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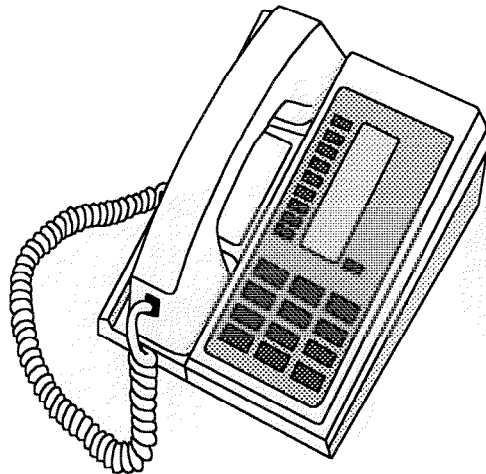
APR 30 1999

MONT. P. & COMMISSION

ANNUAL REPORT
OF

Hot Springs Telephone Company

TELEPHONE UTILITY



TO THE
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
STATE OF MONTANA
1701 PROSPECT AVENUE
P.O. BOX 202601
HELENA, MT 59620-2601

Check No. 8322
Hot Springs Telephone Co.

Telephone Annual Report

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Telephone Annual Report

Instructions

General

1. A Microsoft EXCEL 97 workbook of the annual report is being provided on computer disk for your convenience. The workbook contains the schedules of the annual report. Each schedule is on the worksheet named that schedule. For example, Schedule 1 is on the sheet titled "Schedule 1". By entering your company name in the cell named "Company" of the first worksheet, the spreadsheet will put your company name on all the worksheets in the workbook. The same is true for inputting the year of the report in the cell named "YEAR". You can "GOTO" the proper cell by using the F5 key and selecting the name of the cell.
2. The workbook contains input sections that are unprotected, and non-input sections that are protected. Cell protection can be disabled or enabled through "TOOLS – PROTECTION – UNPROTECT SHEET" on your toolbar. Formulas and checks are built into most of the templates.
3. Use of the disk is optional. The disk and the report cover shall be returned when the report is filed. There are macros built into the workbook to assist you with the report. An explanation of the macros is on the "Control" worksheet at the front of the workbook. The explanations start at cell A1.
4. All forms must be filled out in permanent ink and be legible. Note: Even if the computer disk is used, a printed version of the report shall be filed. The orientation and margins are set up on each individual worksheet and should print on one page. If you elect not to use the disk, please format your reports to fit on one 8.5" by 11" page with the left binding edge (top if landscaped) set at .85", the right edge (bottom if landscaped) set at .4", and the remaining two margins at .5". You may select specific schedules to print – See the worksheet "CONTROL".
5. Unless otherwise indicated, all information required in these schedules shall be from the accounts prescribed in 47 C.F.R. Part 32 and the definitions and instructions therein will apply to this report wherever applicable.
6. Information on financial schedules may be rounded to thousands of dollars for companies with over 5,000 access lines. Companies submitting schedules rounded to thousands should so indicate at the top of the schedule.
7. Where more space is needed or more than one schedule is needed additional schedules may be attached and should be included directly behind the original schedule to which it pertains and be labeled accordingly (for example, Schedule 1A).
8. The information required with respect to any statement shall be furnished as a minimum requirement to which shall be added such further information as is necessary to make the required schedules not misleading.

9. The following schedules should be filled out with information on a total company basis:

Schedules 1 - 4
Schedule 10
Schedules 13 - 17
Schedule 19
Schedule 20, Page 1 of 2
Schedules 33 and 34

All other schedules should be filled out with Montana specific data. Financial schedules should include all amounts originating in Montana or allocated to Montana from other jurisdictions.

10. All companies owned by another company shall attach a corporate structure chart of the holding company.
11. The following schedules are not required to be filled out or submitted by companies with less than 5,000 access lines:
- Schedule 6
Schedules 17 and 18
Schedule 21
12. Schedules that have no activity during the year or are not applicable to the respondent should be marked as not applicable and submitted with the report.
13. Companies with under 5,000 lines may use summary accounts and should leave lines for subaccounts blank. Summary accounts are noted with an asterisk and subaccounts that are not required are noted with a caret.
14. Companies with over 5,000 lines must complete schedules to all required subaccount detail.
15. FCC Form M sheets may not be substituted in lieu of completing annual report schedules.
16. Common sense must be used when filling out all schedules.

Specific Instructions

Schedules 3 through 9

1. **Schedules 3, 4, and 9** should include all notes to the financial statements required by the FCC or included in the financial statements issued as audited financial statements. These notes should be included in the report directly behind the schedules and should be labeled appropriately (Schedule 3A, etc.).
2. **Schedule 5** may be omitted for companies doing business only in Montana.
3. **Schedule 6** is not required for companies with under 5,000 lines.

4. **Schedule 7** must be completed by all companies. For companies under 5,000 lines, this schedule may be completed on a total state basis. Any such company completing the form on a total state basis shall indicate this fact clearly on the form.
5. **Schedule 8** - Companies with less than 5,000 lines are not required to fill out the intrastate portion. The regulated rate base must be separated from the deregulated rate base but this may be done on a total state basis. Any company so doing shall clearly indicate this on the form.
6. Only accounts designated on **Schedule 8** may be included in rate base. Only companies who have specifically been authorized in a Commission order to include cash working capital in rate base may fill out line 8 on Schedule 8. Cash working capital must be calculated using the methodology approved in the Commission order. The most recent Commission Order, and Docket, specifying cash working capital shall be noted on the schedule.
7. **Schedule 9** - Instructions to complete are similar to those used for the Statement of Cash Flows in the FCC Form M.

Schedule 10

1. For the purpose of this schedule, nonofficial companies shall include any company in which the respondent has an ownership interest which does not meet the definition of an affiliated company set out in 47 C.F.R. Section 32.9000. This schedule shall not include telecommunications accounts receivable from other customers.

Schedule 11

1. All amounts listed in Column f that represent individual items for which the higher of cost or market value was in excess of \$50,000 for companies with under 5,000 lines and in excess of \$100,000 for companies with over 5,000 lines must be fully explained in notes to this schedule. The explanation must include the plant description and location, the original cost, the net book cost, the market value, the value at which it was transferred or the price at which it was sold, and the party to which it was transferred or sold.

Schedule 12

1. Respondents shall list each item amounting individually to \$100,000 or more and report all others in the aggregate.
2. Amounts in Column f relating to individual items exceeding \$50,000 shall be fully explained.

Schedule 15

1. Line 1 must be completed by all companies for the most recent calendar year. The retention and price/earnings ratios shall be calculated on a year end basis. Enter the actual year end market price in the "Year Ended" row. If the computer disk is used, enter the year end market price in the "High" column.
2. Lines starting at 9 shall be completed for each of the twelve months of the report year for all companies with over 5,000 access lines. Earnings per share and dividends per share shall be reported on a quarterly basis and entries shall be made only to the months that end the respective quarters (for example, March, June, September, and December.)

Schedule 19

1. All companies are required to submit this form. Companies with more than one plan (for example, both a retirement plan and a deferred savings plan) shall complete a schedule for each plan.
2. Companies with defined benefit plans must complete the entire form using FASB 87 and 132 guidelines.
3. Interest rate percentages shall be listed to two decimal places.

Schedule 20

1. All changes to the employee benefit plans shall be explained in a narrative on lines 15 and 16. All cost containment measures implemented in the reporting year shall be explained and quantified in a narrative on lines 15 & 16. All assumptions used in quantifying cost containment results shall be disclosed.
2. The schedule shall be filled out using FASB 106 and 132 guidelines.

Schedule 21

1. Respondents shall disclose all payments made during the year where the aggregate payment to the recipient was \$25,000 or more. Payments must include fees, retainers, commissions, gifts, contributions, assessments, bonuses, subscriptions, allowances for expenses or any other form of payment for services or as a donation.

Schedule 23

1. Respondents shall provide an attached sheet detailing the type and corresponding number of access lines for all entries in Column L (Other).

Schedule 24

1. Column (b). For each wire center that has a configuration of "Remote", Column (b) shall also reflect the respective "Host".
2. Column (c). Examples of Types of Switches are: Digital, Step by Step, and Crossbar.

