



NOTICE

The National Exchange Carrier Association, Inc. (NECA) Access Service Tariff F.C.C. No. 5 on file with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is the official reference for NECA access tariff information. For your convenience, NECA has posted Tariff F.C.C. No. 5 on our website. Although precautions have been taken to insure that this material is identical to the filed version, undetected production errors may cause discrepancies to occur. In the case of any discrepancies, the official tariff on file with the FCC will prevail.

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**This material is being filed on 15 days’
 notice under Section 204(a)(3) of the
 Communications Act.**

September 16, 2020

Transmittal No. 1614

Secretary
 Federal Communications Commission
 Washington, D.C. 20554

Attention: Wireline Competition Bureau

The accompanying tariff material, issued on behalf of the National Exchange Carrier Association, Inc. (NECA) bearing Tariff F.C.C. No. 5, Access Service, is sent to you for filing, in compliance with the Communications Act of 1934, as amended.

The filing, to become effective October 1, 2020, consists of tariff pages as indicated on the following check sheet:

Tariff F.C.C. No. 5

918th Revised Page 1

This filing increases the Federal Universal Service Charge Surcharge Factors to reflect the updated universal service contribution factor for the Fourth Quarter 2020 based on the Office of Managing Director’s Public Notice¹ released September 14, 2020.

This filing also reduces the Residential and Single Line Business EUCL rates shown in Section 17.1.2 for New Knoxville Telephone Company (SAC 300639).

This filing introduces or revises company-specific CBOL Charges in Section 17.9 for the following companies:

Company Name	State	Study Area Code
Monroe Telephone Company	OR	532385
Planters Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc.	GA	220378
Pulaski-White Rural Tel. Coop., Inc. d/b/a LightStream	IN	320813
S & T Telephone Cooperative Association	KS	411827
Waverly Hall Telephone L.L.C.	GA	220392

¹ See Proposed Fourth Quarter 2020 Universal Service Contribution Factor, CC Docket No. 96-45, Public Notice, DA 20-1075 (rel. September 14, 2020).

Updated Tariff Review Plan CAF BLS data reflecting the effect of the CBOL changes being proposed under Transmittal No. 1614 is being transmitted today via the Commission's Electronic Tariff Filing System (ETFS) as an amendment to Transmittal No. 1607.

Lastly, this filing makes miscellaneous changes to the Title Pages and Optional Rate Plan Availability sections.

In compliance with Section 61.14 of the Commission's Rules, the transmittal, associated files, required Form 159 and \$960.00 filing fee are being transmitted electronically today via ETFS.

All correspondence and inquiries concerning this filing should be directed to me at the above address or faxed to 973-599-6612.

Jennifer Leonard

Attachments

Tariff Pages (21)

FCC Registration Number for Tariff 5 Participants

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FCC Registration Number for Tariff 5 Participants

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Title Pages 1 to 68 and Pages 1 to 17-197 inclusive of this tariff are effective as of the date shown. Original and revised pages as named below and on Supplement Nos. 23 and 36 contain all changes from the original tariff that are in effect on the date hereof.

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* New or revised page. Transmittal No. 1614

Issued: September 16, 2020

Effective: October 1, 2020

Senior Director - Access Tariffs & Costs
60 Columbia Road, Bldg. A - 2nd Fl., Morristown, NJ 07960

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17-6	19th	17-24	51st	17-30	15th
17-6.1	Original	17-24.1	17th	17-31	19th
17-7	8th	17-24.2	8th	17-32	19th
17-8	5th	17-25	29th	17-33	19th
17-8.1	6th	17-25.1	16th	17-34	1st
17-8.2	2nd	17-26	50th	17-35	1st
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17-11.2	7th	17-29.3	96th	17-37.4.1.8	10th
17-11.3	Original	17-29.3.1	60th *	17-37.4.1.9	17th
17-12	41st	17-29.3.1.1	4th	17-37.4.1.10	15th
17-13	13th	17-29.3.2	48th	17-37.4.1.11	19th
17-14	8th	17-29.3.3	29th	17-37.4.1.12	11th
17-14.1	Original	17-29.3.4	12th	17-37.4.2	31st
17-15	49th	17-29.4	79th	17-37.4.2.1	26th
17-15.1	18th	17-29.4.1	88th	17-37.4.2.2	20th
17-15.2	8th	17-29.4.1.1	44th	17-37.4.3	2nd
17-15.3	8th	17-29.4.1.1.1	13th	17-37.4.3.1	1st
17-16	47th	17-29.4.1.2	42nd	17-37.4.4	1st
17-16.1	17th	17-29.4.1.3	17th		
17-16.2	8th	17-29.4.2	50th		
17-17	47th	17-29.4.3	43rd		
17-17.1	17th	17-29.4.4	17th		
17-17.2	8th	17-29.5	80th		
17-17.3	8th	17-29.5.1	62nd		
17-18	30th	17-29.5.1.1	36th		
17-18.1	8th				
17-19	31st				
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17-133	13th	17-161.1	9th	17-186	20th
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17-134	13th	17-162.1	9th	17-187	28th
17-134.1	5th	17-163	9th	17-188	26th
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17-135.1	5th	17-165	6th	17-191	28th
17-136	14th	17-165.1	5th	17-192	25th *
17-136.1	4th	17-165.2	5th	17-193	22nd
17-137	18th	17-165.3	5th	17-193.1	2nd *
17-137.1	10th	17-165.4	8th	17-194	26th *
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17-153	9th	17-177.2.1	8th		
17-153.1	9th	17-178	8th		
17-153.2	6th	17-178.1	2nd		
17-153.3	9th	17-179	9th		
17-153.3.1	2nd	17-179.1	5th		
17-153.3.2	2nd	17-179.2	4th		
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<p>220348 Mr. John D. Scott General Manager/Chief Operating Officer Bulloch County Rural Telephone Coop. Inc. 2903 Northside Drive, West Statesboro, GA 30458</p>	<p>351115 Mr. Richard L. McBurney Chief Executive Officer Butler-Bremer Mutual Telephone Company, Inc. 715 Main Street P.O. Box 99 Plainfield, IA 50666-0099</p>	
<p>190220 Mr. Fred Lawless General Manager Burke's Garden Telephone Company Inc. 7044 Burkes Garden Road Tazewell, VA 24651</p>		

