

Service Date: September 11, 2014

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE REGULATION
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

IN THE MATTER OF the Request for) REGULATORY DIVISION
Waiver of Requirement to file Annual)
Reports by Small Telephone Companies) DOCKET NO. N2014.8.78

NOTICE OF APPLICATION AND OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT

On August 28, 2014, Lincoln Telephone Company, Inc. (Lincoln), filed before the Montana Public Service Commission (Commission) its *Request for Waiver of Requirement to file Annual Reports by Small Telephone Companies*. In its filing Lincoln argues that “the volume of paperwork imposed by government agencies on small companies can inflict a crushing burden, add extensive costs, and divert staff resources away from customer service.” Lincoln asks the Commission to determine that “annual reports will not be required from small telephone companies doing business in Montana,” or in the alternative to determine that “the FCC Form 481 filed with the PSC satisfies the state reporting requirement.”

A copy of Lincoln’s filing is available for inspection at the offices of the Commission, 1701 Prospect Avenue, P.O. Box 202601, Helena, Montana 59620-2601, telephone (406) 444-6199, and on its website at <http://psc.mt.gov>. The Montana Consumer Counsel (MCC), 111 North Last Chance Gulch, Suite 1B, P.O. Box 201703, Helena, Montana 59620-1703, telephone (406) 444-2771, is available and may be contacted to assist and represent the interests of the consuming public in this matter.

Any interested person may file written comments regarding the filing with the Commission. In order to ensure consideration, an interested person must mail or deliver written comments to the Commission at the above address no later than **October 10, 2014**, and should also submit comments electronically (e-file) on the Commission website at <http://psc.mt.gov> (go to “Electronic Documents” tab, then “Account Login/Registration”). Public comments may also be submitted to the Commission through the Commission’s web-based comment form at <http://psc.mt.gov/Consumers/comments/>.

The Commission's jurisdiction over this matter is provided at Montana Code Annotated Title 69. The substantive and procedural law applicable is Montana Code Annotated, Title 69, specifically Chapter 3, and Title 2, Chapter 4 (MAPA), Title 38, Chapter 2 of the Administrative Rules (PSC procedural rules), and any prior orders of the PSC which may bear on the issues presented.

BY THE MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

W. A. (BILL) GALLAGHER, Chairman

BOB LAKE, Vice Chairman

KIRK BUSHMAN, Commissioner

TRAVIS KAVULLA, Commissioner

ROGER KOOPMAN, Commissioner