



ALJ/PM6/sgu 5/19/2023

FILED

05/19/23

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

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A2209003

Application of Calaveras Telephone Company (U1004C) Cal-Ore Telephone Co. (U1006C) Ducor Telephone Company (U1007C) Foresthill Telephone Company (U1009C) Kerman Telephone Co. (U1012C) Pinnacles Telephone Co. (U1013C) The Ponderosa Telephone Co. (U1014C) Sierra Telephone Company, Inc. (U1016C) The Siskiyou Telephone Company (U1017C) Volcano Telephone Company (U1019C) for a Determination of Applicants' Cost of Capital for Ratemaking Purposes.

Application 22-09-003

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE'S RULING SETTING AN ONLINE
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION HEARING**

This Ruling sets an online public participation hearing (PPH) for Wednesday, June 21, 2023 at 5 p.m. The purpose of the PPH is for the Commission to hear comments from members of the public on the proposals that Calaveras Telephone Company (Calaveras), Cal-Ore Telephone Co. (Cal-Ore), Ducor Telephone Company (Ducor), Foresthill Telephone Company (Foresthill), Kerman Telephone Co. (Kerman), Pinnacles Telephone Co. (Pinnacles), The Ponderosa Telephone Co. (Ponderosa), Sierra Telephone Company, Inc. (Sierra), The Siskiyou Telephone Company (Siskiyou) and Volcano Telephone Company (Volcano) – collectively, the independent Small Local Exchange Carriers (Small LECs) are requesting in this Application.

The public may view the live stream of the PPH by visiting the following link: <https://adminmonitor.com/ca/cpuc>

Members of the public who want to speak or provide comments at the hearing will need to call in to the following number during the event:

Public Toll-Free Comment Line: 800-857-1917

Public Passcode: 1767567#

1. Presentations at the PPH

At the PPH, the Small LECs shall give a presentation, not to exceed 10 minutes, to provide an overview of the requests in the Application. If the Small LECs plan to provide a slideshow presentation at the PPH, the Small LECs shall serve the slide deck on the service list no later than seven days before the PPH. (Please also e-mail the slide presentation file to Joyce.Kwok@cpuc.ca.gov.)

Intervening parties may request to also make a presentation of their recommendations or proposals at the PPH by contacting the assigned Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) at least 14 days before the date of the PPH and serve the request on the service list.

2. Public Notice

Pursuant to Rule 13.1(b) of the California Public Utilities Commission's Rule of Practice and Procedure, the Small LECs shall prepare draft newspaper notice(s) to the customers taking service in their service areas and obtain the Public Advisor's Office (PAO) approval of the draft newspaper notice(s).

The Small LECs shall publish the approved notice in one or more local newspapers of general circulation in their service areas for seven consecutive days prior to and including the date of the PPH. The notice(s) shall include the time and date of the PPH, the website where members of the public can view the live stream of the PPH, and the call-in information for members of the public to

speak at the PPH. The Applicants shall file the proof of publication and sample copies of the notices with the Commission within 10 days after publication. The Small LECS shall also prominently post a notice of the PPH on their websites and in all their offices where customers come into contact with customer service representatives.

3. Billing Notice

The Small LECs shall also prepare a draft mail notice to its customers, obtain PAO approval of the draft notice, and mail the approved notice to customers. The notice shall inform customers about the PPH, the purpose of the PPH, a summary of the requests in this Application, as well as the time and date of the PPH, the website where members of the public can view the live stream of the PPH, and the call-in information for members of the public to speak at the PPH. The Small LECs shall provide their customer notices via mailing not less than 5 days before the date of the PPH.

4. Customer Service Support

The Small LECs shall provide representatives to be available during the PPH, from 5 p.m. until the conclusion of the PPH, to answer questions from members of the public on their bills or service and to also address any questions about the Application. Each of the Small LECs may have representatives that can answer questions on customer bills and questions about the Application, who are reachable through one phone number or through separate phone numbers (*e.g.*, one phone number for customers to call to ask questions about their customer bills or services and another phone number for customers to call to ask questions about the Application). No later than seven days before the PPH, the Small LECs shall e-mail the phone number(s) for members of the public to call for questions to the assigned Administrative Law Judge and Joyce.Kwok@cpuc.ca.gov.

IT IS RULED that:

1. The public participation hearing is set for Wednesday, June 21, 2023 at 5 p.m.
2. The Small LECs shall publish the approved notice in one or more local newspapers of general circulation in their service areas for seven consecutive days prior to and including the date of the public participation hearing.
3. The Small LECs shall prominently post a notice of the public participation hearing on their website and in all their offices where customers come into contact with customer service representatives.
4. The Small LECs shall provide customer notice of the public participation hearing via mailing not less than 5 days before the date of the public participation hearing.
5. Counsel or one or more representatives of the Small LECs shall give a presentation, not to exceed 15 minutes, to provide an overview of the requests in the Application at the PPH.
6. One or more Representatives of the Small LECs shall be available during the PPH to answer questions from members of the public on their bills or service and to also address any questions about the Application.

Dated May 19, 2023, at San Francisco, California.

/s/ PATRICIA B. MILES

Patricia B. Miles
Administrative Law Judge