ACCESS SERVICE

ISSUING CARRIERS (CONT'D)

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ISSUING CARRIERS (CONT'D)

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512251 Mr. Rob Johnstone Chief Executive Officer Range Telephone Cooperative, Inc. - WY 2325 East Front Street Forsyth, MT 59327	341075 Mr. Jace A. Taylor General Manager Reynolds Telephone Company 221 West Main Street P.O. Box 27 Reynolds, IL 61279
391674 Mr. Scott Bostrom General Manager RC Technologies 205 Main Street P.O. Box 197 New Effington, SD 57255-0197	401721 Ms. Darby A. McCarty President/Chief Executive Officer Rice Belt Telephone Company c/o Smithville Communications, Inc. d/b/a Smithville Telephone Company 1600 West Temperance Street P.O. Box 728 Ellettsville, IN 47429-0728
351278 Ms. Sharon K. Huck General Manager Readlyn Telephone Company 121 Main Street P.O. BOX 159 Readlyn, IA 50668-0159	330942 Mr. John Bartz Chief Executive Officer/General Manager Richland-Grant Telephone Cooperative, Inc. 202 North East Street P.O. Box 67 Blue River, WI 53518
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ACCESS SERVICE

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ACCESS SERVICE

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542339 Mr. James Lowers President Siskiyou Tel. Co. 30 Telco Way P.O. Box 157 Etna, CA 96027-0157	170205 Mr. James J. Kail Chief Executive Officer/President South Canaan Telephone Company, Inc. c/o Laurel Highland Communications 4157 Main Street P.O. Box 168 Stahlstown, PA 15687-0168
502283 Mr. I. Branch Cox Chairman Skyline Telecom c/o Lynch Interactive 35 South State P.O. Box 7 Fairview, UT 84629	351888 Mr. Ron Hinds Chief Executive Officer South Central Communications, Inc. c/o Grand River Mutual Telephone Company 1001 Kentucky Street P.O. Box 167 Princeton, MO 64673
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230501 Mrs. Kim Shepherd Chief Executive Officer Skyline Telephone Membership Corp. 1200 NC Highway 194 N P.O. Box 759 West Jefferson, NC 28694	431831-OK, 411831-KS Mrs. Carla Shearer General Manager South Central Telephone Association, Inc. 215 South Iliff Street Medicine Lodge, KS 67104
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280467 Mr. Roger V. Thompson President Smithville Telephone Company, Inc. 63470 Highway 25 N P.O. Box 117 Smithville, MS 38870	442143 Mr. Wade Maner Chief Executive Officer/General Manager South Plains Tel. Coop., Inc. 2425 Marshall Street P.O. Box 1379 Lubbock, TX 79408-1379
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330951 Mr. Michael D. Jensen President & General Manager Somerset Telephone Company, Inc. 116 Harriman Avenue North Amery, WI 54001	351304 Mr. Chuck Deisbeck Chief Executive Officer South Slope Cooperative Telephone Company (Swisher) 980 North Front Street P.O. Box 19 North Liberty, IA 52317

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ISSUING CARRIERS (CONT'D)

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140069 Mr. Roger Nishi Vice President - Industry Relations Waitsfield-Fayston Telephone Co., Inc. 3898 Main Street P.O. Box 9 Waitsfield, VT 05673	220392 Ms. Deborah Rand President Waverly Hall Telephone, L.L.C. c/o US Connect Holdings 701 West Church Street Livingston, TX 77351
310734 Mr. Mark Bernath President Waldron Telephone Company 115 South Main Street P.O. Box 197 Waldron, MI 49288-0197	351327 Mr. Doug Boone Chief Executive Officer Webb-Dickens Telephone Corporation c/o Mutual Telephone Company 339 1st Avenue, NE P.O. Box 200 Sioux Center, IA 51250
401729 Mr. Adam Dixon Chief Operating Officer Walnut Hill Telephone Company c/o Townes Telecommunications Services Corporation 120 East 1 st Street Lewisville, AR 71845	351328 Mr. Daryl Carlson Executive Vice President/General Manager Webster-Calhoun Coop. Tel. Assn. 1106 Beek Street P.O. Box 475 Gowrie, IA 50543-0475
351326 Ms. Janell J. Hansen Chief Executive Officer Walnut Telephone Company c/o Maine & Elk Horn Telephone Company 4242 Main Street P.O. Box 120 Elk Horn, IA 51531	

