ILEC ICC Data
Tariff Rate Comp CAF ROR ILEC
True Up ROR ILEC
RoR ILEC ICC Data

Ketchikan Public Utilities d/b/a
KPU Telecommunications 61.39 ILEC Special Access Reallocation
Rate Ceiling CAF ROR ILEC
ROR ILEC ICC Data
Tariff Rate Comp CAF ROR ILEC
True Up ROR ILEC
RoR ILEC ICC Data

ROR CARRIERS
Laurel Highland Telephone Co.: 61.39 ILEC Special Access Reallocation
Rate Ceiling CAF ROR ILEC
ROR ILEC ICC Data
Tariff Rate Comp CAF ROR ILEC
True Up ROR ILEC
ROR ILEC Summary

Yukon Waltz Telephone Co.:	61.39 ILEC Special Access Reallocation Rate Ceiling CAF ROR ILEC ROR ILEC ICC Data Tariff Rate Comp CAF ROR ILEC True Up ROR ILEC ROR ILEC Summary
Wamego Telephone Company:	61.39 ILEC Special Access Reallocation Rate Ceiling CAF ROR ILEC ROR ILEC ICC Data Tariff Rate Comp CAF ROR ILEC True Up ROR ILEC ROR ILEC Summary

The information contained in the above-listed schedules constitutes the data necessary to establish each of the issuing carrier's ARC rates and each of the issuing carrier's projected eligibility for CAF ICC funding during the upcoming funding period, as required by 47 CFR 54.304(d)(1) and pursuant to 47 CFR 51.917. The information in the above-listed schedules constitutes the data necessary to establish each of the issuing carrier's projected CAF BLS during the upcoming funding period. The schedules also present data related to the amounts of new special access costs generated by CBOL service, the amount of costs shifted from the special access category to the CBOL category, the projected Consumer Broadband-only loops, and the ARC imputation pursuant to the *RoR Carrier USF Reform Order*, and the *Second Order on Reconsideration and Clarification*.

Certifications

Each of the issuing carriers, also via Transmittal No. 29, provided the following required certifications:

- 47 CFR 51.917(f)(3) - A Rate-of-Return Carrier that elects to receive CAF ICC support must certify with its annual access tariff filings that it has complied with paragraphs (d) and (e), and, after doing so, is eligible to receive the CAF ICC support requested pursuant to paragraph (f) of this section.
- 47 CFR 51.917(d)(vii) - A Rate-of-Return Carrier seeking revenue recovery must annually certify as part of its tariff filings to the Commission and to the relevant state commission that the carrier is not seeking duplicative recovery in the state jurisdiction for any Eligible Recovery subject to the recovery mechanism.
- Pursuant to DA 21-568, the issuing carriers are required to certify that their historical and forecast data used in the annual tariff filing are accurate.