

Control Number: 43736



Item Number: 9

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TARIFF CONTROL NO. 43736

RECEIVED

**NOTICE OF COLORADO VALLEY
TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE, INC.
FOR APPROVAL OF A MINOR RATE
CHANGE, PURSUANT TO PUC SUBST.
R. §26.171 AND PURA CHAPTER 53,
SUBCHAPTER G**

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**PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
OF TEXAS**

2014 DEC 3 04:12:49
FILING CLERK

COMMISSION STAFF'S RECOMMENDATION

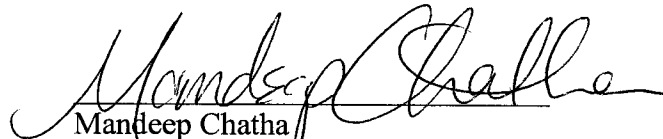
Staff recommends approval of the application, based on the attached memorandum of Stephen Mendoza.

Dated: December 3, 2014

Respectfully Submitted,

Margaret Uhlig Pemberton
Division Director-Legal Division

Stephen Mack
Managing Attorney-Legal Division



Mandeep Chatha
Attorney-Legal Division
State Bar No. 24082803
(512) 936-7163
(512) 936-7268 (facsimile)
Public Utility Commission of Texas
1701 N. Congress Avenue
P. O. Box 13326
Austin, Texas 78711-3326

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that a copy of this document will be served on all parties of record on December 3, 2014, in accordance with P.U.C. Procedural Rule 22.74.

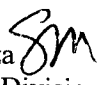


Mandeep Chatha

Public Utility Commission of Texas

Memorandum

TO: Mandeep Chatha
Legal Division

FROM: Stephen Mendoza 
Rate Regulation Division

DATE: December 3, 2014

RE: **Tariff Control No. 43736** – Notice of Colorado Valley Telephone Cooperative, Inc. for Approval of a Minor Rate Change, Pursuant to P.U.C. SUBST. R. §26.171 and PURA Chapter 53, Subchapter G

FINAL RECOMMENDATION

On November 6, 2014, Colorado Valley Telephone Cooperative, Inc. (“CVTC” or “the Cooperative”) filed a notice with the Commission to initiate a minor rate change, with its proposed tariff to be effective December 1, 2014. CVTC also implemented the corresponding Lifeline Discounts to offset the impact on qualified low-income customers as required by P.U.C. SUBST. R. 26.412(f)(1)(E)(i-ii). Pursuant to the procedural schedule established in this proceeding, this final recommendation on CVTC’s notice is timely filed.

Filing Requirements and Review

CVTC has satisfied the filing requirements of P.U.C. SUBST. R. 26.171(c) for a minor rate change by a small local exchange company. The Cooperative stated in its affidavit that direct notice was provided to all affected customers on November 1, 2014, which is more than 10 days before the effective date of the tariff. Both the filing and customer notice have been reviewed and discussed in Staff’s comments on the sufficiency of the notice filed in this proceeding on November 13, 2014. One (1) subscriber filed a complaint in this proceeding, which is below the 5% threshold of approximately 229 customers needed to qualify for suspension under P.U.C. SUBST. R. 26.171(g)(2)(A) and the Public Utility Regulatory Act (PURA) § 53.306(a)(1). Suspension of the tariff pursuant to the provisions in P.U.C. SUBST. R. 26.171(g)(2) does not appear to be necessary.

Conclusion

Staff has reviewed the tariff sheets submitted with the original application and has determined that the tariff sheets appear to reflect the intent of the application. The filing also appears to satisfy the requirements of P.U.C. SUBST. R. 26.171. Consistent with the discussion in the November 13, 2014 filing on sufficiency, Staff also recommends that CVTC's waiver request of P.U.C. SUBST. R. 26.171(f)(2) be granted given the fact that the combined rate increases still fall within the limitations described in P.U.C. SUBST. R. 26.5(148). Therefore, this notice filed with the Commission, and the tariff sheets identified below, should be **APPROVED** as filed on November 6, 2014, with an effective date of December 1, 2014:

<u>Tariff</u>	<u>Section</u>	<u>Sheet</u>
General Exchange Tariff	2	Fourth Revised Sheet No. 4
General Exchange Tariff	2	Seventh Revised Sheet No. 17