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IDAHO PUBLIC
UTILITIES COMMISSION



May 14, 2021

Jan Noriyuki
Commission Secretary
Idaho Public Utilities Commission
1131 W. Chinden Blvd. Building 8, Suite 201-A

VIA: E-Mail

EOL-T-21-01

Re: Silver Star Communications Tariff Advice Filing (Issued May 14, 2021)

Dear Jan:

Columbine Telephone Company, Inc. dba Silver Star Communications (the "Company") hereby submits its Tariff Advice Filing containing certain changes to its IPUC Local Exchange Service Tariff No. 3 and reflecting a June 15, 2021 effective date.

The changes represent (1) typographical error corrections and (2) a change in practice to the manner in which facilities extensions are handled. A legislative redline is submitted identifying the changes along with a clean version.

The Company has provided customer notice by posting the proposed amended tariff to its website: <https://www.silverstar.com/regulatory/>.

The Company respectfully requests an effective date of June 15, 2021.

Please direct any questions or concerns to my attention.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Michelle Motzkus". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "M".

Michelle Motzkus
Legal & Regulatory Administrator
307.883.6690

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LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

7. Construction Charges

Construction charges for line extension consist of additions to plant beyond existing leads. Construction charges for line extensions not exceeding 500' are applied to all subscriber applicants to prevent unreasonable burdening the general body of existing subscribers. All line extensions will be owned by the Company.

7.1 General Description

- (A) Construction charges for line extensions as set forth in this section apply in connection with all types of service when established by means of an extension to the Company's plant consisting of buried or overhead construction, including extensions by means of poles, or other methods, if determined feasible by the Company, to be owned by the Company, or jointly with others and by means of contacts or contact space on poles of others. The Company shall determine the type of construction to be used.
- (B) The word "cost" when used in this section, means the "installed plant cost" consisting of labor, materials, equipment hire, rental or use of Company owned equipment, and/or contract services such as road pushes, road crossings, dry road boring, backhoe use or trenching, engineering and any other overhead expense associated with the construction. The "cost" will include any fee or charge exacted by any municipality, county, state or federal government or private party for street crossings, rights-of-way, use of roads, land or facilities.

7.2 Undertaking of the Telephone Company - Single Applicants

- (A) The locations for construction of line extensions are determined by the Telephone Company and the distances (including drop wire) are measured along the route so selected.
- (B) Construction to serve two (2) or more customers, whether on public right-of-way or private easements, may be used for serving subscribers in general.

Columbine Telephone Company, Inc. dba
SILVER STAR COMMUNICATIONS
104101 US Highway 89
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LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

7. Construction Charges

7.2 Undertaking of the Telephone Company - Single Applicants (Cont'd)

- (C) Plant extensions (along public roads or on private property) not exceeding 500' will be furnished at a flat fee cost, per application. Where the total extension exceeds 500', the applicant will pay to the Company prior to construction the actual cost of plant extension exceeding the 500' plus the flat fee cost.
- (D) Line extension charges assessed to applicants will be based on the Rules as set forth herein. In case of disagreement or dispute regarding the application of these rules, or in circumstances where the application of these rules appear impracticable or unjust to either party, the utility, applicant, or applicants may refer the matter to the IPUC for ruling.
- (E) When construction is required to serve a new applicant, a survey is made of all prospective subscribers who might be served from the new construction or an extension thereof, and who might benefit by being included in the project.
- (F) All applicants are grouped in a single project when there is not more than one-half (1/2) mile of construction between successive applicants. Separate projects are established whenever the construction between any two (2) successive applicants exceeds one-half (1/2) mile. Two or more projects are combined, however, whenever this results in lower charges (or no increase in charges) for all of the applicants involved.
- (G) The Company will provide the applicant, at any premises, only a single line extension and drop wire allowance regardless of the number of services ordered at that premises.