Schedule 25

1. This schedule must be completed by all companies for the year following the reporting year.

Schedule 26

1. Respondents shall either report construction technicians and splicers as separate categories or footnote the appropriate categories and indicate the number of (1) construction technicians; and (2) splicers.

Schedule 27

1. Include in column (d) ALL additional forms of compensation, including, but not limited to: deferred compensation, deferred savings plan, profit sharing, supplemental or non-qualified retirement plan, employee stock ownership plan, restricted stock, stock options, stock appreciation rights, performance share awards, dividend equivalent shares, mortgage payments, use of company cars or car lease payments, tax preparation consulting, financial consulting, home security systems, company-paid physicals, subscriptions to periodicals, memberships, association or club dues, tuition reimbursement, employee discounts, and spouse travel.
2. The above compensation items shall be listed separately. Where more space is needed additional schedules may be attached and shall be included directly behind the original schedule to which it pertains.
3. If respondent is claiming protected status of salary information both a proprietary and non-proprietary copy of this schedule shall be filed. On the non-proprietary copy respondent shall indicate which columns respondent maintains are proprietary. A note stating that such information is being provided separately shall be included on the schedule. In no case shall either Column (a) - Name/Position, or Column (g) - Percent Increase Total Compensation, be considered proprietary. Respondent shall provide all requested information on the proprietary copy.

Schedule 28

1. Respondents shall provide all executive compensation information in conformance with that required by the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) (Regulation S-K Item 402, Executive Compensation).
2. Include in column (d) ALL additional forms of compensation, including, but not limited to: deferred compensation, deferred savings plan, profit sharing, supplemental or non-qualified retirement plan, employee stock ownership plan, restricted stock, stock options, stock appreciation rights, performance share awards, dividend equivalent shares, mortgage payments, use of company cars or car lease payments, tax preparation consulting, financial consulting, home security systems, company-paid physicals, subscriptions to periodicals, memberships, association or club dues, tuition reimbursement, employee discounts, and spouse travel.
3. All items included in Column (d) - Other Compensation shall be listed separately. Where more space is needed additional schedules may be attached and shall be included directly behind the original schedule.
4. In addition, respondents shall attach a copy of the executive compensation information provided to the SEC.

Schedule 29

1. Information from this schedule is consolidated with information from other Utilities and reported to the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC). Your assistance in completing this schedule, even though information may be located in other areas of the annual report, expedites reporting to the NARUC and is appreciated.

Schedules 33 and 34

1. Respondents shall report all transactions with affiliated companies.
2. Column (c). Respondents shall indicate in column (c) the method used to determine the price. Respondents shall indicate if a contract is in place between the Affiliate and the Utility. If a contract is in place, respondents shall indicate the year the contract was initiated, the term of the contract and the method used to determine the contract price.
3. Column (c). If the method used to determine the price is different than the previous year, respondents shall provide an explanation, including the reason for the change.

Schedule 35

1. Respondents shall provide an attached sheet detailing the account and the amount for all entries made to Lines 9 and 16.
2. Only companies who have specifically been authorized in a Commission Order to include cash working capital in rate base may include cash working capital in lines 9 or 16. Cash working capital must be calculated using the methodology approved in the Commission Order. The Commission Order specifying cash working capital shall be noted on the attached sheet.
3. Respondents shall indicate, for each adjustment on lines 30 through 42, if the amount is updated or if it is from the last rate case. All adjustments shall be calculated using Commission methodology.

Schedule 36

1. Respondents shall list the amount of tax accrued or paid for the fiscal year attributable to Montana sources for each of the listed taxes

Schedule 37

1. Respondents shall list the amount of Universal Service Funds received from Montana and from the federal government.

General Information

Year: 1998

1. Legal Name of Respondent: HOT SPRINGS TELEPHONE CO.
2. Name Under Which Respondent Does Business: SAME AS ABOVE
3. Date of Incorporation: 1-1-55
4. Address to send Correspondence Concerning Report: P.O. BOX 7850
KALISPELL, MT 59904-0850
5. Person Responsible for This Report: PHYLLIS O. EKBLAD
- 5a. Telephone Number: (406) 755-7231

Control Over Respondent

1. If direct control over the respondent was held by another entity at the end of year provide the following:
 - 1a. Name and address of the controlling organization or person:
 - 1b. Means by which control was held:
 - 1c. Percent Ownership:

Board of Directors		
Line No.	Name of Director and Address (City, State) (a)	Fees Paid During Year (b)
1	JAY W. PRESTON, SR., 312 MAIN ST SW, RONAN, MT 59864	NONE
2	ROBERT B. EKBLAD P.O. BOX 161, DAYTON, MT 59914	4800
3	PHYLLIS O. EKBLAD, 319 COMMONS WAY, KALISPELL, MT 59901	NONE
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
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11		
12		
13		
14		
15		
16		
17		
18	Chairman of the Board:	
19		
20		

Officers

Year: 1998

Line No.	Title of Officer (a)	Department Over Which Jurisdiction is Exercised (b)	Name and Address of Person Holding Office at Year End (c)
1	PRESIDENT	GENERAL MANAGER	JAY W. PRESTON, SR RONAN, MT
2	SECRETARY-TREASURER	FINANCIAL & ACCOUNTING	PHYLLIS O. EKBLAD, KALISPELL
3	VICE-PRESIDENT	ENGINEERING STUDIES, TECH-	MT
4		NOLOGY FORECASTING & ADVANCE	ROBERT B. EKBLAD, DAYTON, MT
5		PLANNING.	
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Company Name: HOT SPRINGS TELEPHONE CO.

Page 1 of 2
Year: 1998**Total Company Balance Sheet**

Line No.	Acct. No. (a)	Description (b)	This Year (c)	Last Year (d)
1		CURRENT ASSETS:		
2	1120	Cash and Equivalents	307,985	300,355
3	1180	Telecommunications Accounts Receivable - Net	2,226	3,089
4	1190	Other Accounts Receivable - Net		
5	1200	Notes Receivable - Net		
6	1210	Interest and Dividends Receivable		
7	1220	Materials and Supplies		
8	* 1280	Prepayments	30,026	-0-
9	^ 1290	Prepaid Rents		
10	^ 1300	Prepaid Taxes		
11	^ 1310	Prepaid Insurance		
12	^ 1320	Prepaid Directory Expenses		
13	^ 1330	Other Prepayments		
14	1350	Other Current Assets		
15		Total Current Assets	340,237	303,444
16		NONCURRENT ASSETS:		
17	1401	Investments in Affiliated Companies		
18	1402	Investments in Nonaffiliated Companies		
19	1406	Nonregulated Investments		
20	1407	Unamortized Debt Issuance Expense		
21	1408	Sinking Funds		
22	1410	Other Noncurrent Assets	695	435
23	1438	Deferred Maintenance and Retirements		
24	1439	Deferred Charges		
25	1500	Other Jurisdictional Assets - Net		
26		Total Noncurrent Assets	695	435
27		PROPERTY, PLANT, & EQUIPMENT:		
28	2001	Telecommunications Plant in Service	1,869,101	1,614,400
29	2002	Property Held for Future Telecommunications Use		
30	2003	Plant Under Construction - Short Term	218,980	-0-
31	2004	Plant Under Construction - Long Term		
32	2005	Telecommunications Plant Adjustment		
33	2006	Nonoperating Plant		
34	2007	Goodwill		
35	3100	Accumulated Depreciation	1,093,788	940,688
36	3200	Accumulated Depreciation - Held for Future Use		
37	3300	Accumulated Depreciation - Nonoperating		
38	3400	Accumulated Amortization		
39		Net Property, Plant, & Equipment	994,293	673,712
40		TOTAL ASSETS	1,335,225	977,591

^ Subaccount of account marked with a *.