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ACCESS SERVICE

17. Rates and Charges (Cont'd)17.1 Common Line Access Service, Federal Universal Service Charge, ISDN Line Ports and DS1 Line Port (Cont'd)17.1.2 End User Access Service (Cont'd)

(D) In lieu of the rates for End User Common Line-Residence and End User Common Line-Single Line Business specified in (A) and (B), above, the Telephone Companies listed below will bill the following rates.

<u>Company Name</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Study Area Number</u>	<u>Residence EUCL</u>	<u>Single Line Business EUCL</u>	
Citizens Telephone Cooperative	VA	190225	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Copper Valley Telephone Cooperative, Inc	AK	613006	\$0.00	\$0.00	
East Buchanan Telephone Coop.	IA	351156	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Hamilton County Telephone Co-Op	IL	341024	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Hiawatha Telephone Company	MI	310713	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Hooper Tel. Co.	NE	371563	\$4.00	\$6.50	
Midway Telephone Company	MI	310711	\$0.00	\$0.00	
New Knoxville Telephone Company	OH	300639	\$4.50	\$4.50	(N)
North State Telephone Company d/b/a North State Communications	NC	230491	\$0.00	\$6.50	
Ontonagon County Telephone Company	MI	310717	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Partner Communications Cooperative	IA	351187	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Project Mutual Tel. Coop. Assn., Inc.	ID	472231	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Scranton Telephone Company	IA	351294	\$0.00	\$6.50	
Tohono O'Odham Utility Authority	AZ	452173	\$0.00	\$6.50	
Webster-Calhoun Coop. Tel. Assn.	IA	351328	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Westside Independent Telephone Company	IA	351100	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Willard Telephone Company	CO	462210	\$0.00	\$0.00	

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17. Rates and Charges (Cont'd)

17.1 Common Line Access Service, Federal Universal Service Charge, ISDN Line Ports and DSL Line Port (Cont'd)

17.1.3 Federal Universal Service Charge (FUSC)

Regulations concerning the Federal Universal Service Charge are set forth in Section 3.9 preceding.

	<u>Percentage</u>		
(A) FUSC Surcharge Factor	27.1%	(I)	
(B) MLB EUCL FUSC Surcharge Factor			
- Rate Band 1	27.2%	(I)	
- Rate Band 2	27.5%		
- Rate Band 3	27.7%		
- Rate Band 4	28.0%		
- Rate Band 5	28.1%		
- Rate Band 6	29.4%		
- Rate Band 7	30.2%		
- Rate Band 8	30.9%		
- Rate Band 9	31.0%		
- Rate Band 10	33.0%		
- Rate Band 11	37.3%		
- Rate Band 12	41.2%		
- Rate Band 13	62.3%		(I)
- Rate Band 14	N/A		
- Rate Band 15	N/A		
- Rate Band 16	N/A		
- Rate Band 17	N/A		
- Rate Band 18	N/A		
- Rate Band 19	N/A		
- Rate Band 20	N/A		

Refer to Section 17.7(B), following, to view company specific rate band assignments.

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17. Rates and Charges (Cont'd)17.3 Special Access Service (Cont'd)17.3.10 Optional Rate Plan Availability (Cont'd)(A) Term Discount Plan Availability (Cont'd)

- (1) The Term Discount Optional Rate Plans as described in 7.2.8(A)(1), 7.2.8(B), 16.1.3(A), 16.2.5, 16.3.5, and 16.3.6, preceding are available only from those Telephone Companies listed below.

Company Code	Company Name
1746	Blue Valley Tele-Communications, Inc.
0463	BPS Telephone Company
0398	Brandenburg Telephone Company
0347	Brantley Telephone Company, Inc.
2040	Brazoria Telephone Company
1112	Breda Telephone Corporation
0038	Bretton Woods Telephone Company
3003	Bristol Bay Tel. Coop., Inc.
0591	Buckland Telephone Company
0348	Bulloch County Rural Telephone Coop., Inc.
0220	Burke's Garden Telephone Company, Inc.
2301	Calaveras Tel. Co.
1365	Callaway Telephone Exchange
2311	Cal-Ore Telephone Co.
1526	Cambridge Telephone Company
4477	Cameron Telephone Company
1974	Canadian Valley Telephone Company
2386	Canby Telephone Association (Mt. Angel)
2046	Cap Rock Telephone Cooperative
1976	Carnegie Telephone Company
0683	Carr Telephone Company
1118	Cascade Communications Company
2371	Cascade Utilities, Inc.
1119	Casey Mutual Telephone Company
0076	Cassadaga Telephone Corporation
1977	Central Oklahoma Telephone Co., L.L.C.
1125	Central Scott Telephone
2052	Central Texas Tel. Co-op., Inc.
2277	Central Utah Telephone, Inc.