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LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

7. Construction Charges

7.3 Undertaking of the Telephone Company - Group Applicants

- (A) Applicants ordering service at more than one premises are treated as separate applicants at each premises for purposes of this schedule; however, a single applicant may only receive construction allowance for one of those premises. The construction allowance for each individual applicant is as set forth in 7.2(C) above.
- (B) For the purpose of determining project charges, the collective construction allowance for the group is subtracted from the overall Line Extension costs required for service. The total project cost is then divided equally among all applicants.

Exceptions:

- (1) No applicant is required to pay a higher charge than he would if the project were established for him alone. Any difference between this charge and the average charge for the group is absorbed by the Company.
- (2) Charges for extensions to plant on private property, including drop wire, are assumed by applicants on whose property such extensions are made and these charges are not included in the overall charges for the project.
- (C) When a new applicant can be served from a completed project, within three (3) years from the date service was initially established for such project, the charges for the entire project are recomputed to include the new applicant. The new applicant pays a prorated amount of the line extension charge based on the number of months (a fraction of a month is counted as a full month) remaining in the original three (3) year term. The time is computed from the date service is established for the new applicant.
- (D) Where additional construction is required for an applicant to be served for a project less than three (3) years old, the cost of the project is computed as above if such recomputation does not increase the charges to those customers served from the existing project. Otherwise, a new project will be established.

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LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

7. Construction Charges, (Cont'd)

7.7 Mobile Home Parks

A developer who prepares a tract of land for the purpose of parking mobile homes, needs to sign the Trailer Park Agreement for Underground Distribution System, and the mobile home developer is required to provide a trailer stake or pedestal post at the back side, between every two (2) mobile home parking lots for the purpose of attaching the protector on the trailer stake or pedestal post outside of the mobile home. In no case will telephone service be provided when the protector is attached to the mobile homes.

7.8 Obligations of the End User

- (A) In all cases of construction, the end user is responsible to provide the trenching which is subject to Company approval. In the event the end user elects the Company to undertake the construction, both an appropriate hourly engineering and labor charge applies for the Company's supervision and completion of the project. The demarcation point shall generally be the building or premises receiving service.
- (B) Line extensions are payable in advance. In the event of overcharge, refunds to applicants will reflect the difference between the estimated cost and the actual cost of the line extension. In the event of undercharge, the Company shall bill the applicant for the actual amount construction costs exceeding the estimated extension costs beyond 10%. Any adjustments between the estimated costs advanced by the applicant and the reasonable actual cost shall be made, billed to or refunded to the applicant within ninety (90) days after completion of the extension.

7.9 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowances

Payment for Construction Charges is due in full at the estimated cost prior to the start of construction.

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LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

7. Construction Charges, (Cont'd)

7.10 Rate Regulations

- (A) A flat fee charge shall apply for all extensions and additions to plant necessary to provide telephone service along existing exchange telephone circuits of this utility that are less than 500' as set forth in Section 9.7 below.
- (B) Construction costs for plant extensions will be paid by the applicant, per 7.7(B) above.
- (C) Costs for Special Service Arrangements shall be determined on an individual case basis (ICB).

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LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

9.	<u>Rates and Charges</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Source</u>
9.6	<u>Special Service Arrangements - Per month**</u>		
	<u>Driggs, Victor, Tetonia:</u>		
	Line Treatment	\$7.50	7.6
	Per Arrangement	ICB	7.6
	<u>Irwin, Wayan:</u>		
	Line Treatment	ICB	7.6
	Per Arrangement	ICB	7.6
9.7	Plant Addition/Facilities Extension (A) One-time Charge, under 500'	\$350.00	8.2(C)
9.8	<u>Engineering and Labor Services</u>		
	(A) Engineering Services		
	(1) Normal Engineering Services-At Current Rate		8.1.3
	(2) Overtime Engineering Services-At Current Rate		8.1.3
	(3) Drop staking Fee-Refundable Upon Service Two times the current normal engineering services Rate per hour		8.1.3
	(B) Labor Services – Maintenance Visit		
	(1) Normal Labor Services-At Current Rate		8.2.3
	(2) Additional Labor Services-At Current Rate		8.2.3
9.9	<u>Digital Transport Service</u>		
	Each DTS circuit, monthly recurring	\$130.00	11.3

* Applicable Exchange Order Charges apply.

