

# WEIKLE & Co.

*Via eFiling*

March 3, 2020

Rosemary Chiavetta, Secretary  
Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission  
PO Box 3265  
Harrisburg, PA 17105-3265

RE: P-2018-3005035

Dear Secretary Chiavetta:

On behalf of Armstrong Telecommunications, Inc., enclosed is Supplement No. 6 to PA PUC Tariff No. 1 to add Lifeline Service. This filing was required by a February 6, 2020 Order in Docket P-2018-3005035. Lifeline services are a required component of Armstrong being designated as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier to receive federal Universal Support.

If there are any questions, I can be reached at 704.699.9451.

Sincerely,

*/s/ Jerry Weikle*

Jerry Weikle  
Consultant to Armstrong Telecommunications, Inc.

ARMSTRONG TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC.

REGULATIONS AND SCHEDULE OF INTRASTATE CHARGES  
APPLYING TO FACILITIES BASED AND NON-FACILITIES BASED  
COMPETITIVE LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE  
WITHIN THE STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA IN THE SERVICE TERRITORIES OF  
VERIZON PENNSYLVANIA INC., VERIZON NORTH LLC,  
THE UNITED TELEPHONE COMPANY, d/b/a CENTURYLINK,  
CITIZENS TELEPHONE COMPANY OF KECKSBURG, CONSOLIDATED  
COMMUNICATIONS OF PENNSYLVANIA COMPANY, COMMONWEALTH  
TELEPHONE COMPANY d/b/a FRONTIER COMMUNICATIONS COMMONWEALTH  
TELEPHONE COMPANY, AND WINDSTREAM PENNSYLVANIA, LLC.

The Company will mirror the exchange area boundaries as stated in the tariffs of Verizon Pennsylvania Inc. Telephone Pa. P.U.C. Nos. 180A, 182, 182A, 185B and 185C; Verizon North LLC Telephone Pa. P.U.C. Nos. 1, 3, 5 and 6; The United Telephone Company of Pennsylvania d/b/a CenturyLink P.U.C. No. 27; Citizens Telephone Company of Kecksburg Telephone Pa. P.U.C. No. 3; Consolidated Communications of Pennsylvania Company P.U.C. No. 11; Commonwealth Telephone Company d/b/a Frontier Communications Commonwealth Telephone Company P.U.C. No. 24 and, Windstream Pennsylvania, LLC Telephone Pa. P.U.C. No. 7.

This Tariff Establishes Rates and Regulations for Local Exchange Service

This tariff has been filed with the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission. Copies are available for inspection at the Company's place of business:

Armstrong Telecommunications, Inc.  
One Armstrong Place  
Butler, PA 16001

The Company's Tariff is in concurrence with all applicable State and Federal Laws (including but not limited to, 52 Pa. Code, 66 Pa. C.S. and the Telecommunications Act of 1934, as amended), and with the Commission's applicable Rule and Regulations and Orders. Any provisions contained in this Tariff that are inconsistent with foregoing mentioned will be deemed inoperative and superseded.

Issued: March 3, 2020

Effective: March 4, 2020

Issued By:  
Dru A. Sedwick  
ARMSTRONG TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC.  
One Armstrong Place  
Butler, PA 16001

**LIST OF MODIFICATIONS**

**CHANGES:**

This filing adds Lifeline as an offering.

The Following Sheets are impacted:

Title Page  
Sheet 2  
Sheet 3  
Sheet 4  
Sheet 48  
Sheet 59  
Sheet 60  
Sheet 60.1

Issued: March 3, 2020

Effective: March 4, 2020

Dru A. Sedwick  
ARMSTRONG TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC.  
One Armstrong Place  
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Armstrong Telecommunications, Inc.

Supplement No. 6  
PA PUC Tariff No. 1  
Sixth Revised Sheet 2  
Superseding Fifth Revised Sheet 2

**CHECK SHEET**

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3	Fourth *	33	Original
4	First *	34	Fourth
5	Original	34.1	Original
6	Original	34.2	Original
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13	Original	34.9	Original
14	Original	34.10	Original
15	Original	34.11	Original
16	Original	34.12	Original
17	Original	34.13	Original
18	Original	34.14	Original
19	Original	34.15	Original
20	Original	34.16	Original
21	Original	34.17	Original
22	Original	34.18	Original
23	Original	34.19	Original
24	Original	34.20	Original
25	Original	34.21	Original
26	Original	34.22	Original
27	Original	34.23	Original
28	Original	34.24	Original
29	Original	34.25	Original

\* Indicates Change

Issued: March 3, 2020

Effective: March 4, 2020

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**CHECK SHEET** (cont'd)

Current pages in this tariff are as follows:

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34.30	Original	60	Second *	92	Second
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\* Indicates Change

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Effective: March 4, 2020

Dru A. Sedwick  
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**DIRECTORY LISTINGS** (cont'd)**L. Lifeline**

(C)

**1. Description**

Lifeline Service is a federally funded program established to provide monthly assistance to residential low income households who qualify for this service in accordance with the following Regulations.