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17. Rates and Charges (Cont'd)

17.9 Consumer Broadband-Only Loop Charge (Cont'd)

<u>Company Name</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Study Area Number</u>	<u>Monthly Rate Per CBOL Service Line</u>	
Molalla Telephone Company	OR	532383	\$42.37	
Mon-Cre Telephone Cooperative, Inc.	AL	250305	\$42.00	
Monitor Cooperative Telephone Company	OR	532384	\$20.00	
Monon Telephone Company, Inc.	IN	320790	\$25.12	
Monroe Telephone Company	OR	532385	\$20.00	(R)
Montrose Mutual Telephone Company	IL	341058	\$42.00	
Moultrie Independent Telephone Company	IL	341060	\$42.00	
Moundridge Telephone Company	KS	411808	\$42.00	
Moundville Telephone Company	AL	250307	\$42.00	
Mountain Rural Tel. Coop. Corp., Inc.	KY	260414	\$42.00	
Muenster Telephone Corporation of Texas d/b/a Nortex Communications	TX	442116	\$42.00	
Mukluk Telephone Company, Inc.	AK	613016	\$42.00	
Mulberry Cooperative Telephone Company, Inc.	IN	320792	\$42.00	
Mutual Telephone Company of Morning Sun	IA	351250	\$42.00	
Nebraska Central Telephone Company	NE	371574	\$42.00	
Nehalem Telecommunications, Inc. d/b/a Nehalem Tel. & Tel.	OR	532387	\$42.00	
Nelson Communications Cooperative	WI	330918	\$42.00	
New Florence Telephone Company, Inc.	MO	421927	\$42.00	
New Hope Telephone Cooperative	VA	190239	\$42.00	
New Hope Telephone Cooperative	AL	250308	\$42.00	
New Lisbon Telephone Company, Inc.	IN	320796	\$42.00	
New London Telephone Company	MO	421928	\$42.00	
Niagara Telephone Company	WI	330920	\$10.00	
Nicholville Telephone LLC	NY	150108	\$5.00	
North Central Telephone Cooperative, Inc.	TN	290573	\$42.00	
North Country Telephone Company	AK	613026	\$42.00	
North Dakota Telephone Co.	ND	381447	\$42.00	
North English Cooperative Telephone Company	IA	351257	\$42.00	
Northeast Florida Telephone Company, Inc.	FL	210335	\$42.00	
Northeast Louisiana Telephone Company, Inc.	LA	270435	\$30.00	
Northeast Missouri Rural Telephone Company	MO	421931	\$42.00	
Northeast Telephone Company	WI	330938	\$10.00	
Northern Arkansas Telephone Company	AR	401713	\$42.00	
North-State Telephone Company	OR	532388	\$42.00	
Northwest Communications Cooperative, Inc.	ND	381625	\$42.00	
Northwest Iowa Telephone, LLC	IA	351260	\$42.00	
Northwestern Indiana Tel. Co.	IN	320800	\$42.00	
Nova Telephone Company	OH	300644	\$42.00	
Nunn Telephone Company	CO	462194	\$4.14	
Nushagak Electric & Telephone Cooperative, Inc.	AK	613018	\$42.00	

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17. Rates and Charges (Cont'd)17.9 Consumer Broadband-Only Loop Charge (Cont'd)

<u>Company Name</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Study Area Number</u>	<u>Monthly Rate Per CBOL Service Line</u>	
Piedmont Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc.	SC	240538	\$42.00	
Pierce Telephone Company	NE	371581	\$42.00	
Pine Drive Telephone Company	CO	462198	\$42.00	
Pine Tel. Co.	OK	432017	\$30.00	
Pine Telephone System	OR	532392	\$42.00	
Pinnacles Tel. Co.	CA	542346	\$42.00	
Pioneer Telephone Association, Inc.	KS	411817	\$30.00	
Pioneer Telephone Company	WA	522437	\$42.00	
Plainview Telephone Company, Inc.	NE	371582	\$45.78	
Planters Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc.	GA	220378	\$42.00	(I)
Polar Communications Mutual Aid Corporation	ND	381630	\$42.00	
Polar Communications Mutual Aid Corporation	ND	381614	\$42.00	
Pottawatomie Telephone Company	OK	432020	\$42.00	
Prairie Grove Telephone Company	AR	401718	\$42.00	
Prairieburg Telephone Company, Inc.	IA	351275	\$42.00	
Preston Telephone Company	IA	351276	\$42.00	
Price County Telephone Company	WI	330937	\$42.00	
Progressive Rural Tel. Coop., Inc.	GA	220380	\$42.00	
Public Service Telephone Company	GA	220381	\$42.00	
Pulaski-White Rural Tel. Coop, Inc. d/b/a LightStream	IN	320813	\$42.00	(N)
Pymatuning Independent Tel. Co.	PA	170200	\$5.00	