Total Company Balance Sheet

Line No.	Acct. No. (a)	Description (b)	This Year (c)	Last Year (d)
41		CURRENT LIABILITIES:		
42	4010	Accounts Payable	333,525	88,992
43	4020	Notes Payable		
44	4030	Advance Billing and Payments		
45	4040	Customer Deposits	11,675	8,950
46	4050	Current Maturities - Long Term Debt		
47	4060	Current Maturities - Capital Leases		
48	4070	Income Taxes - Accrued		
49	4080	Other Taxes - Accrued		
50	4100	Net Current Deferred Operating Income Taxes		
51	4110	Net Current Deferred Nonoperating Income Taxes		
52	4120	Other Accrued Liabilities		
53	4130	Other Current Liabilities		
54		Total Current Liabilities	345,200	97,942
55		LONG-TERM DEBT:		
56	4210	Funded Debt		
57	4220	Premium on Long-Term Debt		
58	4230	Discount on Long-Term Debt		
59	4240	Reacquired Debt		
60	4250	Obligations Under Capital leases		
61	4260	Advances From Affiliated Companies		
62	4270	Other Long-Term Debt	225,000	235,000
63		Total Long-Term Debt	225,000	235,000
64		OTHER LIABILITIES AND DEFERRED CREDITS:		
65	4310	Other Long-Term Liabilities		
66	4320	Unamort. Oper. Invest. Tax Credits - Net		
67	4330	Unamort. Nonoper. Invest. Tax Credits - Net		
68	4340	Net Noncurrent Deferred Oper. Income Taxes		
69	4350	Net Noncurrent Deferred Nonoper. Income Taxes		
70	4360	Other Deferred Credits		
71	4370	Other Jurisdictional Liab. and Def. Credits		
72		Total Other Liabilities and Deferred Credits	---	---
73		STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY:		
74	4510	Capital Stock	80,000	80,000
75	4520	Additional Paid-In Capital	10,832	10,832
76	4530	Treasury Stock	(125,000)	(125,000)
77	4540	Other Capital		
78	4550	Retained Earnings	799,193	678,817
79		Total Stockholders' Equity	765,025	644,649
80		TOTAL LIAB. AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY	1,335,225	977,591

Total Company Income Statement

Year: 1998

Line No.	Acct. No. (a)	Description (b)	This Year (c)	Last Year (d)
1		REVENUES:		
2	5000	Basic Local Service Revenues	170,814	157,758
3	5080	Network Access Revenues	651,249	675,376
4	* 5100	Long Distance Message Revenue		
5	^ 5110	Unidirectional Long Distance Revenue		
6	^ 5120	Long Distance Private Network Revenue		
7	^ 5160	Other Long Distance Revenue		
8	^ 5169	Other Long Distance Revenue Settlements		
9	* 5200	Miscellaneous Revenue	72,885	83,138
10	^ 5230	Directory Revenue		
11	^ 5240	Rent Revenue		
12	^ 5250	Corporate Operations Revenue		
13	^ 5260	Miscellaneous Revenue		
14	^ 5270	Carrier Billing and Collection Revenue		
15	^ 5280	Nonregulated Revenue		
16	5300	Uncollectible Revenue	(4,401)	(11,357)
17		Total Revenues (L.2+L.3+L.4+L.9-L.16)	890,547	904,915
18		OPERATING EXPENSES:		
19	6110	Network Support Expense	16,796	18,251
20	6120	General Support Expense	32,363	19,273
21	6210	Central Office Switching Expense	53,933	58,283
22	6220	Operator Systems Expense		
23	6230	Central Office Transmission Expense		
24	6310	Information Origination/Termination Expense		
25	* 6410	Cable and Wire Facilities Expense	23,878	64,630
26	^ 6431	Aerial Wire Expense		
27	^ 6441	Conduit Systems Expense		
28	6510	Other Property, Plant & Equipment Expense	62,906	58,348
29	6530	Network Operations Expense	58,268	55,957
30	6540	Access Expense	62,945	58,710
31	6560	Depreciation and Amortization Expense	154,384	116,467
32	6610	Marketing		
33	6620	Services	54,549	40,199
34	6710	Executive and Planning	13,917	7,448
35	6720	General and Administrative	171,938	195,282
36	6790	Provision for Uncollectible Notes Receivable		
37		Total Operating Expenses (Sum L.19 to L.36-L.26-L.27)	705,877	692,848
38	7100	Other Operating Income and Expense		
39	7200	Operating Taxes	47,377	76,357
40		Net Operating Income (L.17-L.37+L.38-L.39)	137,293	135,710
41	7300	Nonoperating Income and Expense		
42	7400	Nonoperating Taxes		
43	7500	Interest and Related Items	19,607	22,364
44	7600	Extraordinary Items		
45	7910	Effects of Juris. Ratemaking Diff. - Net		
46	7990	Nonregulated Net Income	10,628	9,615
47		NET INCOME (L.40+L.41-L.42-L.43-L.44+L.45-L.46)	107,058	103,731

^ Subaccount of the account marked with a *.

Montana Total State Income Statement

Year: 1988

Line No.	Acct. No. (a)	Description (b)	This Year (c)	Last Year (d)
1		REVENUES:		
2	5000	Basic Local Service Revenues		
3	5080	Network Access Revenues		
4	* 5100	Long Distance Message Revenue		
5	^ 5110	Unidirectional Long Distance Revenue		
6	^ 5120	Long Distance Private Network Revenue		
7	^ 5160	Other Long Distance Revenue		
8	^ 5169	Other Long Distance Revenue Settlements		
9	* 5200	Miscellaneous Revenue		
10	^ 5230	Directory Revenue		
11	^ 5240	Rent Revenue		
12	^ 5250	Corporate Operations Revenue		
13	^ 5260	Miscellaneous Revenue		
14	^ 5270	Carrier Billing and Collection Revenue		
15	^ 5280	Nonregulated Revenue		
16	5300	Uncollectible Revenue		
17		Total Revenues (L.2+L.3+L.4+L.9-L.16)		
18		OPERATING EXPENSES:		
19	6110	Network Support Expense		
20	6120	General Support Expense		
21	6210	Central Office Switching Expense		
22	6220	Operator Systems Expense		
23	6230	Central Office Transmission Expense		
24	6310	Information Origination/Termination Expense		
25	* 6410	Cable and Wire Facilities Expense		
26	^ 6431	Aerial Wire Expense		
27	^ 6441	Conduit Systems Expense		
28	6510	Other Property, Plant & Equipment Expense		
29	6530	Network Operations Expense		
30	6540	Access Expense		
31	6560	Depreciation and Amortization Expense		
32	6610	Marketing		
33	6620	Services		
34	6710	Executive and Planning		
35	6720	General and Administrative		
36	6790	Provision for Uncollectible Notes Receivable		
37		Total Operating Expenses (Sum L.19 to L.36-L.26-L.27)		
38	7100	Other Operating Income and Expense		
39	7200	Operating Taxes		
40		Net Operating Income (L.17-L.37+L.38-L.39)		

^ Subaccount of the account marked with a *.

Company Name: HOT SPRINGS TELEPHONE CO.

SCHEDULE 6

Montana Intrastate Income Statement

Year:1998

Line No.	Acct. No. (a)	Description (b)	This Year (c)	Last Year (d)
1		REVENUES:		
2	5000	Basic Local Service Revenues		
3	5080	Network Access Revenues		
4	* 5100	Long Distance Message Revenue		
5	^ 5110	Unidirectional Long Distance Revenue		
6	^ 5120	Long Distance Private Network Revenue		
7	^ 5160	Other Long Distance Revenue		
8	^ 5169	Other Long Distance Revenue Settlements		
9	* 5200	Miscellaneous Revenue		
10	^ 5230	Directory Revenue		
11	^ 5240	Rent Revenue		
12	^ 5250	Corporate Operations Revenue		
13	^ 5260	Miscellaneous Revenue		
14	^ 5270	Carrier Billing and Collection Revenue		
15	^ 5280	Nonregulated Revenue		
16	5300	Uncollectible Revenue		
17		Total Revenues (L.2+L.3+L.4+L.9-L.16)		
18		OPERATING EXPENSES:		
19	6110	Network Support Expense		
20	6120	General Support Expense		
21	6210	Central Office Switching Expense		
22	6220	Operator Systems Expense		
23	6230	Central Office Transmission Expense		
24	6310	Information Origination/Termination Expense		
25	* 6410	Cable and Wire Facilities Expense		
26	^ 6431	Aerial Wire Expense		
27	^ 6441	Conduit Systems Expense		
28	6510	Other Property, Plant & Equipment Expense		
29	6530	Network Operations Expense		
30	6540	Access Expense		
31	6560	Depreciation and Amortization Expense		
32	6610	Marketing		
33	6620	Services		
34	6710	Executive and Planning		
35	6720	General and Administrative		
36	6790	Provision for Uncollectible Notes Receivable		
37		Total Operating Expenses (Sum L.19 to L.36-L.26-L.27)		
38	7100	Other Operating Income and Expense		
39	7200	Operating Taxes		
40		Net Operating Income (L.17-L.37+L.38-L.39)		

^ Subaccount of the account marked with a *.