**2. Regulations**

a. Lifeline Service is available to qualified residence customers and is provided via a residence Local Service Line. Lifeline Service is limited to only one Service per qualified customer or household (a household is defined as “any individual or group of individuals who are living together as one economic unit” an economic unit is “all adult individuals contributing to and sharing in the income and expenses of a household”). However, a qualified residence customer or household is not eligible for Lifeline Service if they are currently receiving a Lifeline program discount on another service supported by the Federal Communications Commission. A potential Lifeline customer who has an outstanding final bill for telephone service which is less than (4) years old must pay the entire balance of any Basic Service final bill before being eligible for Lifeline Service.

b. Residence Lifeline Service consists of the following tariffed standard features and optional customer elected services at the applicable rates, charges and regulations for each feature and service provided:

- i. Residence Local Service, any option.
- ii. Directory Listing (standard only).
- iii. Non-Published or Non-Listed Telephone Number Service.
- iv. Access to Directory Assistance Service.
- v.. Touch Tone Calling Service.
- vi. Access to Message Toll Telephone Service and Optional Dial Station-To- Station Calling Plan Services. However, the Residence Lifeline Dial Tone Line will be blocked from dial station access to 976/556/900 and any other type of Audiotex Service.
- vii. Access to Operator Services.
- viii. Voluntary Toll Restriction Option.
- ix. Access to 800/888 Services.
- x. Access to Call Trace.
- xi. Access to Alerting and Reporting Systems (9-1-1 dialing).
- xii. Access to the Pennsylvania Telecommunications Relay Service.
- xiii. Caller ID Per-call and Per-line Blocking
- xiv. Other eligible telecommunications services at tariffed rates.

c. An applicant for Lifeline Service must be a current participant in one of the following Pennsylvania programs, or be able to provide proof of household income which is at or below 135% of the annual Federal Poverty Guidelines for all States (except Alaska and Hawaii) and the District of Columbia. Recertification of Lifeline Service participants must be conducted annually by the Company to ensure continued eligibility. Lifeline customers have the responsibility to notify the Telephone Company within thirty (30) days of a change in eligibility status if they no longer qualify for Lifeline Service.

(C)

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**DIRECTORY LISTINGS (cont'd)**

**L. Lifeline**

**2. Regulations (cont'd)**  
c. (Cont'd)

Pennsylvania Department of Human Services (DHS) Programs:  
Supplemental Security Income (SSI)  
Medicaid  
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) (f/k/a Food Stamps)

Additional Eligible Programs (Federal)  
Federal Public Housing  
Veteran's Pension or Survivor's Pension Benefit

d. Lifeline Service will be provided to a customer only so long as such customer continues to meet the participation and certification guidelines in c. above. At the time of initial establishment of Lifeline Service, the customer agrees to have his or her eligibility recertified annually by the Company. When the Company is notified by the customer or determines through recertification that the Lifeline Service customer is no longer a participant in the DHS programs in c. above or otherwise low- income eligible, the customer will be notified (by telephone or letter) that the Lifeline Service rate is no longer applicable. Within the stated customer notification period (60 days from the date of the notification), the customer can contact the Company to negotiate new Dial Tone Service arrangements at applicable tariff rates (no connection charges will apply for existing services or options retained). If the customer does not contact the Company by the end of the notification period, the Lifeline Service will be changed to applicable Exchange Area Dial Tone Line service at existing tariff rates (no connection charges will apply to existing services or options retained).

e. A Lifeline Service customer may not subscribe to any other type of residence Local Service at the same or other premises. Lifeline Service will not be provided via Foreign Exchange or Foreign Central Office Service arrangements.

f. Only services listed in b. above will be provided to Lifeline customers.

g. Customer requested temporary suspension of Lifeline Service is not permitted.

h. Lifeline Service does not apply to applicants who are full time students living in university or college controlled housing.

i. Lifeline customers are subject to all Residence service regulations in this and other tariffs of the Company.

**DIRECTORY LISTINGS (cont'd)**

**L. Lifeline**

**2. Regulations (cont'd)**

c. (Cont'd)

j. Residence Lifeline Service cannot be resold by the Lifeline customer or the Lifeline customer's agent(s).

k. All outstanding charges, account balances and service restrictions apply to existing customers who qualify for Lifeline Service. Service restrictions will remain until the arrearage(s) have been paid in full.

l. Any Lifeline Service customer who has a past due balance of Toll Charges will be treated with the appropriate Chapter 64 regulations. The Residence Toll Restoral Charge applies to Lifeline Customers who are suspended for non-payment and who subsequently pay their outstanding toll charges and request toll restoral. If a Lifeline customer is toll restricted for a second occurrence the Company may, at its discretion, place the Lifeline customer on permanent toll restriction.

m. Toll-Blocking and Toll-Control services will be provided at no charge to Lifeline Service subscribers, to the extent that they are offered.

**3. Rates**

a. The discount on the monthly rate for qualified Lifeline customers shall be \$9.25 for broadband service bundled with Local Service or \$7.25 for Local Service, discounts cannot be combined. Credits are applied to the customer's Local Service or broadband service. At no time shall the total Lifeline credit exceed the sum of the Local Service rate or any broadband service charge. <sup>(1)</sup>

b. Lifeline Service is subject to all applicable state, local and federal taxes, and surcharges, and to all applicable tariff rates, charges, surcharges and regulations

**NOTE:**

(1) See FCC Public Notice released May 1, 2012, In re: *Lifeline and Link Up Reform and Modernization et al.*, Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, WC Docket Nos. 11-42 et al., CC Docket No. 96-45, FCC 12-11 (rel. Feb. 6, 2012).

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