

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

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

In the Matter of the Consolidated Communications)
of Missouri Company Tariff Revision KCC) Docket No. 25-FCMT-196-TAR
General Exchange Tariff No. 1 Grandfather)
Advantage II Basic and 600 Bundles.)

ORDER APPROVING TARIFF REVISIONS

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 record, and being duly advised in the premises, the Commission finds and concludes as follows:

1. On October 17, 2024, Consolidated Communications of Missouri Company (“Consolidated Missouri” or “the Company”) filed an application (“Application”) requesting permission to add Section 16 to list its obsolete services, to remove the Home Phone Standard Residential Bundled Service Package, to move Voice Advantage Bundles to its list of obsolete services, and to grandfather the Voice Advantage II Basic and 600 Bundles (“Bundles”).

2. K.S.A. 66-1,190 requires that telecommunications public utilities doing business in Kansas shall:

... 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, and shall furnish the commission copies of all rules and regulations and contracts between such telecommunications public utilities pertaining to any and all jurisdictional services to be rendered by such telecommunications public utilities.

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

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 commission.

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

4. On October 23, 2024, Commission Staff (“Staff”) issued a Report and Recommendation (“R&R”) recommending that the Commission approve Consolidated Missouri’s Application to implement changes to where the Voice Advantage, Home Phone Small Business, Voice Advantage II, and 600 Bundles are located in the tariff.² Staff’s R&R is attached hereto and incorporated by reference.

5. Staff evaluated Consolidated Missouri’s Customer Notice and found that it is appropriate and in compliance with the Telecommunications Billing Standards set forth in the Commission’s Order in Docket No. 06-GIMT-187-GIT.³

6. Staff indicated that Consolidated Missouri has stated in a letter that existing customers will be allowed to retain the Voice Advantage II Basic or 600 Bundle at their current location.⁴ Consolidated Missouri further stated that if the customer moves, changes,

¹ K.S.A. 66-1,189 (“Every unjust or unreasonably discriminatory or unduly preferential rule, regulation, classification, rate, joint rate, toll, charge or exaction is prohibited, unlawful and void”).

² Report and Recommendation, Docket No. 25-FCMT-196-TAR (Oct. 23, 2024) (“Staff’s R&R”).

³ Order Adopting Staff’s Report and Recommendation, Docket No. 06-GIMT-187-GIT (July 16, 2010).

⁴ *Id.* at p. 2.

or makes additions to the existing bundles, this will result in the loss of the Voice Advantage II Basic or 600 Bundle.⁵

7. Based on its evaluation of Consolidated Missouri's Application and Customer Notice, Staff recommended that the Commission find that the Company's tariff revisions will reflect changes to grandfathered services no longer offered, which will have minimal impacts upon Kansas customers.⁶ Staff recommended that the Commission find that Consolidated Missouri's tariff revisions contained within its Application are just and reasonable because existing customers may continue to use the grandfathered services until they move or elect to change services and because the tariff revisions are revenue neutral.⁷

8. The Commission adopts Staff's analysis and recommendations as contained in its October 23, 2024, R&R, which is attached hereto and incorporated by reference, and finds that the Application of Consolidated Missouri should be approved. In conjunction with approval of the Application, the Commission finds that the effective date shall be November 16, 2024.

IT IS, THEREFORE, BY THE COMMISSION ORDERED THAT:

A. The Consolidated Communications of Missouri Company request filed in this matter on October 17, 2024, is hereby granted with the effective tariff date occurring on November 16, 2024.

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).⁸

⁵ *Id.*

⁶ *Id.*

⁷ *Id.*

⁸ K.S.A. 66-11b; K.S.A. 77-503(c) and K.S.A. 77-531(b).

C. The Commission retains jurisdiction over the subject matter and the parties for the purpose of entering such further order, or orders, as it may deem necessary.

BY THE COMMISSION IT IS SO ORDERED.

French, Chairperson; Keen, Commissioner; Kuether, Commissioner.

Dated: 11/14/2024



Lynn M. Retz
Executive Director

BWB/MKH

**REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION
UTILITIES DIVISION**

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

FROM: Drennan Dolsky, Telecommunications Analyst
Steve Garrett, Deputy Chief of Telecommunications
Jeff McClanahan, Director of Utilities

DATE: October 23, 2024

RE: Docket No. 25-FCMT-196-TAR

In the Matter of the Consolidated Communications of Missouri Company Tariff
Revision KCC General Exchange Tariff No. 1 Grandfather Advantage II Basic
and 600 Bundles.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

On October 17, 2024, Consolidated Communications of Missouri Company (“Consolidated Missouri” or “the Company”) filed an Application requesting permission to add Section 16 to its list of Obsolete Services, to remove the Home Phone Standard Residential Bundled Service Package, to move Voice Advantage Bundles to Obsolete Services, and to grandfather the Voice Advantage II Basic and 600 Bundles (“Bundles”). Consolidated Missouri stated that bill messages were sent to customers starting with the October 16, 2024, billing cycle.

Consolidated Missouri’s proposed effective date is November 16, 2024. Staff recommends approval of the Application.

BACKGROUND:

The Kansas Corporation 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 commission.

In addition, 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.

The KCC must review 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 KCC to ensure that all classifications, rules, and regulations regarding the services are not unduly discriminatory or preferential.

ANALYSIS:

Staff evaluated Consolidated Missouri’s Customer Notice and finds it is appropriate and in compliance with the Telecommunications Billing Standards.¹

The Company requests approval to make the following tariff changes:

- Add Section 16 for Obsolete Services.
- Remove Home Phone Standard Residential Bundled Service Package.
- Move Voice Advantage Bundles to Obsolete Services.
- Grandfather the Voice Advantage II Basic and 600 Bundles.

Consolidated Missouri has stated in a letter that existing customers will be allowed to retain the Voice Advantage II Basic or 600 Bundle at their current location. However, if the customer moves, changes or makes additions to the existing bundles, this will result in the loss of the Voice Advantage II Basic or 600 Bundle.

Based upon its review, Staff has determined the Company’s tariff revisions are intended to accurately reflect changes to grandfathered services no longer offered, are revenue neutral, and have minimal impact upon existing Kansas customers because they may continue to use the grandfathered services until such time as they move or elect to change services. Therefore, the revisions are just and reasonable.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends the Commission approve Consolidated Missouri’s Application to implement changes to where the Voice Advantage, Home Phone Small Business, Voice Advantage II, and 600 Bundles are located in the tariff with an effective date of November 16, 2024, as requested by the Company.

¹ Docket No. 06-GIMT-187-GIT, Order Adopting Staff’s Report & Recommendation dated October 5, 2010.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

25-FCMT-196-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 11/14/2024.

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/S/ KCC Docket Room

KCC Docket Room