

**THE STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION  
OF THE STATE OF KANSAS**

Before Commissioners:                    Andrew J. French, Chairperson  
   Dwight D. Keen  
   Annie Kuether

In the Matter of Moundridge Telephone    )  
Company, Inc. Application for Tariff        )  
Revisions for Index Sheets 4 and 5,        ) Docket No. 25-MRGT-281-TAR  
Section 3, Sheets 2 thru 14.                )

**ORDER APPROVING REVISED TARIFF**

The above-captioned matter comes before the State Corporation Commission of the State of Kansas (“Commission”) for consideration and determination. Having examined its files and records, the Commission finds and concludes:

**I. BACKGROUND**

1. On January 17, 2025, Moundridge Telephone Company, Inc. (“Moundridge”) filed an application in the above-captioned docket requesting that the Commission approve revisions to its General Exchange Tariff.<sup>1</sup>

2. On January 24, 2025, Commission Staff (“Staff”) requested that Moundridge file an amended application<sup>2</sup> removing Section 3 Sheet 1 because changes to the Affordable Local Service Rates are to be filed in Docket No. 25-GIMT-141-GIT (“25-141 Docket”) pursuant to the Commission’s January 16, 2025, Order in the 25-141 Docket.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Moundridge Telephone Company, Inc. Application (Jan. 17, 2025) (“Application”).

<sup>2</sup> Moundridge Revised Tariff Filing (Jan. 24, 2025) (“Amended Application”).

<sup>3</sup> Order Adopting KUST Year 29 Assessment Rate and Affordable Rates, Ordering ¶ C, Docket No. 25-GIMT-141-GIT (Jan. 16, 2025).

3. In accordance with the Commission’s authority pursuant to K.S.A. 66-117(c), the Commission suspended this docket until September 15, 2025, to allow Staff adequate time to analyze Moundridge’s Amended Application.<sup>4</sup>

4. On February 7, 2025, Staff completed its Report and Recommendation (“R&R”) regarding the above-captioned docket, which is attached hereto as **Attachment A** and incorporated by reference herein.<sup>5</sup> Staff’s R&R ultimately recommended that the Commission approve Moundridge’s revisions to its General Exchange Tariff as contained within its Amended Application with an effective date of March 1, 2025.<sup>6</sup>

## II. LEGAL STANDARDS

5. The Commission derives its authority to review Local Exchange Carrier tariffs from K.S.A. 66-117(d), which states in part:

...(d) Except as provided in subsection (c), no change shall be made in any rate, toll, charge, classification, or schedule of charges or joint rates, or in any rule or regulation or practice pertaining to the service or rates of any such public utility or common carrier, without the consent of the [C]ommission.

6. The Commission reviews rates and terms for jurisdictional telecommunications services to ensure they are “just and reasonable” pursuant to K.S.A. 66-1,189. Further, K.S.A. 66-1,189 requires the Commission to ensure that all classifications, rules, and regulations regarding the services are not unduly discriminatory or preferential.

7. K.S.A. 66-1,190 provides in part that telecommunications public utilities doing business in Kansas shall:

... publish and file with the [C]ommission copies of all schedules of rates, joint rates, tolls charges, classifications, and divisions of rates affecting Kansas traffic, either state or interstate... and... the [C]ommission shall have power to prescribe reasonable

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<sup>4</sup> Suspension Order: September 15, 2025 (Jan. 30, 2025).

<sup>5</sup> Report and Recommendation, Utilities Division, Docket No. 25-MRGT-281-TAR (Feb. 7, 2025) (“Staff’s R&R” or “R&R”).

<sup>6</sup> *Id.* at p. 3.

rules and regulations regarding the form and filing of all schedules, tariffs, and classifications of all rates, joint rates, and charges and all rules and regulations of such telecommunications public utilities...

### III. ANALYSIS

8. Moundridge's Amended Application proposes changes to the hourly rates for non-recurring business and residential charges for services performed upon customer request.<sup>7</sup> The affected services include the Premise Installation Visit charge, the Maintenance Premises Visit charge, the Move charge, and the Maintenance of Service charge.<sup>8</sup>

9. Moundridge's Amended Application also proposes changes for the monthly rates paid charged for services performed upon customer request or as the service applies to the customer.<sup>9</sup> The affected services include the Extra Listing monthly rate, Foreign Exchange Listing monthly rate, Non-Published Listing Service monthly rate, and Non-Listed Service monthly rate.<sup>10</sup> Moundridge represented that customers will be notified at least 30 days in advance of these changes via bill notification, email, or text notification.<sup>11</sup>

10. Finally, Moundridge's Amended Application also proposes a reduction for its Bad Check/Bank Draft Fee.<sup>12</sup>

11. Staff determined that the estimated annual regulated revenue effect of the tariff revisions requested in this docket is an increase of approximately \$474.00.<sup>13</sup> Staff determined that the annual number of requests for the affected services is relatively low.<sup>14</sup> Moundridge represented that the requested increases to the amounts charged for these services is attributable to increases

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<sup>7</sup> Amended Application, 3<sup>rd</sup> Revised Sheet 5, 4<sup>th</sup> Revised Sheet 6.