Company Name: HOT SPRINGS TELEPHONE CO.

SCHEDULE 7

Montana Intrastate Regulated Income Statement

Year: 1998

Line No.	Acct. No. (a)	Description (b)	This Year (c)	Last Year (d)
1		REVENUES:		
2	5000	Basic Local Service Revenues	132,213	120,380
3	5080	Network Access Revenues	227,100	272,820
4	* 5100	Long Distance Message Revenue		
5	^ 5110	Unidirectional Long Distance Revenue		
6	^ 5120	Long Distance Private Network Revenue		
7	^ 5160	Other Long Distance Revenue		
8	^ 5169	Other Long Distance Revenue Settlements		
9	* 5200	Miscellaneous Revenue	9,052	7,809
10	^ 5230	Directory Revenue		
11	^ 5240	Rent Revenue		
12	^ 5250	Corporate Operations Revenue		
13	^ 5260	Miscellaneous Revenue		
14	^ 5270	Carrier Billing and Collection Revenue		
15	^ 5280	Nonregulated Revenue		
16	5300	Uncollectible Revenue	(4,401)	(11,357)
17		Total Revenues (L.2+L.3+L.4+L.9-L.16)	363,964	389,652
18		OPERATING EXPENSES:		
19	6110	Network Support Expense	15,116	16,426
20	6120	General Support Expense	29,126	17,346
21	6210	Central Office Switching Expense	48,540	52,455
22	6220	Operator Systems Expense		
23	6230	Central Office Transmission Expense		
24	6310	Information Origination/Termination Expense		
25	* 6410	Cable and Wire Facilities Expense	21,490	58,167
26	^ 6431	Aerial Wire Expense		
27	^ 6441	Conduit Systems Expense		
28	6510	Other Property, Plant & Equipment Expense	28,808	28,378
29	6530	Network Operations Expense	58,268	50,361
30	6540	Access Expense	3,900	3,600
31	6560	Depreciation and Amortization Expense	153,099	115,346
32	6610	Marketing		
33	6620	Services	51,938	38,399
34	6710	Executive and Planning	12,526	6,704
35	6720	General and Administrative	160,000	175,908
36	6790	Provision for Uncollectible Notes Receivable		
37		Total Operating Expenses (Sum L.19 to L.36-L.26-L.27)	582,811	563,090
38	7100	Other Operating Income and Expense		
39	7200	Operating Taxes & Interest Expense	66,631	98,306
40		Net Operating Income (L.17-L.37+L.38-L.39)	(285,478)	(271,744)

^ Subaccount of the account marked with a *.

Company Name: HOT SPRINGS TELEPHONE CO.

SCHEDULE 8

Average Rate Base - Total State

Year:1998

Line No.	Acct. No. (a)	Description (b)	This Year (c)	Last Year (d)
1	2001	Telecommunications Plant in Service	1,869,101	1,614,399
2	3100	Accumulated Depreciation	1,093,788	940,688
3	2002	Property Held for Future Telecommunications Use	218,980	-0-
4	3200	Accumulated Depreciation - 2002		
5	1220	Materials and Supplies		
6	4340	Noncurrent Deferred Operating Income Taxes		
7		Pre-1971 Unamortized Investment Tax Credits		
8		Cash Working Capital (if allowed by Commission)		
9		Total Average Rate Base (L.1-L.2+L.3-L.4+L.5-L.6-L.7+L.8)	994,293	673,711

NOT REQUIRED - WE HAVE FEWER THAN 5,000 ACCESS LINES.

Average Rate Base - Intrastate

Line No.	Acct. No. (a)	Description (b)	This Year (c)	Last Year (d)
1	2001	Telecommunications Plant in Service		
2	3100	Accumulated Depreciation		
3	2002	Property Held for Future Telecommunications Use		
4	3200	Accumulated Depreciation - 2002		
5	1220	Materials and Supplies		
6	4340	Noncurrent Deferred Operating Income Taxes		
7		Pre-1971 Unamortized Investment Tax Credits		
8		Cash Working Capital (if allowed by Commission)		
9		Total Average Rate Base (L.1-L.2+L.3-L.4+L.5-L.6-L.7+L.8)		

NOT REQUIRED - WE HAVE FEWER THAN 5,000 ACCESS LINES.

Average Rate Base - Regulated Intrastate

Line No.	Acct. No. (a)	Description (b)	This Year (c)	Last Year (d)
1	2001	Telecommunications Plant in Service		
2	3100	Accumulated Depreciation		
3	2002	Property Held for Future Telecommunications Use		
4	3200	Accumulated Depreciation - 2002		
5	1220	Materials and Supplies		
6	4340	Noncurrent Deferred Operating Income Taxes		
7		Pre-1971 Unamortized Investment Tax Credits		
8		Cash Working Capital (if allowed by Commission)		
9		Total Average Rate Base (L.1-L.2+L.3-L.4+L.5-L.6-L.7+L.8)		

Statement of Cash Flows

Year: 1998

Line No.	Item Description (a)	Amount (b)	Amount (c)
1	Increase/(decrease) in Cash & Cash Equivalents		
2	Cash Flows from Operating Activities:		
3	Net Income		117,686
4	Reconciliation Adjustments:		
5	Depreciation & Amortization	154,384	
6	Provision for Accounts Receivable Losses		
7	Deferred Income Taxes - Net		
8	Unamortized Investment Tax Credits (ITCs) - Net		
9	Allowance for Funds Used During Construction (AFUDC)		
10	Change in Operating Receivables - Net	863	
11	Change in Materials, Supplies & Inventories - Net	110	
12	Change in Operating Payables & Accrued Liabilities - Net	266,324	
13	Change in Other Assets & Deferred Credits - Net	(30,026)	
14	Change in Other Liabilities & Deferred Credits - Net	(16,376)	
15	Other (explained on back of this page)		
16	Total Adjustments		375,279
17	Net Cash Provided by/(Used in) Operating Activities		492,965
18	Cash Inflows/Outflows From Investing Activities:		
19	Construction/Acquisition of Property, Plant & Equipment (net of		
20	AFUDC & Capital Lease Related Acquisitions)	(475,226)	
21	Proceeds from Disposals of Property, Plant & Equipment		
22	Investments In & Advances to Affiliates		
23	Proceeds from Repayment of Advances		
24	Other Investing Activities (explained on back of this page) Investments	(104,213)	
25	Net Cash Provided by/(Used in) Investing Activities		(579,439)
26	Cash Flows from Financing Activities:		
27	Net Incr./(Decr.) in Short-Term Debt, Original maturity <= 3 mo.		
28	Advances from Affiliates		
29	Repayment of Advances from Affiliates		
30	Proceeds from Issuances of Long-Term Debt		
31	Repayment of Long-Term Debt	(10,000)	
32	Payment of Capital Lease Obligations		
33	Proceeds from Issuing Common Stock/Parent Co. Equity Investment		
34	Repurchase of Treasury Shares		
35	Dividends Paid		
36	Other Financing Activities (explained on back of this page)		
37	Net Cash Provided by Financing Activities		(10,000)
38	Effect of Exchange Rate Changes on Cash		
39	Net Increase/(Decrease) in Cash & Cash Equivalents		(96,474)
40	Cash & Cash Equivalents at Beginning of Period		233,685
41	Cash & Cash Equivalents at End of Period		137,211

Company Name: HOT SPRINGS TELEPHONE CO.

DOES NOT APPLY

SCHEDULE 10

Year: 1998

Receivables and Investments-Affiliated & Nonaffiliated Companies

Line No.	Name of Affiliate or Company (a)	Account 1160 Temporary Investments (b)	Account 1180 Telecom. Accounts Receivable (c)	Account 1181 Accts. Rec. Telecom. Allowance (d)	Account 1190 Other Accounts Receivable (e)	Account 1191 Accounts Receivable Allow. - Other (f)	Account 1200 Notes Receivable (g)	Account 1201 Notes Receivable Allowance (h)	Account 1210 Interest and Dividends Receivable (i)	Account 1401 Investments in Affil. Companies (j)	Account 1402 Investments in Nonaffil. Companies (k)
1											
2											
3											
4											
5											
6											
7											
8											
9											
10											
11											
12											
13											
14											
15											
16											
17											
18											
19											
20											
21											
22											
23											
24											
25											
26											
27											
28											
29											
30	Totals										

Company Name: HOT SPRINGS TELEPHONE CO.