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17. Rates and Charges (Cont'd)

17.9 Consumer Broadband-Only Loop Charge (Cont'd)

<u>Company Name</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Study Area Number</u>	<u>Monthly Rate Per CBOL Service Line</u>
Radcliffe Telephone Company, Inc.	IA	351277	\$42.00
Rainbow Telecommunications Association, Inc.	KS	411820	\$42.00
Randolph Telephone Membership Corporation d/b/a Randolph Communications	NC	230496	\$42.00
Range Telephone Cooperative, Inc.	MT	482251	\$42.00
Range Telephone Cooperative, Inc.	WY	512251	\$42.00
RC Technologies	SD	391674	\$42.00
Readlyn Telephone Company	IA	351278	\$42.00
Reasnor Telephone Company, Inc.	IA	350739	\$42.00
Reservation Telephone Cooperative	ND	381632	\$42.00
Richland-Grant Telephone Cooperative, Inc.	WI	330942	\$15.00
Rico Telephone Company	CO	462201	\$42.00
Ridgeway Telephone Company, Inc.	SC	240541	\$42.00
Ringsted Telephone Company	IA	351280	\$42.00
River Valley Telecommunications Coop.	IA	351284	\$42.00
Rochester Telephone Company	IN	320815	\$42.00
Rock Port Telephone Company	MO	421942	\$42.00
Roome Telecommunications, Inc.	OR	532375	\$30.00
Roosevelt County Rural Telephone Coop., Inc.	NM	492272	\$42.00
Royal Telephone Company	IA	351283	\$42.00
RT Communications, Inc.	WY	512251	\$42.00
Rural Telephone Company	ID	472233	\$42.00
Rural Telephone Company	NV	552233	\$42.00
S & T Telephone Cooperative Association	KS	411827	\$42.00
Sac County Mutual Telephone Company	IA	351285	\$42.00
Sacred Wind Communications, Inc.	NM	493403	\$42.00
Saluda Mountain Telephone Company d/b/a RiverStreet Networks	NC	230498	\$42.00
San Carlos Apache Telecommunications Utility, Inc.	AZ	452169	\$0.00
Sand Creek Telephone Company	MI	310725	\$42.00
Sandhill Telephone Cooperative, Inc.	SC	240546	\$42.00
Santel Communications Cooperative, Inc.	SD	391676	\$10.00
Scio Mutual Telephone Company	OR	532397	\$42.00
Scott County Telephone Cooperative, Inc.	VA	190248	\$42.00
Scranton Telephone Company	IA	351294	\$42.00
Searsboro Telephone Company	IA	351292	\$42.00
Seneca Telephone Company	MO	421945	\$42.00
Service Telephone Company d/b/a RiverStreet Networks	NC	230500	\$42.00
Sharon Telephone Company	WI	330946	\$42.00
Sharon Telephone Company	IA	351293	\$42.00
Shawnee Telephone Company	IL	341025	\$42.00
Shenandoah Telephone Company	VA	190250	\$42.00
Shenandoah Telephone Company - NR	VA	197251	\$42.00
Sherwood Mutual Telephone Association, Inc.	OH	300656	\$42.00
Sierra Telephone Company, Inc.	CA	542338	\$90.35
Siren Telephone Company, Inc.	WI	330949	\$42.00

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17. Rates and Charges (Cont'd)

