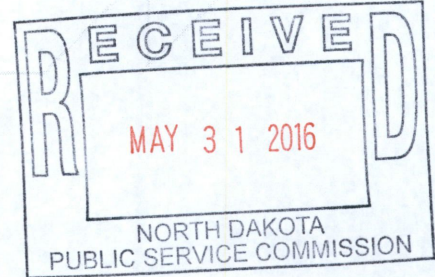


William VanderSluis
651.621.8528 – Direct

 **OLSEN THIELEN**
Certified Public Accountants & Consultants

Depend on our people. Count on our advice.SM



May 18, 2016

Mr. Darrell Nitschke
Director of Administration/Executive Secretary
North Dakota Public Service Commission
State Capitol
600 East Boulevard, Dept. 408
Bismarck, ND 58505-0480

Dear Mr. Nitschke:

Enclosed are Price Schedule Revisions filed on behalf of Absaraka Cooperative Telephone Company. The Price Schedule revision includes an increase in Residential and Business service from \$16.00 to \$18.00, effective June 1, 2016.

This local rate increase is necessary in ILEC service areas to avoid forfeiture of Universal Service High Cost Loop Support as has been specified by the FCC.

A copy of notice information sent to customers is also enclosed.

Please call me at (651) 621-8528 with any questions.

Sincerely,

/s/ William VanderSluis

William VanderSluis
Senior Telecommunications Specialist

Enclosures

cc: Ann Faught, Absaraka Cooperative Telephone Company

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Price Schedule Revisions

Absaraka Cooperative Telephone Company, Inc.
William VanderSluis

Residence and Business Service

Rates for Residence and Business Service Line Charge shall be the same.

Monthly Charge and Discounts for Local Exchange Telephone Service

Base Rate Area Service	\$18.00
911 Fee	\$1.50
Monthly Pay Discounts	\$1.00 less than the access charge set by the FCC + between \$.30 and \$.50/call as set by board on current accounts
Federal Lifeline Support	\$9.25 Credit
Applied to the FCC End User Charge first, remainder to be applied to rest of charges.	
Minimum total for bill	\$22.62
"Lifeline" minimum total for bill	\$13.37

Absaraka Long Distance Call Plans				
	Monthly Charge	Plan Minutes	Overage charge per minute	Effective Rate/Minute
Call 60 Plan	\$5.95	60	\$0.15	9.9 cents
Call 200 Plan	\$17.95	200	\$0.15	8.9 cents
Call 350 Plan	\$26.95	350	\$0.15	7.7 cents
Call 600 Plan	\$43.95	600	\$0.15	7.3 cents
Call 1000 Plan	\$73.95	1000	\$0.15	7.3 cents
Flat Rate				
Option 1	Volume Discounts	Rate per Minute		
\$0 to \$24.99	0.0%	14 cents		
\$25 to \$49.99	2.5%	13.7 cents		
\$50 to \$99.99	5.0%	13.3 cents		
\$100 to \$249.99	10.0%	12.6 cents		
\$250+	20.0%	11.2 cents		
Flat Rate				
Option 2	Interstate Minutes	Intrastate Minutes		
No volume discounts	6.5 cents	14 cents		

RAISE IN LOCAL RATES NOTICE

You will notice a slight increase in your phone bill next month. This is due to the fact that the FCC issued an order to increase our local rates to \$18 by June 1, 2016 or we would risk losing portions of our High Cost Loop Support (HCLS). We have been at \$16 since December 1, 2014. The FCC states further that our rates need to be equal to the national urban average, phasing in the required increases over the next several years. The most recent survey results found that the national urban average is \$20.46. Therefore, we expect an additional rate increase in 2017.