SCHEDULE 11

Net Plant in Service - Detail

Year: 1998

Line No.	Account (a)	Description (b)	Beginning of Year Balance (c)	Additions (d)	Retirements (e)	Sales & Transfers (f)	End of Year Account 2001 Balance (g)	Year End Accumulated Depreciation (h)	End of Year Net Plant Balance (i)
1	* 2110	Land and Support Assets	346,357	57,044	---	---	403,401	321,699	81,702
2	^ 2111	Land							
3	^ 2112	Motor Vehicles							
4	^ 2113	Aircraft							
5	^ 2114	Special Purpose Vehicles							
6	^ 2115	Garage Work Equipment							
7	^ 2116	Other Work Equipment							
8	^ 2121	Buildings							
9	^ 2122	Furniture							
10	^ 2123	Office Equipment							
11	^ 2124	General Purpose Computers							
12	2211	Analog Electronic Switching	115,716	38,284	---	---	154,000	112,750	41,250
13	2212	Digital Electronic Switching	-0-	218,980	---	---	218,980	---	218,980
14	2215	Electro-Mechanical Switching							
15	2220	Operator Systems							
16	2231	Radio Systems	45,581	78,741	---	---	124,322	20,316	104,006
17	2232	Circuit Equipment	16,238	--	---	---	16,238	13,455	2,783
18	* 2310	Information Orig & Term Equip	89,697	8,161	---	---	97,858	60,389	37,469
19	^ 2311	Station Apparatus							
20	^ 2321	Customer Premises Wiring							
21	^ 2341	Large Private Branch Exchanges							
22	^ 2351	Public Telephone Term. Equip.							
23	^ 2362	Other Terminal Equipment							
24	2411	Poles	4,177	--	---	---	4,177	3,794	383
25	* 2420	Cable and Wire Facilities	996,634	72,471	---	---	1,069,105	561,385	507,720
26	^ 2421	Aerial Cable							
27	^ 2422	Underground Cable							
28	^ 2423	Buried Cable							
29	^ 2424	Submarine Cable							
30	^ 2425	Deep Sea Cable							
31	^ 2426	Intrabuilding Network Cable							
32	2431	Aerial Wire							
33	2441	Conduit Systems							
34		Totals	1,614,400	473,681	---	---	2,088,081	1,093,788	994,293

^ Subaccount of the account marked with a *.

Company Name: HOT SPRINGS TELEPHONE CO.

SCHEDULE 12

Analysis of Plant Held for Future Use

Year: 1998

Line No.	Location and Description of Property (a)	Date Included in Account 2002 (b)	Book Cost of Property at Beginning of Year (c)	Additions During the Year (d)	Retirements During the Year (e)	Transfers and Adjustments Charges and (Credits) (f)	Book Cost of Property at End of Year (g)
1	NONE						
2							
3							
4							
5							
6							
7							
8							
9							
10							
11							
12							
13							
14							
15							
16							
17							
18							
19							
20							
21							
22							
23							
24							
25							
26							
27							
28							
29							
30	Totals (Sum L. 1 to L. 29)						

Company Name: HOT SPRINGS TELEPHONE CO.

TOTAL COMPANY

SCHEDULE 13

Average Cost of Long Term Debt

Year: 1998

Line No.	Description (a)	Issue Date (b)	Maturity Date (c)	Principal Amount (d)	Gross Proceeds (e)	Net Proceeds (f)	Net Per \$100 (g)	Outstanding Per Balance Sheet (h)	Yield to Maturity (i)	Annual Net Cost (j)	Amortization of Premium or Discount (k)	Total Cost (%) (l)
1	LONG TERM NOTES	6/30/91	6/30/01	80,000	---	---	---	50,000	--	4,000	--	8
2	DEMAND NOTE	1/1/92	1/1/06	50,000	---	---	---	50,000	--	4,000	--	8
3	DEMAND NOTE	7/15/93	7/15/02	50,000	---	---	---	50,000	--	4,000	--	8
4	DEMAND NOTE	6/3/94	1/1/04	75,000	---	---	---	75,000	--	6,000	--	8
5												
6												
7												
8												
9												
10												
11												
12												
13												
14												
15												
16												
17												
18												
19												
20												
21												
22												
23												
24												
25												
26												
27												
28												
29												
30	Total			255,000	---	---	---	225,000	--	18,000	---	8%

SCHEDULE 14

Company Name: HOT SPRINGS TELEPHONE CO.

DOES NOT APPLY

Cost of Preferred Stock

Year: 1998

Line No.	Description (a)	Date of Issuance (b)	Method of Offering (c)	Call Redemption Price (d)	Par Value Of Issue (e)	Gross Proceeds Amounts (f)	Net Proceeds Amounts (g)	Net Proceeds Per \$100 (h)	Cost of Money (i)	Principal Outstanding (j)	Annual Cost (k)	Embedded Cost (l)
1												
2												
3												
4												
5												
6												
7												
8												
9												
10												
11												
12												
13												
14												
15												
16												
17												
18												
19												
20												
21												
22												
23												
24												
25												
26												
27												
28												
29												
30	Totals (Sum L.1 to L.29)											

Company Name: HOT SPRINGS TELEPHONE CO.

TOTAL COMPANY

SCHEDULE 15

Analysis of Common Stock

Year: 1998

Line No.	(a)	Avg. Number of Shares Outstanding (b)	Book Value (per share) (c)	Earnings (per share) (d)	Dividends (per share) (e)	Retention Ratio (f)	Market Price High (g)	Market Price Low (h)	Price/Earnings Ratio (i)
1	Year Ended December 31:	575	100	-0-	-0-	---	---	---	---
2									
3									
4									
5									
6									
7									
8	Month by Month Data:								
9	January								
10	February								
11	March								
12	April								
13	May								
14	June								
15	July								
16	August								
17	September								
18	October								
19	November								
20	December								
21									
22									
23									

NOT REQUIRED - WE HAVE LESS THAN 5,000 ACCESS LINES.

Company Name: HOT SPRINGS TELEPHONE CO.

DOES NOT APPLY

SCHEDULE 16

Year: 1998

Capital Stock and Funded Debt Reacquired or Retired During the Year

Line No.	Description of Security (a)	Call or Retirement Date (b)	Number of Shares (c)	Principal Amount (d)	Reacquisition or Retirement Cost (e)	Gain or (Loss) (f)	Retirement or Reacquisition (g)
1							
2							
3							
4							
5							
6							
7							
8							
9							
10							
11							
12							
13							
14							
15							
16							
17							
18							
19							
20							
21							
22							
23							
24							
25							
26							
27							
28							
29							
30	Totals (Sum L.1 to L.29)						

Company Name: HOT SPRINGS TELEPHONE CO.

NOT REQUIRED - WE HAVE LESS THAN 5,000 ACCESS LINES

SCHEDULE 17

Page 1 of 2

Year: 1998

Total Company Expense Matrix

Line No.	Acct. No. (a)	Description (b)	Salaries and Wages (c)	Benefits (d)	Rents (e)	Other Expenses (f)	Clearances (g)	Total (h)
1	*	6110 Network Support Expense						
2	^	6112 Motor Vehicle Expense						
3	^	6113 Aircraft Expense						
4	^	6114 Special Purpose Vehicles Expense						
5	^	6115 Garage Work Equipment Expense						
6	^	6116 Other Work Equipment Expense						
7	*	6120 General Support Expense						
8	^	6121 Land and Building Expense						
9	^	6122 Furniture and Artworks Expense						
10	^	6123 Office Equipment Expense						
11	^	6124 General Purpose Computers Expense						
12	*	6210 Central Office Switching Expense						
13	^	6211 Analog Electronic Expense						
14	^	6212 Digital Electronic Expense						
15	^	6215 Electro-Mechanical Expense						
16		6220 Operator Systems Expense						
17	*	6230 Central Office Transmission Expense						
18	^	6231 Radio Systems Expense						
19	^	6232 Circuit Equipment Expense						
20	*	6310 Information Origination/Termination Expense						
21	^	6311 Station Apparatus Expense						
22	^	6341 Large Private Branch Exchange Expense						
23	^	6351 Public Telephone Terminal Equipment Exp.						
24	^	6362 Other Terminal Equipment Expense						
25	*	6410 Cable and Wire Facilities Expense						
26	^	6411 Poles Expense						
27	^	6421 Aerial Cable Expense						
28	^	6422 Underground Cable Expense						
29	^	6423 Buried Cable Expense						
30	^	6424 Submarine Cable Expense						
31	^	6425 Deep Sea Cable Expense						
32	^	6426 Intrabuilding Network Cable Expense						
33	^	6431 Aerial Wire Expense						
34		Subtotals						

^ Subaccount of the account marked with a *.

