



Control Number: 50320



Item Number: 7

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**TARIFF CONTROL NO. 50320**

**NOTICE OF COMMUNITY  
TELEPHONE COMPANY FOR  
APPROVAL OF A MINOR RATE  
CHANGE UNDER 16 TEXAS  
ADMINISTRATIVE CODE § 26.171**

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**PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**

**OF TEXAS**

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PUBLIC UTILITY  
COMMISSION

**COMMISSION STAFF'S RECOMMENDATION ON APPROVAL**

The Staff (Staff) of the Public Utility Commission of Texas (Commission), representing the public interest, files this Commission Staff's Recommendation on Approval. Staff recommends that the application be approved. In support, Staff offers the following:

**I. BACKGROUND**

On December 5, 2019, Community Telephone Company (Community) filed an application with the Commission for approval to increase its basic local access line rates for residential and business customers 16 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) § 26.171. Concurrent with the increase, Community will reduce the access recovery charge to residential customers. Community proposed an effective date of January 1, 2020.

On December 13, 2019, the administrative law judge (ALJ) issued a notice requiring Staff to file comments on the application and notice by December 19, 2019. On December 30, 2019, the ALJ issued a notice finding the application and notice sufficient and establishing a deadline of January 21, 2020 for Staff's recommendation for docketing or approval. Therefore, this pleading is timely filed.

**II. STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

Staff has reviewed the application, and, as detailed in the attached memorandum of Stephen Mendoza of the Commission's Rate Regulation Division, Staff recommends approval of the requested revisions to Community's basic local access line rates for residential and business customers, along with the requested reduction of the access recovery charge to residential customers.

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### III. CONCLUSION

For the reasons stated above, Staff respectfully requests the entry of an order approving Community's application.

Dated: January 21, 2020

Respectfully Submitted,

**PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF  
TEXAS LEGAL DIVISION**

Thomas S. Hunter  
Division Director

Rachelle Nicolette Robles  
Managing Attorney

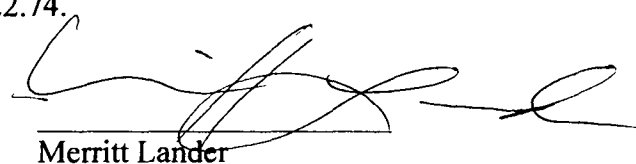


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**TARIFF CONTROL NO. 50320**

### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that a copy of this document will be served on all parties of record on January 21, 2020, in accordance with 16 TAC § 22.74.



Merritt Lander

# Public Utility Commission of Texas

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## Memorandum

**TO:** Merritt Lander, Attorney  
Legal Division

**FROM:** Stephen Mendoza  
Rate Regulation Division

**DATE:** January 21, 2020

**RE:** Tariff Control No. 50320: *Application of Community Telephone Company for a Minor Rate Change Under 16 Texas Administrative Code § 26.171*

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### FINAL RECOMMENDATION

On December 5, 2019, Community Telephone Company (Community) filed an application with the Commission to initiate a minor rate change with its proposed tariff to be effective January 1, 2020. Pursuant to the procedural schedule established in this proceeding, this final recommendation on Community's application is timely filed.

#### Filing Requirements and Review

Community has satisfied the filing requirements of 16 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) § 26.171(c) for a minor rate change by a small local exchange company. The Company stated in its affidavit that direct notice was provided to all affected customers on December 1, 2019, 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 application filed in this proceeding on December 19, 2019. To date, no subscribers have filed complaints in this proceeding. Suspension of the tariff pursuant to the provisions in 16 TAC § 26.171(g)(2) does not appear to be necessary.

#### Conclusion

Staff has reviewed the tariff sheets submitted with the 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 16 TAC § 26.171. Therefore, this application filed with the Commission, and the tariff sheets identified below, should be approved as filed on December 5, 2019, with an effective date of January 1, 2020:

<b><u>Tariff</u></b>	<b><u>Section</u></b>	<b><u>Sheet</u></b>
Customer Services Tariff	4	11 <sup>th</sup> Revised Page 2
Customer Services Tariff	4	14 <sup>th</sup> Revised Page 3