

**DESCRIPTION AND JUSTIFICATION
CONSOLIDATED COMMUNICATIONS COMPANIES (CCC)
CONSISTING OF CONSOLIDATED COMMUNICATIONS OF TEXAS (CCTX)
AND CONSOLIDATED COMMUNICATIONS OF FORT BEND (CCFB)
d/b/a CONSOLIDATED COMMUNICATIONS**

CCC TARIFF FCC No. 1

TRANSMITTAL No. 10, DECEMBER 16, 2005

DESCRIPTION

There are five tariff changes being included in this tariff filing.

First, Consolidated Communications continues to expand the broadband penetration in its service areas. To that end, the Company is proposing a promotion with an \$11.00 monthly rate for ADSL. This promotion will last for 6 months, December 31, 2005 through June 30, 2006. Customers who agree to a one year commitment will receive the \$11.00 rate for the first 6 months after they sign up for the promotional rate.

The cost support for ADSL was filed in TXU Communications Telephone Company's Transmittal No. 18, and remains valid. The promotional rate is above the LRIC for the service.

Second, Consolidated Communications of Texas (CCTX) is expanding the availability of service provider number portability (SPNP)/Local Number Portability (LNP). The exchanges around and including Lufkin, Texas, did not turn up SPNP with the remainder of the exchanges in CCTX and CCFB. However, the cost study completed for the original SPNP tariff filing did include these exchanges on a delayed turn-up basis.

Now the capability is available and the Company will turn up SPNP in these exchanges, effective December 31, 2005. The surcharge will continue until the termination date of the SPNP for the other exchanges in CCTX and CCFB, which is April 11, 2008.

Third, the application in the tariff of OC3/OC12 multiplexed to multiple High Capacity services has resulted in some questions. These questions arise when large numbers of High Capacity DS1 circuits are multiplexed from an OCx service. Physically CCC must multiplex from OCx to DS3, then from DS3 to DS1. The current pricing in the tariff was intended for single or a few add/drop DS1s to be multiplexed. For customers who are multiplexing a large number of DS1s from a DS3, or even the entire DS3 to 28 DS1s, the price for multiplexing can exceed the rate for High Capacity DS3-to-DS1 multiplexing. Since the two multiplexing services are essentially provisioned the same, there is no reason for this higher rate.

The Company physically provisions multiplexing service in the most efficient manner. This tariff change will eliminate the pricing inconsistency. For example, if the customer requests multiplexing of an OC3 to 3 DS3s and then one of the DS3s to DS1s, the multiplexing change will include the number of individual DS1 Port Charges until that amount exceeds the DS3-to-

DS1 High Capacity multiplexing changes. At that stage, the High Capacity multiplexing charge will act as a cap for each DS3 multiplexed to multiple DS1s.

This will benefit customers since no current rate will increase, and some multiplexing rates may decrease.

Fourth, the Company's mailing address has changed to Conroe, TX. The Title Page and Check Sheets are being updated to reflect this. The remainder of the tariff pages will be updated and changes are made.

Fifth, the Company has not been able to offer DS1-to-DS0 multiplexing in the past. CCC now has the capability to multiplex from DS1 to DS0. This is functionally equivalent to multiplexing to Voice Grade service. Therefore, the Company has adopted the DS1-to-Voice Grade rate out of this tariff, since there is no difference between the two services as provisioned.

JUSTIFICATION

In the Communications Act of 1934 as amended by the Telecommunications Act of 1996, Congress in Section 706(a) charges the Commission with "encourag[ing] the deployment on a reasonable and timely basis of advanced telecommunications capability" – broadband – "to all Americans." This tariff filing does that by promoting the increased broadband penetration in Consolidated Communications' service areas. Additionally, it expands the availability of SPNP to enhance the opportunities for local competition in the Company's Lufkin Market area, which is part of CCTX. This increased competition is also part of the Commission's Policy Statement released September 23, 2005.

Finally, several administrative corrections are being accomplished to update the tariff. These will make the tariff a better resource for our customers.

These will all enhance the Company's service offerings and are in the best interests of its customers.