**Company's current hourly rate.

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(Z)
(C)

LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

7. Construction Charges

Construction charges for line extension consist of additions to plant beyond existing leads, ~~and do not include additions to plant where total costs are under \$1,600.00 (or current, existing Company aid to construction amount)~~. Construction charges for line extensions not exceeding 500' are applied to all subscriber applicants ~~with abnormally long extension requirements~~ to prevent unreasonable burdening the general body of existing subscribers. All line extensions will be owned by the Company.

7.1 General Description

- (A) Construction charges for line extensions as set forth in this section apply in connection with all types of service when established by means of an extension to the Company's plant consisting of buried or overhead construction, including extensions by means of poles, or other methods, if determined feasible by the Company, to be owned by the Company, or jointly with others and by means of contacts or contact space on poles of others. The Company shall determine the type of construction to be used.
- (B) The word "cost" when used in this section, means the "installed plant cost" consisting of labor, materials, equipment hire, rental or use of Company owned equipment, and/or contract services such as road pushes, road crossings, dry road boring, backhoe use or trenching, engineering and any other overhead expense associated with the construction. The "cost" will include any fee or charge exacted by any municipality, county, state or federal government or private party for street crossings, rights-of-way, use of roads, land or facilities.

7.2 Undertaking of the Telephone Company - Single Applicants

- (A) The locations for construction of line extensions are determined by the Telephone Company and the distances (including drop wire) are measured along the route so selected.
- (B) Construction to serve two (2) or more customers, whether on public right-of-way or private easements, may be used for serving subscribers in general.

LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

7. Construction Charges

7.2 Undertaking of the Telephone Company - Single Applicants (Cont'd)

- (C) Plant extensions (along public roads or on private property) not exceeding 500' will be furnished at a flat fee cost, per application. Where the total extension exceeds 500', the applicant will pay to the Company prior to construction the actual cost of plant extension exceeding the 500' plus the flat fee cost. ~~The total extension to plant (along public roads or on private property) to be furnished without charge (Aid to Construction provided by the Telephone Company) shall not exceed \$1,600.00 per application (or current, existing Company aid to construction threshold amount). Where the total extension exceeds \$1,600.00, or the current, existing Company aid to construction amount, the applicant will reimburse the Company the total amount exceeding the established aid to construction in effect prior to construction.~~ (C)
- (D) Line extension charges assessed to applicants will be based on the Rules as set forth herein. In case of disagreement or dispute regarding the application of these rules, or in circumstances where the application of these rules appear impracticable or unjust to either party, the utility, applicant, or applicants may refer the matter to the IPUC for ruling. (T)
- (E) When construction is required to serve a new applicant, a survey is made of all prospective subscribers who might be served from the new construction or an extension thereof, and who might benefit by being included in the project. ~~Construction allowances are made only for those prospective subscribers making a written application for service.~~
- (F) All applicants are grouped in a single project when there is not more than one-half (1/2) mile of construction between successive applicants. Separate projects are established whenever the construction between any two (2) successive applicants exceeds one-half (1/2) mile. Two or more projects are combined, however, whenever this results in lower charges (or no increase in charges) for all of the applicants involved.
- (G) The Company will provide the applicant, at any premises, only a single line extension and drop wire allowance regardless of the number of services ordered at that premises.

LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

7. Construction Charges

7.3 Undertaking of the Telephone Company - Group Applicants

(A) Applicants ordering service at more than one premises are treated as separate applicants at each premises for purposes of this schedule; however, a single applicant may only receive construction allowance for one of those premises. The construction allowance for each individual applicant is as set forth in 87.2(C) above. (Z)

(B) For the purpose of determining project charges, the collective construction allowance for the group is subtracted from the overall Line Extension costs required for service. The total project cost is then divided equally among all applicants.

Exceptions:

(1) No applicant is required to pay a higher charge than he would if the project were established for him alone. Any difference between this charge and the average charge for the group is absorbed by the Company.

