

BEFORE THE IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF) CASE NO. CUS-T-19-02
CUSTER TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE,)
INC. FOR AMENDMENT OF ITS) NOTICE OF PETITION
CERTIFICATED SERVICE AREA)
BOUNDARY) NOTICE OF
) MODIFIED PROCEDURE
)
) ORDER NO. 34438

On August 27, 2019, Custer Telephone Cooperative, Inc. petitioned the Commission for an Order amending the service area boundary described in the Company’s Certificate No. 308. The Company asks the Commission to process the case under modified procedure.

With this Order, the Commission provides notice of the Petition and orders that the case be processed under the Commission’s Rules of Modified Procedure.

NOTICE OF PETITION

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that the Company is a mutual nonprofit telephone corporation organized under Idaho law, with its principal place of business in Challis, Idaho. The Company provides basic local exchange telecommunications services, message telecommunication service, wide area telecommunications service, access services to interexchange carriers, special access services, broadband, and other telecommunications services that its customers may request or require.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Commission issued Certificate No. 308 to the Company in 1989. Order No. 22519. In 2007, the Company’s Certificate was amended to add new areas to its certificated service area. See Order Nos. 30290 and 30291. The Company now requests another amendment to the Certificate to correct the certificated service area boundaries so they accurately reflect the Company’s actual service areas. The Company says it has always served the areas within the corrected boundaries, and that the areas the Company is petitioning to add to its certificated service area are not within the service area boundaries of any other certificated telecommunications carrier.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Company says the requested Certificate amendment will affect no other certificated telephone carrier’s service area boundary, and that

the corrected boundaries are not near and will not interfere with any other utility's existing lines, plants, or systems.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Company's August 27, 2019 Petition includes attached copies of the Company's Certificate as amended to date, illustrations depicting the Company's actual service area, and a legal description for each area served by the Company but not included in its certificated service area. The Company asks the Commission to grant an amendment to the Certificate that incorporates the boundary correction adjustments.

NOTICE OF MODIFIED PROCEDURE

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Commission has determined that the public interest may not require a formal hearing in this matter and will proceed under Modified Procedure pursuant to Rules 201 through 204 of the Idaho Public Utilities Commission's Rules of Procedure, IDAPA 31.01.01.201 through .204. The Commission notes that Modified Procedure and written comments have proven to be an effective means for obtaining public input and participation.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that any person desiring to state a position on the Petition may file a written comment in support or opposition with the Commission **by October 2, 2019**. The comment must contain a statement of reasons supporting the comment. Persons desiring a hearing must specifically request a hearing in their written comments. Written comments concerning the Petition shall be mailed to the Commission and the Petitioner at the addresses reflected below:

For the Commission:

Commission Secretary
Idaho Public Utilities Commission
PO Box 83720
Boise, ID 83720-0074

Street Address for Express Mail:

11331 W. Chinden Blvd
Building 8, Suite 201A
Boise, ID 83714

For the Company:

Dennis Thornock
Custer Telephone Cooperative, Inc.
PO Box 324
Challis, ID 83226
Email: dennis@custertel.net

Cynthia A. Melillo
8385 W. Emerald Street
Boise, ID 83704
E-Mail: cam@camlawidaho.com

These comments should contain the case caption and case number shown on the first page of this document. Persons desiring to submit comments via e-mail may do so by accessing the

Commission's home page located at www.puc.idaho.gov. Click the "Case Comment or Question Form" under the "Consumers" tab, and complete the comment form using the case number as it appears on the front of this document. These comments must also be sent to the Company at the e-mail address listed above.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Company shall file reply comments, if any, **by October 9, 2019**.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that if no written comments or protests are received within the time limit set, the Commission will consider this matter on its merits and enter its Order without a formal hearing. If written comments are received within the time limit set, the Commission will consider them and, in its discretion, may set the same for formal hearing.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Petition has been filed with the Commission and is available for public inspection during regular business hours at the Commission offices. The Petition is also available on the Commission's web site at www.puc.idaho.gov. Click on the "File Room" tab at the top of the page, scroll down to "Open Telephone Cases," and then click on the case number as shown on the front of this document.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that all proceedings in this case will be held pursuant to the Commission's jurisdiction under Title 62 of the Idaho Code. The Commission may enter any final Order consistent with its authority under Title 62 and Commission Rule of Procedure 114, IDAPA 31.01.01.114.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that all proceedings in this matter will be conducted pursuant to the Commission's Rules of Procedure, IDAPA 31.01.01.000 *et seq.*

ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Petition be processed under Modified Procedure. Persons interested in submitting written comments regarding this case or protesting the use of Modified Procedure should do so by October 2, 2019. The Company shall file reply comments, if any, by October 9, 2019.

DONE by Order of the Idaho Public Utilities Commission at Boise, Idaho this ^{13th}
day of September 2019.



PAUL KWELLANDER, PRESIDENT



KRISTINE RAPER, COMMISSIONER



ERIC ANDERSON, COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:



Diane M. Hanian
Commission Secretary

I:\Legal\TELEPHONE\CUS-T-19-02\CUST1902_Ntc_Pet_mh.doc