

**PENNSYLVANIA
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
Harrisburg, PA 17120**

Public Meeting held June 18, 2026

Commissioners Present:

Stephen M. DeFrank, Chairman
Kimberly Barrow, Vice Chair
Kathryn L. Zerfuss
John F. Coleman, Jr.
Ralph V. Yanora

Consolidated Communications of Pennsylvania Company,
LLC d/b/a Consolidated Communications – CC d/b/a Fidium
2026 Annual Price Stability Index / Service Price Index Filing

R-2026-3062084

Consolidated Communications of Pennsylvania Company,
LLC d/b/a Consolidated Communications – CC d/b/a Fidium
Supplement No. 239 to Tariff - Telephone PA P.U.C. No. 11

Consolidated Communications of Pennsylvania Company,
LLC d/b/a Consolidated Communications – CC d/b/a Fidium
(Bentleyville) Supplement No. 133 to Tariff - Telephone PA
P.U.C. No. 6

Consolidated Communications of Pennsylvania Company,
LLC d/b/a Consolidated Communications – CC d/b/a Fidium
(Marianna and Scenery Hill) Supplement No. 150 to Tariff -
Telephone PA P.U.C. No. 6

Consolidated Communications of Pennsylvania Company,
LLC d/b/a Consolidated Communications – CC d/b/a Fidium
Second Amended Alternative Regulation and Network
Modernization Plan

P-2021-3027005

ORDER

BY THE COMMISSION:

I. BACKGROUND

Before us for disposition is Consolidated Communications of Pennsylvania Company, LLC's ("Consolidated" or "Company") 2026 Price Stability Index (PSI)/Service Price Index (SPI) Report and accompanying Supplement No. 239 to Tariff - Telephone PA P.U.C. No. 11 for Consolidated Communications of Pennsylvania Company, LLC d/b/a Consolidated Communications – CC d/b/a Fidium (Consolidated legacy service territory), Supplement No. 133 to Tariff - Telephone PA P.U.C. No. 6 Consolidated Communications of Pennsylvania Company, LLC d/b/a Consolidated Communications – CC d/b/a Fidium (Consolidated Bentleyville), and Supplement No. 150 to Tariff - Telephone PA P.U.C. No. 6 Consolidated Communications of Pennsylvania Company, LLC d/b/a Consolidated Communications – CC d/b/a Fidium (Consolidated Marianna and Scenery Hill).¹ The Company's annual PSI/SPI Report was filed under the provisions of Act 183 of 2004, P.L. 1398 (66 Pa. C.S. §§ 3011-3019) (Chapter 30) and pursuant to the Company's Second Amended Alternative Regulation and Network Modernization Plan (Amended Chapter 30 Plan) that this Commission approved at Docket Number P-2021-3027005.²

The Company possesses the statutory right under 66 Pa. C.S. § 3015(a)(1)(iii) and its approved Amended Chapter 30 Plan to seek and obtain an automatic revenue and rate increase as contemplated by Chapter 30. Under the Company's Price Stability Plan ("PSP" or "Plan"), included within the Company's Amended Chapter 30 Plan, the PSI calculates the allowable change in noncompetitive rates based, in part, on the annual change in the Gross Domestic Product Price Index (GDP-PI). The SPI tracks the prior rate changes for noncompetitive services related to the PSI. The PSP also contains

¹ The Company filed revised pages to Supplement No. 150 to Tariff - Telephone PA P.U.C. No. 6 and Supplement No. 133 to Tariff - Telephone PA P.U.C. No. 6 on June 5, 2026 and June 8, 2026, respectively. The Order refers to these revised filings, and these filings were used for the calculations and rate increases.