(2) Charges for extensions to plant on private property, including drop wire, are assumed by applicants on whose property such extensions are made and these charges are not included in the overall charges for the project.

(C) When a new applicant can be served from a completed project, within three (3) years from the date service was initially established for such project, the charges for the entire project are recomputed to include the new applicant. The new applicant pays a prorated amount of the line extension charge based on the number of months (a fraction of a month is counted as a full month) remaining in the original three (3) year term. The time is computed from the date service is established for the new applicant.

(D) Where additional construction is required for an applicant to be served for a project less than three (3) years old, the cost of the project is computed as above if such recomputation does not increase the charges to those customers served from the existing project. Otherwise, a new project will be established.

LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

7. Construction Charges, (Cont'd)

7.7 Mobile Home Parks

A developer who prepares a tract of land for the purpose of parking mobile homes, needs to sign the Trailer Park Agreement for Underground Distribution System, and the mobile home developer is required to provide a trailer stake or pedestal post at the back side, between every two (2) mobile home parking lots for the purpose of attaching the protector on the trailer stake or pedestal post outside of the mobile home. In no case will telephone service be provided when the protector is attached to the mobile homes.

7.8 Obligations of the End User

- (A) ~~When a charge is applicable for construction on either a public road or private property, the end user may undertake, where in the opinion of the Telephone Company it is practical for him/her to do so, such trenching in whole or in part, in lieu of the partial construction charges which apply.~~ In (C)
all cases of construction, the end user is responsible to provide the trenching which is subject to Company approval. In the event the end user elects the Company to undertake the construction, both an appropriate hourly engineering and labor charge applies for the Company's supervision and completion of the project. The demarcation point shall generally be the building or premises receiving service.
- (B) ~~The estimated cost of the~~ Line extensions are payable in advance. In the event of overcharge, refunds to applicants will reflect the difference between the estimated cost and the actual cost of the line extension. In the event of undercharge, the Company shall bill the applicant for the actual amount construction costs exceeding the estimated extension costs beyond 10%. Any adjustments between the estimated costs advanced by the applicant and the reasonable actual cost shall be made, billed to or refunded to the applicant within ninety (90) days after completion of the extension. (Z)

7.89 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowances

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LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

7. Construction Charges, (Cont'd)

7.910 Rate Regulations

- (A) A flat fee charge shall apply for all extensions and additions to plant necessary to provide telephone service along existing exchange telephone circuits of this utility that are less than 500' as set forth in Section 9.7 below. ~~Extensions and additions to plant necessary to provide telephone service not to exceed \$1,600.00 (or current, existing Company aid to construction threshold amount) along existing exchange telephone circuits of this utility, are provided at no charge.~~ (C)
- (A) Construction costs for plant extensions will be paid by the applicant, per 7.7(B) above. ~~Costs in excess of \$1,600.00 (or the established aid to construction in effect) will be paid by the applicant, per 7.7(B) above.~~ (C)
- (B) Costs for Special Service Arrangements shall be determined on an individual case basis (ICB).

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LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

9.	<u>Rates and Charges</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Source</u>	
9.6	<u>Special Service Arrangements - Per month**</u>			
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9.7	<u>Plant Addition/Facilities Extension</u>			
	<u>(A) One-time Charge, under 500'</u>	<u>\$350.00</u>	<u>8.2(C)</u>	(C)(Z)(I)
9.8	<u>Engineering and Labor Services</u>			
	(A) <u>Engineering Services</u>			
	(1) Normal Engineering Services-At Current Rate		8.1.3	
	(2) Overtime Engineering Services-At Current Rate		8.1.3	
	(3) Drop staking Fee-Refundable Upon Service			
	Two times the current normal engineering services		8.1.3	
	Rate per hour			
	(B) <u>Labor Services – Maintenance Visit</u>			
	(1) Normal Labor Services-At Current Rate		8.2.3	
	(2) Additional Labor Services-At Current Rate		8.2.3	
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* Applicable Exchange Order Charges apply.
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