<sup>8</sup> *Id.*

<sup>9</sup> Amended Application, 2<sup>nd</sup> Revised Sheet 10.

<sup>10</sup> *Id.*

<sup>11</sup> *Id.*

<sup>12</sup> Amended Application, 2<sup>nd</sup> Revised Sheet 11.

<sup>13</sup> Staff's R&R, p. 3.

<sup>14</sup> *Id.*

in labor costs. Staff determined that the customer impact from the business and residential non-recurring charges and directory rates is minimal.<sup>15</sup>

12. Staff stated that the rate changes for business and residential non-recurring charges for premises install or other visits, Directory Listing Service, and Miscellaneous Charges are reasonable.<sup>16</sup>

13. The Commission adopts Staff's findings, analysis, and recommendations as stated in its February 7, 2025, Report and Recommendation and concludes that Moundridge's Amended Application revising its tariff as presented is reasonable.

**IT IS, THEREFORE, BY THE COMMISSION ORDERED THAT:**

A. Moundridge Telephone Company, Inc.'s Amended Application is hereby granted, and its revised General Exchange Tariff is hereby approved and shall become effective March 1, 2025.

B. Any party may file and serve a petition for reconsideration pursuant to the requirements and time limits established by K.S.A. 77-529(a)(1).<sup>17</sup>

**BY THE COMMISSION IT IS SO ORDERED.**

French, Chair; Keen, Commissioner; Kuether, Commissioner

Dated: 02/25/2025



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Abigail D. Emery  
Acting Secretary to the Commission

MKH/BWB

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<sup>15</sup> Staff's R&R, p. 3.

<sup>16</sup> *Id.*

<sup>17</sup> K.S.A. 66-118b; K.S.A. 77-503(c); K.S.A. 77-531(b).

Andrew J. French, Chairperson  
Dwight D. Keen, Commissioner  
Annie Kuether, Commissioner

Laura Kelly, Governor

## REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION UTILITIES DIVISION

**TO:** Andrew J. French, Chairperson  
Dwight D. Keen, Commissioner  
Annie Kuether, Commissioner

**FROM:** Jorge Soto-Gomez, Telecommunications Analyst  
Steve Garrett, Deputy Chief of Telecommunications  
Jeff McClanahan, Director of Utilities

**DATE:** February 7, 2025

**SUBJECT:** Docket No. 25-MRGT-281-TAR

In the Matter of Moundridge Telephone Company, Inc. Application for  
Tariff Revisions for Index Sheets 4 and 5, Section 3, Sheets 2 thru 14.

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

On January 17, 2025, Moundridge Telephone Company, Inc (Moundridge) filed an Application with the Kansas Corporation Commission (Commission) for revision to its General Exchange Tariff. For convenience, Commission Staff (Staff) is including Exhibit 1 to this Report and Recommendation listing the tariff sheets revised by this filing.

On January 24, 2025, Staff contacted Moundridge requesting an amended Application be filed removing Section 3 Sheet 1 where changes to the Affordable Local Service Rates are to be filed in Docket No. 25-GIMT-141-GIT (25-141 Docket) pursuant to Commission Order.<sup>1</sup> On January 30, 2025, the Commission issued a suspension order to allow additional time for Staff review.

Staff recommends approval of this Application. The Commission action date is **Monday, September 15, 2025**, due to a suspension order.

### **BACKGROUND:**

The Commission derives its authority to review Local Exchange Carrier tariffs from K.S.A. 66-117(d), which states in part:

(d) Except as provided in subsection (c), no change shall be made in any rate, toll, charge, classification or schedule of charges or joint rates, or in any rule or

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<sup>1</sup> Docket No. 25-GIMT-141-GIT, January 16, 2025, *Order Adopting KUSF Year 29 Assessment Rate and Affordable Rates*, Ordering ¶ C.

regulation or practice pertaining to the service or rates of any such public utility or common carrier, without the consent of the commission.

Pursuant to K.S.A. 66-1,189, the Commission must review rates and terms for every telecommunication public utility to ensure they are “just and reasonable” and the classifications, rules, and regulations regarding the services are not unduly discriminatory or preferential.

Additionally, K.S.A. 66-1,190 requires every public utility doing business in Kansas over which the Commission has control to publish and file with the Commission copies of all schedules of rates, joint rates, tolls, charges, classifications and divisions of rates affecting Kansas traffic, either state or interstate. The Commission has the power to prescribe reasonable rules and regulations regarding the form and filing of all schedules, tariffs and classifications of all rates, joint rates, tolls and charges, and all rules and regulations of such telecommunications public utilities as the Commission determines reasonable and appropriate.

Commission Staff reserves the right to request an audit consistent with Docket No. 04-GIMT-1080-GIT.