17.9 Consumer Broadband-Only Loop Charge (Cont'd)

<u>Company Name</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Study Area Number</u>	<u>Monthly Rate Per CBOL Service Line</u>
Trans-Cascade Telephone Company	OR	532378	\$20.00
Triangle Telephone Cooperative Association, Inc.	MT	482257	\$42.00
Triangle Telephone Cooperative Association, Inc. - CMC	MT	483310	\$42.00
Tri-County Telephone Association, Inc.	KS	411839	\$42.00
Triotel Communications, Inc.	SD	391669	\$42.00
Trumansburg Telephone Company, Inc.	NY	150131	\$5.00
Tularosa Basin Telephone Company, Inc.	NM	492265	\$20.00
Turtle Mountain Communications, Inc.	ND	381636	\$42.00
Twin Lakes Telephone Cooperative Corp.	TN	290579	\$42.00
Twin Valley Telephone, Inc.	KS	411840	\$30.00
Union Springs Telephone Company, Inc.	AL	250322	\$42.00
United Farmers Telephone Company	IA	351316	\$42.00
United Telephone Company d/b/a United Communications	TN	290581	\$42.00
United Telephone Mutual Aid Corp.	ND	381636	\$42.00
Valley Telecomm Coop. Assn., Inc.	SD	391685	\$42.00
Valley Telephone Cooperative, Inc.	TX	442159	\$42.00
Valley Telephone Cooperative, Inc.	AZ	452176	\$8.20
Valley Telephone Cooperative, Inc.	NM	492176	\$8.48
Van Horne Cooperative Telephone Company	IA	351320	\$42.00
Vaughnsville Telephone Company	OH	300663	\$13.00
Ventura Telephone Company, Inc.	IA	351322	\$42.00
Venture Communications Cooperative	SD	391680	\$42.00
Venus Telephone Corporation	PA	170210	\$42.00
Vermont Telephone Co., Inc.	VT	147332	\$42.00
Volcano Tel. Co.	CA	542343	\$105.28
Wabash Telephone Cooperative, Inc. d/b/a Wabash Communications Co-op.	IL	341088	\$42.00
Waitsfield-Fayston Telephone Co., Inc.	VT	140069	\$42.00
Waldron Telephone Company	MI	310734	\$42.00
Walnut Hill Telephone Company	AR	401729	\$5.00
Walnut Telephone Company	IA	351326	\$42.00
Washington County Rural Tel. Coop., Inc.	IN	320834	\$42.00
Wauneta Telephone Company	NE	371597	\$42.00
Waverly Hall Telephone L.L.C.	GA	220392	\$42.00
West Iowa Telephone Company d/b/a WestTel Systems	IA	351331	\$10.00
West Kentucky Rural Telephone Cooperative Corporation, Inc.	KY	260421	\$42.00
West Kentucky Rural Telephone Cooperative Corporation, Inc.	TN	290598	\$42.00
West Liberty Telephone Company	IA	351332	\$11.12
West River Cooperative Telephone Company	SD	391689	\$42.00
West River Telecommunications Cooperative	ND	381637	\$42.00
West River Telecommunications Cooperative (Mobridge)	SD	391671	\$42.00
Western Iowa Telephone Association	IA	351334	\$42.00
Western New Mexico Telephone Company, Inc.	NM	492268	\$42.00
Western Wahkiakum County Telephone Company	WA	522451	\$42.00
Wheat State Telephone Company	KS	411847	\$42.00
Whidbey Telephone Company	WA	522452	\$20.00

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NATIONAL EXCHANGE CARRIER ASSOCIATION, INC.

ACCESS TARIFF REVISIONS TARIFF F.C.C. NO. 5
TRANSMITTAL NO. 1614

Description and Justification

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- II. Revenue Requirement Changes
- III. Tariff Rate Changes
- IV. Federal Universal Service Charge Updates
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 - C. Calculation of Revised Support Contributions and Multi-Line FUSC Surcharges
 - D. Conclusion

I. INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY

On March 30, 2016, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) released its Universal Service Fund Rate of Return Reform Order¹. NECA's *2020 Annual Filing*² modified company-specific charges, underlying data and resulting estimated Universal Service support (CAF BLS and CAF ICC) amounts, and became effective as scheduled. NECA files further modifications to some charges for certain carriers in mid-monthly filings each month after the annual filing.

This filing is an update to the *August 2020 Filing*³. It adds three study areas to the CBOL tariff, implements one voluntary CBOL rate increase and one voluntary CBOL rate decrease. This filing reflects voluntary changes to Subscriber Line Charges for one study area as described in Section III. In addition, this filing updates Federal Universal Service Charges as described in section IV. This filing is scheduled to become effective on October 1, 2020.

Updated cost and corresponding updated revenue requirement shifts from special access to the CBOL category result in a *de minimis* net effect to remaining Common Line and Special Access rates, which continue to target the authorized 10.00 percent rate of return as documented in NECA's *2020 Annual Filing*.

¹ See Connect America Fund; ETC Annual Reports and Certifications; Developing a Unified Intercarrier Compensation Regime, WC Docket No. 10-90, WC Docket No. 14-58 and CC Docket No. 01-92, Report and Order, Order and Order on Reconsideration, and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, 31 FCC Rcd 3087 (2016) (*USF RoR Reform Order*).

² National Exchange Carrier Association, Inc., Tariff F.C.C. No. 5, Transmittal No. 1607 (filed Jun. 16, 2020) (*2020 Annual Filing*).

³ National Exchange Carrier Association, Inc., Tariff F.C.C. No. 5, Transmittal No. 1612 (filed Aug. 17, 2020) (*August 2020 Filing*).

Coincident with this filing, NECA is amending its *2020 Annual Filing* to include updated CAF BLS TRP data. The CAF BLS TRP has been modified for the revised CBOL demand and associated cost shifts described below.

II. REVENUE REQUIREMENT CHANGES

For those companies participating in NECA's Common Line (CL) pool with updated CBOL demand in this filing, the cost of consumer broadband-only loops would be transferred from Traffic Sensitive (TS) special access to the CBOL element in common line consistent with Part 36 and Part 69 cost allocation rules as directed in the February 16, 2018 Order⁴.

Net CBOL costs of \$0.4M were removed from the Traffic Sensitive pool for three rate-of-return cost study areas with broadband-only demand that currently participate in NECA's DSL tariff. The projected amount of CBOL costs removed from the TS special access category for the July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021 test period now totals \$230.3M for the cost study areas in NECA's DSL tariff.

A net CBOL revenue requirement of \$0.4M was added to the CBOL category in CL for three study areas with CBOL demand changes since the last filing. The 2020-2021 test period CBOL revenue requirement now totals \$518.3M for the 328 NECA CL cost and average schedule pool participants that have opted to have NECA tariff their CBOL rates effective with this filing.