PAGE 18

Company Name: HOT SPRINGS TELEPHONE CO. NOT REQUIRED - WE HAVE LESS THAN 5,000 ACCESS LINES.

SCHEDULE 17

Page 2 of 2

Year: 1998

Total Company Expense Matrix

Line No.	Acct. No. (a)	Description (b)	Salaries and Wages (c)	Benefits (d)	Rents (e)	Other Expenses (f)	Clearances (g)	Total (h)
35	^ 6441	Conduit Systems Expense						
36	6510	Other Property Expenses						
37	* 6530	Network Operations Expense						
38	^ 6531	Power Expense						
39	^ 6532	Network Administration Expense						
40	^ 6533	Testing Expense						
41	^ 6534	Plant Operations Expense						
42	^ 6535	Engineering Expense						
43	6540	Access Expense						
44	6561	Depreciation - Telecomm. Plant in Service						
45	6562	Depreciation-Prop. for Future Telecom. Use						
46	6563	Amortization Expense - Tangible						
47	6564	Amortization Expense - Intangible						
48	6565	Amortization - Other						
49	* 6610	Marketing						
50	^ 6611	Product Management						
51	^ 6612	Sales						
52	^ 6613	Product Advertising						
53	6621	Call Completion Services						
54	6622	Number Services						
55	6623	Customer Services						
56	6711	Executive						
57	6712	Planning						
58	6721	Accounting and Finance						
59	6722	External Relations						
60	6723	Human Relations						
61	6724	Information Management						
62	6725	Legal						
63	6726	Procurement						
64	6727	Research and Development						
65	6728	Other General and Administrative						
66	6790	Provision for Uncollectible Notes Receivable						
67		Totals						

^ Subaccount of the account marked with a *.

Company Name: HOT SPRINGS TELEPHONE CO. NOT REQUIRED - WE HAVE LESS THAN 5,000 ACCESS LINES.

SCHEDULE 18

Page 1 of 2

Year: 1998

Total State Expense Matrix

Line No.	Acct. No. (a)	Description (b)	Salaries and Wages (c)	Benefits (d)	Rents (e)	Other Expenses (f)	Clearances (g)	Total (h)
1	*	6110 Network Support Expense						
2	^	6112 Motor Vehicle Expense						
3	^	6113 Aircraft Expense						
4	^	6114 Special Purpose Vehicles Expense						
5	^	6115 Garage Work Equipment Expense						
6	^	6116 Other Work Equipment Expense						
7	*	6120 General Support Expense						
8	^	6121 Land and Building Expense						
9	^	6122 Furniture and Artworks Expense						
10	^	6123 Office Equipment Expense						
11	^	6124 General Purpose Computers Expense						
12	*	6210 Central Office Switching Expense						
13	^	6211 Analog Electronic Expense						
14	^	6212 Digital Electronic Expense						
15	^	6215 Electro-Mechanical Expense						
16		6220 Operator Systems Expense						
17	*	6230 Central Office Transmission Expense						
18	^	6231 Radio Systems Expense						
19	^	6232 Circuit Equipment Expense						
20	*	6310 Information Origination/Termination Expense						
21	^	6311 Station Apparatus Expense						
22	^	6341 Large Private Branch Exchange Expense						
23	^	6351 Public Telephone Terminal Equipment Exp.						
24	^	6362 Other Terminal Equipment Expense						
25	*	6410 Cable and Wire Facilities Expense						
26	^	6411 Poles Expense						
27	^	6421 Aerial Cable Expense						
28	^	6422 Underground Cable Expense						
29	^	6423 Buried Cable Expense						
30	^	6424 Submarine Cable Expense						
31	^	6425 Deep Sea Cable Expense						
32	^	6426 Intrabuilding Network Cable Expense						
33	^	6431 Aerial Wire Expense						
34		Subtotals						

^ Subaccount of the account marked with a *.

Total State Expense Matrix

Line No.	Acct. No.	Description	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)
35	6441	Conduit Systems Expense	^							
36	6510	Other Property Expenses								
37	6530	Network Operations Expense	*							
38	6531	Power Expense	^							
39	6532	Network Administration Expense	^							
40	6533	Testing Expense	^							
41	6534	Plant Operations Expense	^							
42	6535	Engineering Expense	^							
43	6540	Access Expense								
44	6561	Depreciation - Telecomm. Plant in Service								
45	6562	Depreciation-Prop. for Future Telecom. Use								
46	6563	Amortization Expense - Tangible								
47	6564	Amortization Expense - Intangible								
48	6565	Amortization - Other	*							
49	6610	Marketing								
50	6611	Product Management	^							
51	6612	Sales	^							
52	6613	Product Advertising	^							
53	6621	Call Completion Services								
54	6622	Number Services								
55	6623	Customer Services								
56	6711	Executive								
57	6712	Planning								
58	6721	Accounting and Finance								
59	6722	External Relations								
60	6723	Human Relations								
61	6724	Information Management								
62	6725	Legal								
63	6726	Procurement								
64	6727	Research and Development								
65	6728	Other General and Administrative								
66	6790	Provision for Uncollectible Notes Receivable								
67		Totals								

^ Subaccount of the account marked with a *

Pension Costs

Year: 1998

1	Plan Name HOT SPRINGS TELEPHONE CO. PROFIT-SHARING PENSION PLAN			
2	Defined Benefit Plan? <u>NO</u>	Defined Contribution Plan? <u>NO</u>		
3	Actuarial Cost Method? <u>N/A</u>	IRS Code: <u>401</u>		
4	Annual Contribution by Employer: <u>BASED ON PROFITS</u>	Is the Plan Over Funded? <u>NO</u>		
5				
	Item	Current Year	Last Year	% Change
6	Change in Benefit Obligation			
7	Benefit obligation at beginning of year			
8	Service cost			
9	Interest Cost			
10	Plan participants' contributions <u>N/A</u>			
11	Amendments			
12	Actuarial Gain			
13	Acquisition			
14	Benefits paid			
15	Benefit obligation at end of year			
16	Change in Plan Assets			
17	Fair value of plan assets at beginning of year	235,638	183,612	28
18	Actual return on plan assets	24,171	23,415	03.2
19	Acquisition			
20	Employer contribution	34,551	32,354	6.79
21	Plan participants' contributions	-0-	-0-	--
22	Benefits paid	-0-	3,743	--
23	Fair value of plan assets at end of year			
24	Funded Status			
25	Unrecognized net actuarial loss			
26	Unrecognized prior service cost	N/A	N/A	
27	Prepaid (accrued) benefit cost			
28				
29	Weighted-average Assumptions as of Year End			
30	Discount rate			
31	Expected return on plan assets	N/A	N/A	
32	Rate of compensation increase			
33				
34	Components of Net Periodic Benefit Costs			
35	Service cost			
36	Interest cost			
37	Expected return on plan assets	7.50%	7.50%	
38	Amortization of prior service cost			
39	Recognized net actuarial loss			
40	Net periodic benefit cost	-0-	-0-	
41				
42	Montana Intrastate Costs:			
43	Pension Costs	N/A	N/A	
44	Pension Costs Capitalized			
45	Accumulated Pension Asset (Liability) at Year End			
46	Number of Company Employees:			
47	Covered by the Plan	7	8	
48	Not Covered by the Plan	3	2	
49	Active	7	6	
50	Retired	0	0	
51	Deferred Vested Terminated	0	0	

Other Post Employment Benefits (OPEBS)