²*Petition of Consolidated Communications of Pennsylvania, LLC to Amend its Chapter 30 Alternative Regulation Plan*, Docket No. P-2021-3027005 (Order entered August 26, 2021).

special provisions for protected services and addresses revenue neutral rate adjustments for noncompetitive services. The PSP is a complete substitution of the rate base/rate of return regulation. Further, the Company's Amended Chapter 30 Plan acknowledges that nothing in its Plan shall be construed to limit the requirement under 66 Pa. C.S. § 1301 that rates shall be just and reasonable.

II. COMPANY'S FILING

Pursuant to the Company's Amended Chapter 30 Plan, Advance Notice was issued on April 14, 2026, informing the Commission of the forthcoming filing. On April 30, 2026, the Company filed its annual PSI/SPI Report. On May 15, 2026, the Company filed the necessary tariff supplements for the corresponding rate increases. The Company is reminded that tariff supplements are required to be filed concurrently with the initial filing.

The Company calculated the change in 2024 and 2025 third-quarter GDP-PI that equates to a 2.986% increase in the PSI. When applied to the combined PSI of 1.6107, this produces a new PSI of 1.6586. Applying this change to current noncompetitive revenues of \$5,066,381 yields a 2026 maximum allowed noncompetitive revenue increase of \$150,805.

In its filing, the Company proposes to implement a total of \$197,816 in actual rate increases. The SPI indicates the cumulative price changes from current and prior years and tracks the actual total price changes for noncompetitive services. Applied to the combined SPI of 1.2219, the Company's proposed rate changes produce a new SPI of 1.2696. We note that the company used a starting point of 1.2219, which differs from the 2025 PSI/SPI Report Order of 1.2222, but note that it does not materially affect the result.³

³ The Company amended the 2025 PSI/SPI Report, however, the amended filing did not contain calculations or adjustments to Consolidated's banked revenues or SPI. Therefore, the 2025 PSI/SPI Order contained Staff adjustments to the banked revenues and SPI based upon the Company's initial filing.

As noted in more detail in the following tables, in its 2026 filing, the Company proposes to increase business and residential access line rates, various calling features and bundles across all service areas. The rate increase for all these services is \$3.50. The Company's proposed rate increases will be implemented through Supplement No. 239 to Tariff - Telephone PA P.U.C. No. 11 Effective August 1, 2026, Supplement No. 133 to Tariff - Telephone PA P.U.C. No. 6 Effective August 7, 2026, and Supplement No. 150 to Tariff - Telephone PA P.U.C. No. 6 Effective August 5, 2026.⁴

Consolidated Communications of Pennsylvania, LLC			
<u>Consolidated Legacy Territory- Service</u>	<u>Current Rate</u>	<u>Proposed Rate</u>	<u>Rate Increase</u>
Residential Access Line – Group A	\$26.14	\$29.64	\$3.50
Residential Access Line – Group B	\$27.74	\$31.24	\$3.50
Residential Access Line – Group C	\$29.29	\$32.79	\$3.50
Residential Access Line – Group D	\$30.84	\$34.34	\$3.50
Residential Access Line – Group E	\$32.39	\$35.89	\$3.50
Business Access Line – Group C	\$34.44	\$37.94	\$3.50
Business Access Line – Group D	\$38.74	\$42.24	\$3.50
Business Access Line – Group C- Payphone	\$34.44	\$37.94	\$3.50
Business Access Line – Group D - Payphone	\$38.74	\$42.24	\$3.50
<u>Bentleyville Territory- Service</u>	<u>Current Rate</u>	<u>Proposed Rate</u>	<u>Rate Increase</u>
Residential Access Line	\$23.95	\$27.45	\$3.50
Business Access Line	\$26.65	\$30.15	\$3.50
<u>Business Bundles</u>	<u>Current Rate</u>	<u>Proposed Rate</u>	<u>Rate Impact</u>
Basic Unlimited Package 1 year term	\$31.65	\$35.15	\$3.50
Basic Unlimited Package 2 year term	\$28.65	\$32.15	\$3.50
Basic Unlimited Package 3 year term	\$20.65	\$24.15	\$3.50
Expansion Line Month to Month Bundle	\$31.65	\$35.15	\$3.50
Expansion Line 1 year term	\$31.65	\$35.15	\$3.50
Expansion Line 2 year term	\$28.65	\$32.15	\$3.50
Expansion Line 3 year term	\$20.65	\$24.15	\$3.50
Small Business Bundle with HSI (MTM)	\$109.15	\$112.65	\$3.50
Small Business Bundle with HSI 1 year term	\$102.95	\$106.45	\$3.50
Small Business Bundle with HSI 2 year term	\$97.95	\$101.45	\$3.50
Small Business Bundle with HSI 3 year term	\$92.95	\$96.45	\$3.50
Small Business Bundle with calling features and HSI (MTM)	\$114.15	\$117.65	\$3.50

