

**NEVADA BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY (NBTC)  
1<sup>ST</sup> QUARTER 2023 FEDERAL UNIVERSAL SERVICE FUND (FUSF) ADJUSTMENTS  
PROGRAM AUDIO DISCONTINUANCE**

**DESCRIPTION AND JUSTIFICATION  
TRANSMITTAL NO. 337  
December 16, 2022**

**PURPOSE**

In this filing, Nevada Bell Telephone Company (NBTC) proposes to:

- Revise the Universal Service Fund (USF) factor to calculate the 1st Quarter 2023 USF obligations.
- Update line counts used in the calculation of the Federal Universal Service Fund (FUSF) recovery charges billed to residential and business customers.
- NBTC will discontinue offering Program Audio Service. There are no customers subscribing to this service.

**Federal Universal Service Fund Adjustments**

This filing is to revise NBTC's USF obligation based on updated line counts. The 1st Quarter 2023 contribution factor, **32.6%**, was provided in the Commission's Public Notice, DA **22-1286**, released December 09, 2022. Recovery of this contribution is allowable pursuant to *C.F.R.* 69.158. The methodology used to calculate end user charges assessed to recover this liability is detailed below.

**Calculation of the Federal Universal Service Fund Flat Rate End User Charge**

To ensure compliance with the Commission's *Interim Contribution Methodology Order*, NBTC recovers its USF obligation associated with switched access services through various flat-rate end user charges.<sup>1</sup> The charges are assessed with respect to the interstate end user service that

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<sup>1</sup>See *Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service, 1998 Biennial Regulatory Review – Streamlined Contributor Reporting Requirements Associated with Administration of Telecommunications Relay Service, North American Numbering Plan, Local Number Portability, and Universal Service Support Mechanisms, Telecommunications Services for Individuals with Hearing and Speech Disabilities, and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Administration of the North American Numbering Plan and North American Numbering Plan Cost Recovery*

generates the USF obligation. NBTC assesses two general types of USF charges (Basic and Non-recurring) for switched access customers. These charges are calculated using the following methodology as shown on *Exhibit 1* and *Exhibit 2*.

### **Basic USF Recovery Charges**

These charges are assessed to switched access lines, to recover the USF obligation associated with the assessment of End User Common Line (EUCL) and End User Port charges.

#### **1. Residential/Single Line Business (SLB)**

NBTC develops the Basic USF charge for residential and single line business customers by multiplying EUCL charges assessed to these customers by the relevant contribution factor released by the Commission. The calculation for the Basic FUSF Residential/Single Line Business rate is demonstrated on *Exhibit 1*.

#### **2. BRI ISDN**

NBTC develops the Basic USF charge for BRI ISDN and BRI ISDN Port customers by adding together EUCL and BRI ISDN / Centrex Port charges assessed to these customers to obtain the total basic interstate end user charges. The total basic interstate end user charges are multiplied by the relevant contribution factor released by the Commission. The calculation for the Basic FUSF BRI ISDN rate is demonstrated on *Exhibit 1*.

### **3. Multi-line Business, PRI ISDN, and Centrex**

NBTC elected to utilize the provisions granted in the Commission's *Order* and *Second Order on Reconsideration* regarding Centrex customers.<sup>2</sup> A portion of the unrecovered obligation created from using the PICC equivalency ratios for Centrex customers is applied to Multi-line business customers. However, due to the constraints included in the Commission's *Order*, NBTC averages the obligation associated with End User Common Line (EUCL) charges for Centrex customers.

NBTC determines the basic USF recovery rate for business customers using the methodology detailed below.

#### **Establish the Basic Multi-Line Business Rate**

**Step 1** – Determine total revenue using access lines as of September 2022 for these customers generated from EUCL assessments by multiplying the EUCL rate by the number of lines.

**Step 2** – Multiply the result from Step 1 by the contribution factor to obtain the obligation associated with the customer base.

**Step 3** – Divide the obligation developed in Step 2 by the number of billable lines (using lines as of September 2022). The line base is adjusted using PICC equivalency ratios as defined in Part 69.153. The result is the Basic MLB rate per line.

**Step 4** – Add to the Basic MLB rate, all other USF recovery associated with the customer type.

Step 4 is calculated by customer type for Multi-line business, PRI ISDN, and Centrex customers as shown in *Exhibit 2*. The final rates per customer type are detailed on both *Exhibit 1* and

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<sup>2</sup> See *Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service, 1998 Biennial Regulatory Review – Streamlined Contributor Reporting Requirements Associated with Administration of Telecommunications Relay Service, North American Numbering Plan, Local Number Portability, and Universal Service Support Mechanisms, Telecommunications Services for Individuals with Hearing and Speech Disabilities, and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Administration of the North American Numbering Plan and North American Numbering Plan Cost Recovery Contribution Factor and Fund Size, Number Resource Optimization, Telephone Number Portability*, CC Docket Nos. 96-45, 98-171, 90-571, 92-237, 99-200, 95-116, 98-170, *Order and Second Order on Reconsideration*, FCC 03-58, para. 3 (rel. March 14, 2003).

***Exhibit 2.*** These final rates preclude any recovery necessary from non-recurring interstate end user charges.

### **Other Non-recurring USF Surcharges**

Non-recurring USF surcharges are assessed to interstate end user non-recurring charges, which generate a USF obligation. NBTC calculates other non-recurring USF charges by multiplying the non-recurring charge by the contribution factor. These USF recovery charges will only be assessed per occurrence of the interstate end user non-recurring charge. The calculations for these charges are detailed in ***Exhibit 1***. For billing purposes, the USF recovery charge may be added to the existing interstate end user charge which generates the obligation.