Item	Current Year	Last Year	% Change
1 Regulatory Treatment:			
2 Commission authorized - most recent			
3 Docket number: _____			
4 Order number: _____			
5 Amount recovered through rates			
6 Weighted-average Assumptions as of Year End			
7 Discount rate			
8 Expected return on plan assets			
9 Medical Cost Inflation Rate			
10 Actuarial Cost Method			
11 Rate of compensation increase			
12 List each method used to fund OPEBs (ie: VEBA, 401(h)) and if tax advantaged:			
13			
14			
15 Describe any Changes to the Benefit Plan:			
16			
17 TOTAL COMPANY			
18 Change in Benefit Obligation			
19 Benefit obligation at beginning of year			
20 Service cost			
21 Interest Cost			
22 Plan participants' contributions			
23 Amendments			
24 Actuarial Gain			
25 Acquisition			
26 Benefits paid			
27 Benefit obligation at end of year			
28 Change in Plan Assets			
29 Fair value of plan assets at beginning of year			
30 Actual return on plan assets			
31 Acquisition			
32 Employer contribution			
33 Plan participants' contributions			
34 Benefits paid			
35 Fair value of plan assets at end of year			
36 Funded Status			
37 Unrecognized net actuarial loss			
38 Unrecognized prior service cost			
39 Prepaid (accrued) benefit cost			
40 Components of Net Periodic Benefit Costs			
41 Service cost			
42 Interest cost			
43 Expected return on plan assets			
44 Amortization of prior service cost			
45 Recognized net actuarial loss			
46 Net periodic benefit cost			
47 Accumulated Post Retirement Benefit Obligation			
48 Amount Funded through VEBA			
49 Amount Funded through 401(h)			
50 Amount Funded through Other _____			
51 TOTAL			
52 Amount that was tax deductible - VEBA			
53 Amount that was tax deductible - 401(h)			
54 Amount that was tax deductible - Other _____			
55 TOTAL			

Other Post Employment Benefits (OPEBS) Continued

	Item	Current Year	Last Year	% Change
1	Number of Company Employees:			
2	Covered by the Plan			
3	Not Covered by the Plan			
4	Active			
5	Retired			
6	Spouses/Dependants covered by the Plan			
7	Montana			
8	Change in Benefit Obligation			
9	Benefit obligation at beginning of year			
10	Service cost			
11	Interest Cost			
12	Plan participants' contributions			
13	Amendments			
14	Actuarial Gain			
15	Acquisition			
16	Benefits paid			
17	Benefit obligation at end of year			
18	Change in Plan Assets			
19	Fair value of plan assets at beginning of year			
20	Actual return on plan assets			
21	Acquisition			
22	Employer contribution			
23	Plan participants' contributions			
24	Benefits paid			
25	Fair value of plan assets at end of year			
26	Funded Status			
27	Unrecognized net actuarial loss			
28	Unrecognized prior service cost			
29	Prepaid (accrued) benefit cost			
30	Components of Net Periodic Benefit Costs			
31	Service cost			
32	Interest cost			
33	Expected return on plan assets			
34	Amortization of prior service cost			
35	Recognized net actuarial loss			
36	Net periodic benefit cost			
37	Accumulated Post Retirement Benefit Obligation			
38	Amount Funded through VEBA			
39	Amount Funded through 401(h)			
40	Amount Funded through other _____			
41	TOTAL			
42	Amount that was tax deductible - VEBA			
43	Amount that was tax deductible - 401(h)			
44	Amount that was tax deductible - Other			
45	TOTAL			
46	Montana Intrastate Costs:			
47	Pension Costs			
48	Pension Costs Capitalized			
49	Accumulated Pension Asset (Liability) at Year End			
50	Number of Montana Employees:			
51	Covered by the Plan			
52	Not Covered by the Plan			
53	Active			
54	Retired			
55	Spouses/Dependants covered by the Plan			

Company Name: HOT SPRINGS TELEPHONE CO.

SCHEDULE 21

NOT REQUIRED - WE HAVE LESS THAN 5,000 ACCESS LINES. Page 1 of 1

Payments for Services to Persons Other Than Employees

Year: 1998

Line No.	Name of Recipient (a)	Nature of Service (b)	Total Company Cost (c)	Total State Cost (d)	Intrastate Cost (e)
1					
2					
3					
4					
5					
6					
7					
8					
9					
10					
11					
12					
13					
14					
15					
16					
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41					
42					
43					
44					
45					
46					
47					
48					
49	Total				

Subscriber Line Usage Data

Year: 1998

Line No.	Description (a)	This Year (b)	% of Total (c)	Last Year (d)	% of Total (e)
1	Toll Usage:				
2	Interstate, InterLATA	2427472	24	2418651	25
3	Interstate, IntraLATA	0	0	0	0
4	Total Interstate Usage	2427472	24	2418651	25
5	Intrastate, InterLATA	740299	7	493804	5
6	Intrastate, IntraLATA	1653138	16	1760183	18
7	Total Intrastate Usage	2393437	23	2253987	23
8	Total Toll Usage	4820909	47	4672638	47
9	Centrex	0	0	0	0
10	Local	5508239	53	5189637	53
11	Total Minutes	10329148	100	9862275	100

Company Name: HOT SPRINGS TELEPHONE CO.

SCHEDULE 23
Page 1 of

Year: 1998

Central Office and Access Line Statistics

Line No.	Wire Center (a)	Type of Office (b)	Residential (c)	ISDN (d)	ADSL (e)	Lifeline Customers (f)	Residential LMS Customers (g)	Single Line Business (h)	Multi-Line Business (i)	Customer Owned Coin (j)	Company Owned Coin (k)	Other (l)	% of Lines w/ T. Tone (m)	Total Access Lines (n)
1	URBAN	ESC-3	230			17		42	34	1	6		100	330
2	RURAL	SAME	311			9		15	35		4		100	374
3														
4														
5														
6														
7														
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24														
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26														
27														
28														
29														
30														
31														
32														
33	Total		541			26		57	69	1	10		100	704

NOTE: Additional blank schedules are being provided for your convenience.

Central Office and Switch Information

Year: 1998

Line No.	Wire Center (a)	Office Configuration (Host, Remote, Stand alone) (b)	Type of Switch (c)	Switch Vendor/ Manufacturer (d)	Switch Model No. (e)	Switch Line Capacity (f)	Year Deployed (g)
1	HOT SPRINGS	STAND ALONE	ELECTRONIC	STROMBERG CARLSON	ESC-3	1500	1987
2							
3							
4							
5							
6							
7							
8							
9							
10							
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48							

NOTE: Additional blank schedules are being provided for your convenience.

PAGE 28

Construction Budget - Montana

Year: 1998

Line No.	Description (a)	(b)
1	Central Office Assets:	
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		
11		
12		
13		
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15		
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17		
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19		
20		
21		
22		
23		
24		
25		
26		
27	Total Switching and Central Office Projects over \$500,000	
28	Miscellaneous Central Office Projects not over \$500,000	40,000
29	Total Central Office Budget (Total of Line 27 & Line 28)	40,000
30	Other Projects over \$500,000:	
31		
32		
33		
34		
35		
36		
37		
38		
39		
40		
41	Total Other Projects over \$500,000	
42	Miscellaneous projects not over \$500,000	100,000
43	Total Construction Budget (Total of Lines 29, 41 & 42)	140,000

Montana Employee Counts

Year: 1998

Line No.	Category (a)	Beginning of Year (b)	End of Year (c)
1	GENERAL MANAGER	1	1
2	OFFICE MANAGER	1	1
3	COE MAINTENANCE MANAGER & LINEMAN	1	1
4	OFFICE CLERK	1	1
5	ACCOUNTANT & FINANCIAL MANAGER	1	1
6	ASSISTANT ACCOUNTANT & PAYROLL CLERK	1	1
7	INSTALLATIONS, LINEMEN, & CONSTRUCTION WORKERS	2	2
8	PART TIME OFFICE CLERK	0	1
9	PART TIME INTERNET CONSULTANT	0	1
10			
11			
12			
13			
14			
15			
16			
17			
18			
19			
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38			
39			
40			
41			
42			
43	Totals (Sum of Lines 1 through 42)	8	10

Schedule 27

PROPRIETARY

Company Name: HOT SPRINGS TELEPHONE CO.