⁴ The rates shown in this table use the revised tariff pages for Consolidated Bentleyville and Consolidated Marianna and Scenery Hill.

Small Business Bundle with calling features and HSI 1 Year term	\$107.95	\$111.45	\$3.50
Small Business Bundle with calling features and HSI 2 Year term	\$102.95	\$106.45	\$3.50
Small Business Bundle with calling features and HSI 3 Year term	\$97.95	\$101.45	\$3.50
<u>Marianna and Scenery Hill Territory- Service</u>	<u>Current Rate</u>	<u>Proposed Rate</u>	<u>Rate Increase</u>
Residential Access Line	\$26.00	\$29.50	\$3.50
Business Access Line	\$31.20	\$34.70	\$3.50
<u>Business Bundles</u>	<u>Current Rate</u>	<u>Proposed Rate</u>	<u>Rate Impact</u>
Basic Unlimited Package 1 year term	\$36.20	\$39.70	\$3.50
Basic Unlimited Package 2 year term	\$33.20	\$36.70	\$3.50
Basic Unlimited Package 3 year term	\$25.20	\$28.70	\$3.50
Expansion Line Month to Month Bundle	\$36.20	\$39.70	\$3.50
Expansion Line 1 year term	\$36.20	\$39.70	\$3.50
Expansion Line 2 year term	\$33.20	\$36.70	\$3.50
Expansion Line 3 year term	\$25.20	\$28.70	\$3.50

Consistent with the Commission-approved Protective Order entered June 27, 2008, at Docket No. P-2008-2041508 and pursuant to 52 Pa. Code § 5.365, the Company has marked specific information in its PSI/SPI Report as proprietary.

On April 30, 2026, the Company served a copy of its PSI/SPI Report on the Office of Small Business Advocate (OSBA), the Office of Consumer Advocate (OCA), and the Commission's Bureau of Investigation and Enforcement. On May 5, 2026, the OCA filed a Notice of Intervention. Subsequently, on May 19, 2026, the OSBA filed a Notice of Intervention.

III. DISCUSSION

1. Plan Provisions

Part 3.A.8 - 10 of the Company's Amended Chapter 30 Plan states the following regarding its annual PSI/SPI filings:

On or before the anniversary date of the Plan (or the closest Commission working day thereafter) and annually thereafter, the Company

shall file with the Commission a PSI and SPI Report. Each such annual filing may be accompanied by tariffs to implement any required or authorized rate changes.... Any and all interventions or complaints shall be due within fifteen (15) days after the initial filing.... A Commission Order must be entered within sixty (60) days of the filing (or such other time as may be otherwise provided herein), otherwise the tariff(s) shall become effective as filed.... Such rates shall be deemed Commission-made.

Further, part 3.A.7 of the Company's Amended Chapter 30 plan contains the following provision regarding banking:

If the Company elects not to increase its rates by the full amount allowed under the terms of the Plan, including exogenous events in a given year, the Company may increase its rates in future years to reflect the full amount of the allowable increase previously deferred. The Company may bank increases for a period not to exceed four (4) consecutive years. The Company may not bank decreases, but may offset increases with decreases for banking purposes. The Company will not, however, attempt to recover any revenues foregone as a result of deferring the increase in prices.