NBTC assesses Lifeline customers the non-recurring USF charges when they are assessed the non-recurring charge that generates the obligation. NBTC also assesses Interexchange Carriers (ICs) the Presubscribed Interexchange Change (PIC) USF Charge when the IC is assessed the PIC change charge.

### **Other Recurring Federal Universal Fund Surcharges**

NBTC will continue to recover its other recurring (i.e. Special Access and True Internet Protocol to Public Switched Telephone Network (TIPToP) Service) USF obligations through a percentage-based USF recovery charge applied to interstate end user billed revenues. This percentage-based USF recovery charge is set equal to the Commission's contribution factor released via Public Notice.

## **Program Audio Discontinuance**

### **Description**

On November 20, 2019, NBTC grandfathered the Program Audio Service in Transmittal No. 318, with a discontinuance date of “on or after November 1, 2020”. With this filing’s effective date, all customers who subscribed with either month-to-month and term payment plans have disconnected their Program Audio circuits.

### **Price Cap Compliance**

The attached Tariff Review Plan (TRP) shows the removal of revenue from the Audio & Video basket of the TRP. The API remains below the PCI, and all SBIs are below the associated SBI Upper Limits, as indicated on the IND-1 form of the TRP.

**Nevada Bell Telephone Company (NBTC)**  
**Nevada Universal Service Fee (USF) Rate Development**

1st Quarter 2023 Contribution Factor	Source DA 22-1286	(A)	(B) 0.326	(C=A*B)
<b>Basic USF Recovery Charge</b>				
<b>Residential / Single-Line Business</b>		<b>Rate</b>		<b>USF Charge</b>
RES Access Recovery Charge (ARC)		<b>0.00</b>		
End User Common Line (EUCL) Rate		<b>6.42</b>		
ARC & EUCL Rate Combined		\$ 6.42		\$ 2.09
<b>BRI ISDN</b>				
				<b>USF Charge</b>
End User Common Line/ARC Rate		\$ 6.42		
BRI ISDN Port		\$ 3.90		
Total Basic Interstate End User Revenue		<u>\$ 10.32</u>		\$ 3.36
<b>Multi-line Business</b>				
<b>PBX</b>	Exhibit 2			\$ 6.01
<b>PRI ISDN</b>	Exhibit 2			\$ 6.01
<b>CENTREX</b>	Exhibit 2			\$ 41.88
	Exhibit 2			\$ 0.66
<b>Other USF Recovery Charges</b>				
PIC Manual Change Charge		\$ 3.89		\$ 1.26
PIC Mechanized Change Charge		\$ 1.60		\$ 0.52

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**Nevada Universal Service Fee (USF) Rate Development**

1st Quarter 2023 Contribution Factor		Source DA 22-1286	(A)	(B) 0.326	(C=A*B) USF Charge
<b>Basic USF Recovery Charge for MLB, PRI, &amp; Centrex</b>					
<i><b>Multi-line Business, PRI ISDN, CENTREX</b></i>					
<i><b>Lines as of September 2022</b></i>					
L1	MLB Lines			8,915	
L2	Centrex lines with less than 9 lines			1,781	
L3	Centrex lines with greater than 9 lines			8,220	
L4	PRI ISDN			187	
	BUS Access Recovery Charge (ARC)		\$3.77		
	End User Common Line (EUCL) Rate	\$	6.42		
L5	ARC & EUCL Rate Combined		\$10.19	\$10.19	
<b>MLB, PRI ISDN, Centrex Revenue</b>					
L6	MLB	L5*L1	\$	90,844	
L7	PRI ISDN	L5*L4*5	\$	9,528	
L8	Centrex	(L5)*(L2+L3)	\$	101,910	
L9	MLB, PRI ISDN, Centrex Revenue	L6:L8	\$	202,282	
L10	MLB, PRI ISDN, Centrex Obligation	L9*USF Factor	\$	65,944	
L11	PICC Equivalent Centrex Systems Line Counts (As stated in FCC 03-58 released March 14, 2003)			198	
L12		0 L1+(L3/9)+(L4*5)+L11		10,961	
<b>Recovery Cross Check Verification</b>					
L13	Basic MLB Rate	(L10/L12)			\$ 6.01
L14	Basic Centrex Rate	L13/9			\$ 0.66
L15	Basic PRI ISDN Rate (excluding Port recovery)	L13*5			\$ 30.05
<b>Recovery Cross Check Verification</b>					
L16	Basic MLB USF Recovery	L1*L13	\$	53,579	
L17	Basic Centrex USF Recovery	(L3*L14)+(L11*L13)	\$	6,614	
L18	Basic PRI ISDN USF Recovery	(L5*L15)	\$	5,619	
L19	Total MLB, PRI ISDN, Centrex Basic USF Recovery (L19 < L10)		\$	65,813	<b>OK</b>
<b>Additives to the Basic MLB Rate</b>					
<b>PRI ISDN</b>			<b>Rate</b>		
L20	PRI ISDN Port Charge		\$	36.29	\$ 11.83
<b>Final Basic MLB, PRI ISDN, &amp; Centrex USF Rates Summary</b>					
L21	MLB	L13		\$	6.01
L22	PBX	L13		\$	6.01
L23	PRI ISDN	L15+L20		\$	41.88
L24	Centrex	L14		\$	0.66