DOES NOT APPLY

SCHEDULE 28

Year: 1998

Compensation of Top 5 Corporate Employees - SEC Information

Line No.	Name/Title (a)	Base Salary (b)	Bonuses (c)	Other Compensation (d)	Total Compensation (e)	Total Compensation Last Year (f)	% Increase Total Compensation (g)
1							
2							
3							
4							
5							
6	Totals (Sum L.1 to L.5)						

Montana Composite Statistics

Year: 1998

Line No.	Account No.	Description (a)	Amount (b)
1		Plant (Intrastate Only) (000 Omitted)	
2	2001	Plant in Service	1,873
3	2003 - 2004	Construction Work in Progress	219
4	2005	Plant Acquisition Adjustments	
5	2002	Plant Held for Future Use	
6	1220	Materials & Supplies	
7		(Less):	
8	3100 - 3400	Depreciation & Amortization Reserves	1,094
9	4360.2	Contributions in Aid of Construction	4
10		NET BOOK COSTS	994
11		Revenues & Expenses (Intrastate Only) (000 Omitted)	
12	5000 - 5300	Operating Revenues	364
13	6560	Depreciation & Amortization Expenses	153
14		Federal & State Income Taxes	17
15		Other Taxes	30
16		Other Operating Expenses	449
17		TOTAL Operating Expenses	649
18		Net Operating Income	(285)
19		Other Income	526
20		Other Deductions	134
21		NET INCOME	107
22		Access Lines in Service (Intrastate Only)	
23		Residential Access Lines	567
24		Business Access Lines	126
25		PBX Access Lines	
26		Other Access Lines	11
27		Total Number of Access Lines	704
28		Average Number of Calls Per Access Line	
29		Local Calls	1304
30		Toll Calls (Intra- or Interstate)	1141
31		Total Number of Calls Per Access Line (Total of Line 29 & Line 30)	2445
32		Other Statistics (Intrastate Only)	
33		Average Residential Monthly Bill	37
34		Gross Plant Investment per Access Line	2966

Depreciation - Montana Intrastate Regulated

Year: 1998

Line No.	Acct No. (a)	Description (b)	Composite Rate % (c)	Total Expense \$ (d)
1	2112	Motor Vehicles	20	20,829
2	2114	Special Purpose Vehicles		
3	2115	Garage Work Equipment		
4	2116	Other work Equipment	20	1,904
5	2121	Buildings	5	4,868
6	2122	Furniture	20	537
7	2123.1	Office Support Equipment		
8	2123.2	Company Communications Equipment		
9	2124	General Purpose Computers	20	3,106
10	2211	Analog Electronic Switching Equipment	10	10,927
11	2212	Digital Electronic Switching Equipment		
12	2215	Step By Step Switching Equipment		
13	2215	Crossbar Switching Equipment		
14	2220	Operator System		
15	2231	Radio Systems	10	10,092
16	2232	Circuit DDS		
17	2232	Circuit Digital		
18	2232	Circuit Analog	10	1,088
19	2351	Public Telephone Terminating Equipment	20	557
20	2362	Other Terminal Equipment	10	6,549
21	2411	Poles	10	82
22	2421	Aerial Cable Metallic	10	8,198
23	2421	Aerial Cable Nonmetallic		
24	2422	Underground Cable Metallic		
25	2422	Underground Cable Nonmetallic		
26	2423	Buried Cable Metallic	5	72,399
27	2423	Buried Cable Nonmetallic	5	11,963
28	2424	Submarine Cable Metallic		
29	2424	Submarine Cable Nonmetallic		
30	2426	Intrabuilding Network Cable Metallic		
31	2426	Intrabuilding Network Cable Nonmetallic		
32	2431	Aerial Wire		
33	2441	Conduit Systems		
34				
35		COMPOSITE TOTAL	7.34	
36				
37	Have these rates been approved by the Commission? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO			
38				
39	If yes: _____ Docket Number _____ Order Number			
40				

Montana Regulatory Capital Structure & Costs

Year: 1998

Line No.	Description (a)	% Cap. Str. (b)	% Cost Rate (c)	Weighted Cost (d)
Commission Accepted - Most Recent				
1	Docket Number _____			
2	Order Number _____			
3				
4	Common Equity <u>N/A</u>			
5	Preferred Stock			
6	Long Term Debt			
7	Other			
8	Total			
9				
Actual at Year End				
10		76.96	12½	9.62%
11				
12	Common Equity			
13	Preferred Stock			
14	Long Term Debt	23.04	9	2.07%
15	Other			
16	Total	100		11.69%

Network Access - Charges and Revenues

Year: 1998

Line No.	Description (a)	Access Charges Paid (b)	Access Revenues Received (c)
1	Montana - Total State		376,096
2			
3	Montana - Intrastate		1,764
4			
5	Montana - Intrastate Regulated		227,101
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			
11			
12			
13			

Company Name: HOT SPRINGS TELEPHONE CO.

DOES NOT APPLY

SCHEDULE 33

Affiliate Transactions - Products & Services Provided to Utility

Year: 1998

Line No.	Affiliate Name (a)	Products & Services (b)	Method to Determine Price (c)	Charges to Utility (d)	% Total Affil. Revenues (e)	Charges to MT Utility (f)
1						
2						
3						
4						
5						
6						
7						
8						
9						
10						
11						
12						
13						
14						
15						
16						
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20						
21						
22						
23						
24						
25						
26						
27						
28						
29						
30	TOTAL					

Company Name:

HOT SPRINGS TELEPHONE CO.

DOES NOT APPLY

SCHEDULE 34

Affiliate Transactions - Products & Services Provided by Utility

Year: 1998

Line No.	Affiliate Name (a)	Products & Services (b)	Method to Determine Price (c)	Charges to Affiliate (d)	% Total Affil. Revenues (e)	Charges to MT Utility (f)
1						
2						
3						
4						
5						
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7						
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13						
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24						
25						
26						
27						
28						
29						
30	TOTAL					

Montana Intrastate Regulated Earned Rate of Return

Year: 1998

Line No.	Description Rate Base (a)	This Year (b)	Last Year (c)	Percent Change (d)
1				
2	2001 Plant in Service	1,869,101	1,614,399	15.78
3	2002 Prop. Held for Future Telecommunications Use	218,980	---	---
4	3100-3200 (Less) Accumulated Depreciation	1,093,788	940,688	16.28
5	Plant in Service	994,293	673,711	47.58
6				
7	Additions			
8	1220 Materials & Supplies			
9	1280 Prepayments			
10	Other Additions			
11	TOTAL Additions	-0-	-0-	-0-
12				
13	Deductions			
14	4100 Current Deferred Operating Income Taxes			
15	4320 Unamortized Operating Investment Tax Credits			
16	4340 Noncurrent Deferred Operating Income Taxes			
17	Customer Advances for Construction			
18	Other Deductions			
19	TOTAL Deductions	-0-	-0-	-0-
20	TOTAL Rate Base	994,293	673,711	47.58
21				
22	Net Earnings	107,058	103,731	3.21
23				
24	Rate of Return on Average Rate Base	10.8	15.4	(4.6)
25				
26	Rate of Return on Average Equity	14.0	16.1	(2.1)
27				
28	Major Normalizing Adjustments & Commission			
29	<u>Ratemaking adjustments to Utility Operations</u>			
30				
31				
32	N/A			
33				
34				
35				
36				
37				
38				
39				
40				
41				
42				
43	Adjusted Rate of Return on Average Rate Base			
44				
45	Adjusted Rate of Return on Average Equity			

Other Taxes Paid

Year: 1998

Line No.	Description (a)	Last Year (b)	This Year (c)
1	Montana Telephone Company License Tax	2,150	2,336
2	Montana Public Service Commission Tax	716	876
3	Montana Consumer Counsel Tax	291	278
4	911 Emergency Telephone Fee	3,078	4,228
5	Montana Telecommunications Access Service (TDD)	813	841
6	Montana Corporate License Tax	6,798	7,305
7	Personal Property Tax	8,224	6,977
8	Real Property Tax	19,636	18,924
9			
10			
11			
12	Total	41,706	41,765

Company Name: HOT SPRINGS TELEPHONE CO.

SCHEDULE 37

Universal Service Funds Received

Year 1998

Line No.	Description (a)	Last Year (b)	This Year (c)
13	Funds received from Montana Sources	-0-	-0-
14	Funds received from Federal Sources	122,397	143,268
15			
16			
17			
18			
19			
20			
21			
22			
23			
24	Total	122,397	143,268