⁴ See *February 16, 2018 Order* ¶ 9. See also 47 C.F.R. § 69.311 and 69.416.

III. TARIFF RATE CHANGES

NECA calculated new CBOL charges for three study areas receiving legacy support in accordance with section 69.132 of the Commission's rules using certified broadband-only data. All three study areas chose to tariff a CBOL charge lower than the calculated maximum CBOL charge.

One study area receiving legacy support requested a voluntary rate increase. One study area receiving model based support requested to decrease their CBOL charge, resulting in a total of five modified CBOL rates in this filing.

In conjunction with prior filings, 311 study areas have elected to tariff a CBOL charge lower than the maximum calculated CBOL charge. The tariffed monthly CBOL charges for these study areas range from \$0.00 to \$50.59. Study areas may be required, however, to impute revenues at the calculated maximum CBOL charge for the purposes of reporting CAF BLS data to USAC and for pool settlement distribution and support true-up calculations. The imputed projected CBOL revenues for July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021 for 328 study areas participating in NECA's CL pool now amount to \$210.4M.

The 2020/2021 test period CAF BLS Broadband-only support for 328 common line pool study areas that have currently opted to have NECA tariff their CBOL is projected to be \$327.0M prior to implementation of the Budget Control Mechanism or \$225/line/month cap.

This filing also implements one study area's decision to voluntarily reduce its tariffed Residential and Single Line Business Subscriber Line Charges. Concurrent with this filing, NECA is amending the 2020 Annual Filing to include updated Tariff Review Plan (TRP) CAF BLS data. Required carrier certifications of CAF BLS data are contained in Appendix D Exhibit 4.

IV. FEDERAL UNIVERSAL SERVICE CHARGE UPDATES

NECA proposes to increase its Federal Universal Service Surcharge (FUSC) percentage and optional Multi-line Business End User Common Line (MLB EUCL) FUSC banded percentages in response to the recently published fourth quarter 2020 Universal Service Contribution Factor as described in the FCC's September 14, 2020 Public Notice.

A. BACKGROUND

On April 1, 2003 NECA changed its FUSC rate structure from a monthly end user line charge to a percentage surcharge on interstate retail revenue⁵ to comply with the Commission's Second Order on Reconsideration⁶ which prohibits a carrier from recovering a FUSC amount larger than the end user's interstate retail revenue multiplied by the FCC's quarterly universal service contribution factor. The Commission's Second Order on Reconsideration granted an interim waiver of section 54.712 (47 C.F.R. § 54.712) to allow local exchange carriers (LECs) that continue to recover contribution costs from Centrex customers using the 1/9 equivalency ratio as allowed by section 69.153 (47 C.F.R. § 69.153) to recover remaining contribution costs associated with Centrex customers from multi-line business customers.⁷

⁵ National Exchange Carrier Association, Inc., Access Service Tariff F.C.C. No. 5, Transmittal No. 978, filed March 17, 2003.

⁶ Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service, CC Docket No. 96-45, 1998 Biennial Regulatory Review - Streamlined Contributor Reporting Requirements Associated with Administration of Telecommunications Relay Service, North American Numbering Plan, Local Number Portability, and Universal Service Support Mechanisms, CC Docket No. 98-171, Telecommunications Services for Individuals with Hearing and Speech Disabilities, and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, CC Docket No. 90-571, Administration of the North American Numbering Plan and North American Numbering Plan Cost Recovery Contribution Factor and Fund Size, CC Docket No. 92-237, NSD File No. L-00-72, Number Resource Optimization, CC Docket No. 99-200, Telephone Number Portability, CC Docket No. 95-116, Truth-in-Billing and Billing Format, CC Docket No. 98-170, *Order and Second Order on Reconsideration*, 18 FCC Rcd 4818 (*Second Order on Reconsideration*).

⁷ *Id.* at ¶3.

On May 31, 2003 NECA introduced MLB EUCL FUSC optional rate banding.⁸ This is a tiered pricing structure that allows local exchange carriers (LECs) to recover contribution costs from Centrex customers using the 1/9 equivalency ratio and to recover the remaining contribution costs associated with Centrex customers from other multi-line business customers in the same tier. Each company opting for MLB EUCL FUSC rate banding was placed in a rate band designed to recover its contribution costs. NECA's optional MLB EUCL FUSC rate banding structure allows pool members to assess a percent surcharge that is consistent with its proportionate number of business Centrex customers compared to total multi-line business customers.

On August 10, 2004 NECA filed with the Commission to reduce the number of SLCs that are assessed on DS1 Channel Service from twenty-four to five⁹ in response to the partial waiver of section 69.104(q) of the Commission's rules.¹⁰ Five SLCs for each DS1 channel service arrangement and five SLCs for each ISDN-PRI arrangement, under section 69.104 (p) (2), were used in the calculation of total multi-line business EUCL revenues. These revenues were used to develop a FUSC percent surcharge for optional MLB EUCL FUSC rate banding.