### **ANALYSIS:**

Moundridge’s revisions in its General Exchange Tariff renumbered the index and provide changes to Section 3: 1) moving its text to fill in for blank space; 2) in its business & residential Service Connection Charges that apply to standard installation; and 3) in the directory rates for Extra Listing, Foreign Exchange Listing, Non-Published Listing Service, and Non-Listed Service. The following changes are a result of the upcoming affordable residential service access line rate and affordable single-line business service access line rate (access line) taking effect March 1, 2025.<sup>2</sup>

### **Business and Residential Charges**

The hourly rates are a non-recurring charge upon customer request. Customers are notified of a possible charge when contacting the Company for a visit. Once on site and before work is completed, the customer is notified of the hourly rate and an estimated time it will take to complete.<sup>3</sup>

#### **Premises Installation Visit:**

- Increased by \$25.00 from \$50.00 to \$75.00 for initial hour on installation or re-connection.
- Reduced by \$7.50 from \$45.00 to \$37.50 per ½ hour after first hour.

#### **Maintenance Premises Visit:**

- Increased by \$25.00 from \$50.00 to \$75.00 for initial hour.
- Reduced by \$7.50 from \$45.00 to \$37.50 per ½ hour after first hour.

#### **Move Charge:**

- Increased by \$25.00 from \$50.00 to \$75.00 for initial hour.
- Reduced by \$7.50 from \$45.00 to \$37.50 per ½ hour after first hour.

#### **Maintenance of Service Charge:**

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<sup>2</sup> *Id.*, Ordering ¶ B.

<sup>3</sup> Secondary email response to Staff, February 5, 2025.

- Increased by \$25.00 from \$50.00 to \$75.00 per hour.

### **Directory Listing Service Rates**

The following services are additional listings upon customer request or as the service applies to the customer. The Company stated customers will be notified at least 30 days in advance of changes via bill notification, email or text notification.<sup>4</sup>

Extra Listing Monthly Rate:

- Increased by \$2.25 from \$0.25 to \$2.50 per month.

Foreign Exchange Listing Monthly Rate:

- Increased by \$2.50 from \$0.50 to \$3.00 per month.

Non-Published Listing Service Monthly Rate:

- Increased by \$4.40 from \$0.50 to \$4.90 per month.

Non-Listed Service Monthly Rate:

- Increased by \$3.00 from \$0.50 to \$3.50 per month.

### **Miscellaneous Charges**

Bad Check/Bank Draft Fee:

- Reduced by \$10.00 from \$30.00 to \$20.00.

The estimated annual regulated revenue effect of this docket is an increase of approximately \$474.00. Based upon a Company email response on February 5, 2025<sup>5</sup>, Staff notes the annual number of requests is relatively low and the increased rates due to labor factors in the telecom market are reasonable. The customer impact from the business & residential Service Connection Charges and directory rates is minimal. Staff believes the rate changes for business and residential non-recurring charges for premises install or other visits, Directory Listing Service, and Miscellaneous Charges are reasonable.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends the Commission approve Moundridge's revisions to their General Exchange Tariff with an effective date of March 1, 2025, as requested by the Company in its January 24, 2025, Amended Application.

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<sup>4</sup> *Id.*

<sup>5</sup> *Id.*

# **EXHIBIT 1**

# Moundridge Telephone Company, Inc.

## Index

4 <sup>th</sup> Revised Sheet 4	replaces	3 <sup>rd</sup> Revised Sheet 4
5 <sup>th</sup> Revised Sheet 5	replaces	4 <sup>th</sup> Revised Sheet 5

## Section 3

6 <sup>th</sup> Revised Sheet 2	replaces	5 <sup>th</sup> Revised Sheet 2
6 <sup>th</sup> Revised Sheet 3	replaces	5 <sup>th</sup> Revised Sheet 3
5 <sup>th</sup> Revised Sheet 4	replaces	4 <sup>th</sup> Revised Sheet 4
3 <sup>rd</sup> Revised Sheet 5	replaces	2 <sup>nd</sup> Revised Sheet 5
4 <sup>th</sup> Revised Sheet 6	replaces	3 <sup>rd</sup> Revised Sheet 6
4 <sup>th</sup> Revised Sheet 7	replaces	3 <sup>rd</sup> Revised Sheet 7
4 <sup>th</sup> Revised Sheet 8	replaces	3 <sup>rd</sup> Revised Sheet 8
2 <sup>nd</sup> Revised Sheet 9	replaces	1 <sup>st</sup> Revised Sheet 9
2 <sup>nd</sup> Revised Sheet 10	replaces	1 <sup>st</sup> Revised Sheet 10
2 <sup>nd</sup> Revised Sheet 11	replaces	1 <sup>st</sup> Revised Sheet 11
2 <sup>nd</sup> Revised Sheet 12	replaces	1 <sup>st</sup> Revised Sheet 12
3 <sup>rd</sup> Revised Sheet 13	replaces	2 <sup>nd</sup> Revised Sheet 13
1 <sup>st</sup> Revised Sheet 14	replaces	Original Sheet 14

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

25-MRGT-281-TAR

I, the undersigned, certify that a true copy of the attached Order has been served to the following by means of electronic service on 02/25/2025.

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