2. PSI/SPI Calculations

The Company's annual PSI/SPI filing submissions under Chapter 30 laws must conform to its Commission-approved Amended Chapter 30 Plan. Our review of the calculations submitted by Consolidated indicates that they are procedurally consistent with the terms of the Company's PSP formula approved in its Amended Chapter 30 Plan.

3. Banked Revenues

The banking methods the Company uses in its 2026 PSI/SPI Report are also procedurally consistent with its Amended Chapter 30 Plan. The Company will bank the entire \$150,805 available in its current filing for future use.

The Company's banked revenue was reduced by \$176,729 as part of the Company's 2025 State Tax Adjustment Surcharge (STAS) filing.⁵ The Company's proposed rate increases reduced the bank by \$197,816.

⁵ See Docket No. R-2025-3057080.

Previously, the Company’s combined cumulative banked revenues totaled \$659,830. After the reduction for the 2025 STAS recalculation, the reduction for the proposed rate increases, and the addition of the 2026 banked revenue amount, the Company has a new cumulative banked revenue amount of \$436,089. We note that in accordance with the Company’s Amended Chapter 30 Plan, deferred increases shall carry no interest. The following table shows the breakdown of the Company’s cumulative bank:

Consolidated Communications of Pennsylvania Company, LLC Banking Summary				
Year of Bank	Amount in Bank	Withdrawn with this Filing	Retired Bank	Remaining Banked Amount
2023	\$277,477	\$277,477	\$0	\$0
2024	\$242,359	\$97,069	\$0	\$145,290
2025	\$139,994	\$0	\$0	\$139,994
2026	\$150,805	\$0	\$0	\$150,805
Totals	\$810,635.00	\$374,546.00	\$ 0.00	\$436,089.00

IV. CONCLUSION

Our review of the Company’s 2026 PSI/SPI Report indicates the PSI/SPI calculations, the banked revenue calculations, and the proposed rate increases, are procedurally consistent with the terms of its Amended Chapter 30 Plan. Accordingly, we shall accept the PSI/SPI Report as being procedurally consistent with the terms of their Commission-approved Amended Chapter 30 Plan; **THEREFORE,**

IT IS ORDERED:

1. That Consolidated Communications of Pennsylvania Company, LLC d/b/a Consolidated Communications – CC d/b/a Fidium 2026 PSI/SPI Report, is accepted as being procedurally consistent with its Commission-approved Amended Chapter 30 Plan.

2. That Consolidated Communications of Pennsylvania Company, LLC d/b/a Consolidated Communications – CC d/b/a Fidium Supplement No. 239 to Tariff - Telephone PA P.U.C. No. 11 shall be permitted to go into effect on August 1, 2026.

3. That Consolidated Communications of Pennsylvania Company, LLC d/b/a Consolidated Communications – CC d/b/a Fidium (Bentleyville) Supplement No. 133 as revised to Tariff - Telephone PA P.U.C. No. 6 shall be permitted to go into effect on August 7, 2026.

4. That Consolidated Communications of Pennsylvania Company, LLC d/b/a Consolidated Communications – CC d/b/a Fidium (Marianna and Scenery Hill) Supplement No. 150 as revised to Tariff - Telephone PA P.U.C. No. 6 shall be permitted to go into effect on August 5, 2026.

5. That a copy of this Order be served on Consolidated Communications of Pennsylvania Company, LLC d/b/a Consolidated Communications – CC d/b/a Fidium, the Office of Consumer Advocate, the Office of Small Business Advocate, and the Bureau of Investigation and Enforcement.

6. That the case be marked closed.

BY THE COMMISSION,



Matthew L. Homsher
Secretary

(SEAL)

ORDER ADOPTED: June 18, 2026

ORDER ENTERED: June 18, 2026