On February 14, 2008, the FCC released an Order¹¹ stating local exchange carriers should not charge Payphone Service Providers (PSP) additional USF line-item amounts related to Centrex adjustments. NECA excluded the PSP lines from the calculation of MLB EUCL FUSC surcharges.

In March 2017, NECA restructured the optional MLB EUCL FUSC rate banding process because the number of study areas participating in the optional MLB EUCL FUSC rate banding significantly

⁸ National Exchange Carrier Association, Inc., Access Service Tariff F.C.C. No. 5, Transmittal No. 985, filed May 16, 2003.

⁹ National Exchange Carrier Association, Inc., Transmittal No. 1035, filed August 10, 2004.

¹⁰ See Order Granting Petition For Rulemaking, Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, and Order Granting Interim Partial Waiver, WC Docket No. 04-259, RM-10603, (rel. July 19, 2004).

¹¹ See Order on Reconsideration, CC Docket No.96-45 (FCC 08-51).

decreased as a result of pool companies adopting optional model-based or Alaska Plan support funding.¹² Currently 13 study areas utilize MLB EUCL FUSC rate banding. Each company opting for MLB EUCL FUSC rate banding was placed in a rate band designed to recover its individual contribution costs.

On June 8, 2018, the FCC released an Order¹³ granting temporary forbearance from applying USF reporting and contribution requirements on rural LEC-provided broadband Internet access transmission services offered on a common carrier basis. As a result, effective July 3, 2018, all NECA CL tariff participants listed in Section 17.7(A) of Tariff No. 5 are taking advantage of the forbearance relief and no longer report end user revenues to USAC on broadband Internet access transmission services or assess the FUSC surcharge factor on broadband Internet access transmission charges.

On September 14, 2020, the FCC announced the fourth quarter 2020 Universal Service Contribution Factor of 27.1%. NECA proposes to update its FUSC surcharges to reflect this updated factor.

¹² See National Exchange Carrier Association, Inc., Tariff F.C.C. No. 5, Transmittal No. 1510, filed March 17, 2017.

¹³ *Petition of NTCA—The Rural Broadband Association and the United States Telecom Association for Forbearance Pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 160(c) from Application of Contribution Obligations on Broadband Internet Access Transmission Services*, WC Docket No. 17-206, Order, FCC 18-75 (rel. June 8, 2018) (*2018 USF Forbearance Order*).

B. PROPOSED SURCHARGE PERCENTAGES

The proposed FUSC surcharge to be applied to end user and special access retail revenues is presented in Table 1 and the proposed optional MLB EUCL FUSC band surcharges are summarized in Table 2:

TABLE 1: Federal Universal Service Surcharge

Current Surcharge	Proposed Surcharge	Percent Change
26.5%	27.1%	2.3%

TABLE 2: Optional MLB EUCL FUSC Band Surcharges

BAND	Current Surcharge	Proposed Surcharge
1	26.6%	27.2%
2	26.9%	27.5%
3	27.1%	27.7%
4	27.4%	28.0%
5	27.5%	28.1%
6	28.8%	29.4%
7	29.6%	30.2%
8	30.3%	30.9%
9	30.4%	31.0%
10	32.3%	33.0%
11	36.5%	37.3%
12	40.3%	41.2%
13	60.9%	62.3%

C. CALCULATION OF REVISED SUPPORT CONTRIBUTIONS AND MULTI-LINE FUSC SURCHARGES

Exhibit 1 shows adjusted projections for Federal Universal Service Support Mechanism (USSM) contributions for the fourth quarter 2020 as well as the 2020/2021 test period. The adjusted test period USSM contribution of \$33.8 M reflects an increase of \$0.6 M from the amount of \$33.2 M projected in the *2020 Annual Filing*.

Exhibit 2 displays the development of the fourth quarter 2020 optional MLB EUCL FUSC band rates and the projection of optional MLB EUCL FUSC band revenue for the fourth quarter 2020 through the second quarter 2021. Based on the test period Business Centrex and MLB banded revenues in Vol. 4 Exhibit 6 of the *2020 Annual Filing*, the revised MLB EUCL FUSC surcharges reflect the proposed fourth quarter 2020 contribution factor of 27.1%. The exhibit shows the projected MLB EUCL FUSC banded revenue of \$0.4 M on Line 14 for the fourth quarter 2020 through the second quarter 2021.

Exhibit 3 displays the development of the projected FUSC non-banded revenue of \$24.9 M on Line 5, the projected FUSC banded revenue of \$0.4 M on Line 6, and the projected total FUSC revenue of \$25.3M on Line 7 for the fourth quarter 2020 through the second quarter 2021.

Finally, Exhibit 4 displays the development of adjusted 2020/2021 test period FUSC revenue of \$33.8 M on Line 3. The adjusted test period FUSC revenue equals the adjusted test period 2020/2021 USSM contribution amount of Exhibit 1 Column C Line 5. Therefore, the proposed FUSC charges conform to the FCC rules.

D. CONCLUSION

The proposed FUSC surcharges comply with the Commission's rules and should be allowed to become effective on October 1, 2020.