

Citizens Telecommunications Companies
Tariff F.C.C. No. 1
Description and Justification
Transmittal No. 143
December 17, 2003

I. Introduction

Citizens Telecommunications Companies ("Citizens") submits herewith its Description and Justification ("D&J") in support of changes to its Tariff F.C.C. No. 1 filed under Transmittal No. 143. This filing is made on behalf of the exchange carriers issuing Citizens Tariff F.C.C. No. 1. In this tariff, four separate rate schedules are maintained. These rate schedules are referred to as Rate Group 1 through Rate Group 4, and correspond to the COSA codes CTC1 through CTC4. In this filing, Citizens decreases its USF Recovery Charge rate and makes administrative changes to its tariff.

II. USF Recovery Charge

On December 4, 2003, the Commission released a *Public Notice*, Proposed First Quarter 2004 Universal Service Contribution Factor, DA 03-3886 ("*1Q04 USF Notice*"). In the *1Q04 Notice*, the USF Contribution Factor is set at 8.7%. In this filing, Citizens changes its USF Recovery Charge rate element to 8.7% in keeping with the

change in the underlying contribution factor.

III. Miscellaneous

In this filing, Citizens also makes administrative changes to reflect the reorganization of Citizens Telecommunications Company of Minnesota, Inc. into a limited liability corporation named Citizens Telecommunications Company of Minnesota, LLC. The surviving corporation retains the existing Tax ID Number and Federal Registration Number.

Citizens also makes administrative changes removing the name of an issuing carrier that provides no telecommunications service and correcting a clerical error in an another issuing carrier's name.

This filing is being made on a streamline basis on 15 days' notice under Section 204(a)(3) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended.