RINGGOLD TELEPHONE COMPANY
RESPONSE TO
GEORGIA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION STAFF'S
FIRST SET OF DATA REQUESTS TO
COMPANY

Docket No. 32235-U
February 10, 2024

STF-1-1 Please provide an organizational chart on a .pdf file for the Company in effect during the test year (i.e. twelve months ending June 30, 2023) that identifies all subsidiaries, affiliates, partnerships, and partial ownership interests in entities.

Response: One (1) page of Trade Secret information have been filed by Ringgold Telephone Company, Inc. in response to STF-1-1 of the Staff's First Set of Data Requests in Docket No. 32235-U.

Respondent: Joan Albert, Chief Financial Officer, Ringgold Telephone Company

RINGGOLD TELEPHONE COMPANY
RESPONSE TO
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February 10, 2024

STF-1-2 Please provide an electronic copy of the general ledger (Excel format preferred) of all capital and expensed invoices made in the test year ending 6/30/2023. Should we require invoice documentation, we will request copies via your company email of selected invoices to be sent to us via a scanned document or regular mail.

Response: Four hundred thirty three (433) pages of Trade Secret information have been filed by Ringgold Telephone Company, Inc. in response to STF-1-2 of the Staff's First Set of Data Requests in Docket No. 32235-U.

Respondent: Joan Albert, Chief Financial Officer, Ringgold Telephone Company

RINGGOLD TELEPHONE COMPANY
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February 10, 2024

STF-1-3 Please provide copies in Excel format of the general ledger supporting schedules used to populate the Form M.

Response: Twelve (12) pages of Trade Secret information have been filed by Ringgold Telephone Company, Inc. in response to STF-1-3 of the Staff's First Set of Data Requests in Docket No. 32235-U.

Respondent: Joan Albert, Chief Financial Officer, Ringgold Telephone Company

RINGGOLD TELEPHONE COMPANY
RESPONSE TO
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February 10, 2024

STF-1-4 Please provide in a Word document file a description of each product and/ or service offered by each affiliate and each product and/or service offered to each affiliate by the telephone company. If applicable, please provide an accounting schedule showing the amounts paid to and received from the parent company and to each affiliate for the twelve months ending June 30, 2023 in an Excel spreadsheet file.

Response: One hundred and sixteen (116) pages of Trade Secret information have been filed by Ringgold Telephone Company, Inc. in response to STF-1-4 of the Staff's First Set of Data Requests in Docket No. 32235-U.

Respondent: Joan Albert, Chief Financial Officer, Ringgold Telephone Company

RINGGOLD TELEPHONE COMPANY
RESPONSE TO
GEORGIA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION STAFF'S
FIRST SET OF DATA REQUESTS TO PUBLIC SERVICE TELEPHONE COMPANY
DOCKET NO. 32235

FEBRUARY 9, 2024

STF-1-5 Please provide the amount of federal universal service support received during the test year by the following form of recovery for each of the years 2021, 2022 and 2023 stated separately and show where the amount is included in the UAF Application.

(i) High Cost Loop Support ("HCLS") or High Cost Model Support ("HCMS");
(ii) Interstate Common Line Support ("ICLS") or Interstate Access Support ("IAS");
(iii) Local Switching Support ("LSS");
(iv) Safety Net Additive Support ("SNA");
(v) Safety Valve Support ("SVS");
(vi) Lifeline program;
(vii) Link-Up program; and
(viii) Alternative Connect America Cost Model ("ACAM")

Response:

(i) High Cost Loop Support ("HCLS") or High Cost Model Support ("HCMS"): TY2021: $668,927; TY2022: $549,635; TY2023: $387,546
(ii) Interstate Common Line Support ("ICLS") or Interstate Access Support ("IAS"): TY2021: $1,800,384; TY2022: $1,685,384; TY2023: $1,823,351
(iii) Local Switching Support ("LSS"): TY2021: $0; TY2022: $0; TY2023: $0
(iv) Safety Net Additive Support ("SNA"): TY2021: $0; TY2022: $0; TY2023 $0
(v) Safety Valve Support ("SVS"): TY2021: $0; TY2022: $0; TY2023: $0
(vi) Lifeline program: TY2021: $1,756; TY2022: $1,904 TY2023: $(1,187)
(vii) Link-Up program: TY2021: $0; TY2022: $0; TY2023: $0
(viii) Alternative Connect America Cost Model ("ACAM"): TY2021 $0; TY2022: $0; TY2023: $0

The figures for HCL and SNA can be found in the UAF filing in Operating Revenues, Line 4 Federal USF High Cost Loop. CAF BLS and ICLS are included in Company Account 5082, UAF Filing, Operating Revenues, Line 2 Interstate Access Revenue. Lifeline / Linkup are included in Company Account 5081, UAF Filing, Operating Revenues, Line 2 Interstate Access Revenue.

Respondent: Joan Albert, CFO, Ringgold Telephone Company

RINGGOLD TELEPHONE COMPANY
RESPONSE TO
GEORGIA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION STAFF'S
FIRST SET OF DATA REQUESTS TO
COMPANY

Docket No. 32235-U
February 10, 2024

STF-1-6 Please provide UAF Company work papers that reconcile USAC reported disbursements to amounts shown in the UAF Application.

Response: Please see the response to STF 1-5.

Respondent: Beth Goddard, Senior Consultant, Revenue Requirements, John Staurulakis, Inc.

RINGGOLD TELEPHONE COMPANY
RESPONSE TO
GEORGIA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION STAFF'S
FIRST SET OF DATA REQUESTS TO RINGGOLD TELEPHONE COMPANY
DOCKET NO. 32235

FEBRUARY 9, 2024

STF-1-7 Please provide supporting journal entries that are tied back to supporting work papers showing the actual development of adjustment amounts.

Response: Twenty-eight (28) pages of Trade Secret information have been filed by Ringgold Telephone Company, Inc. in response to STF-1-7 of the Staff's First Set of Data Requests in Docket No. 32235-U.

Respondent: Joan Albert, Chief Financial Officer, Ringgold Telephone Company

RINGGOLD TELEPHONE COMPANY
RESPONSE TO
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STF-1-8 Please provide a schedule listing the executives of the regulated company by name, title, responsibility and their respective regulated annual salary, bonuses and benefits for the 12 months ending 6/30/2023 that were included in the UAF Application.

Response: Six (6) pages of Trade Secret information have been filed by Ringgold Telephone Company, Inc. in response to STF-1-8 of the Staff's First Set of Data Requests in Docket No. 32235-U.

Respondent: Joan Albert, Chief Financial Officer, Ringgold Telephone Company

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STF-1-9 Please provide the summary of accounts where executive compensation has been directly assigned, allocated or indirectly allocated.

Response: One (1) page of Trade Secret information has been filed by Ringgold Telephone Company, Inc. in response to STF-1-9 of the Staff's First Set of Data Requests in Docket No. 32235-U.

Respondent: Joan Albert, Chief Financial Officer, Ringgold Telephone Company

RINGGOLD TELEPHONE COMPANY
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STF-1-10 Please provide on a .pdf file or printed report of the listing of buildings and automobiles with typical CPR data such as date of purchase, cost, description and so on. Please email that file to vic@hurlbertcpa.com.

Response: The Continuing Property Record as of 6/30/2023 for all Plant in Service will be provided during the auditor's on-site visit.

Respondent: Joan Albert, Chief Financial Officer, Ringgold Telephone Company

RINGGOLD TELEPHONE COMPANY
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STF-1-11 If the telephone company is a recipient of federal or state broadband grants, please identify if the grants were to be used as revenue, expense offsets, or for capital acquisitions. To the extent such grants are/were used for capital acquisition, please provide support in financial records that the purchased assets are excluded from the rate base for UAF purposes.

Response: Not applicable.

Respondent: Joan Albert, Chief Financial Officer, Ringgold Telephone Company

RINGGOLD TELEPHONE COMPANY
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STF-1-12 Please provide a detailed listing of all CWIP as of 6/30/2023.

Response: Three (3) pages of Trade Secret information have been filed by Ringgold Telephone Company, Inc. in response to STF-1-12 of the Staff's First Set of Data Requests in Docket No. 32235-U.

Respondent: Joan Albert, Chief Financial Officer, Ringgold Telephone Company

RINGGOLD TELEPHONE COMPANY
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STF-1-13 Please provide a detailed listing of each retirement of plant in service made during the test year ending 6/30/2023 showing the amount retired.

Response: Nineteen (19) pages of Trade Secret information have been filed by Ringgold Telephone Company, Inc. in response to STF-1-13 of the Staff's First Set of Data Requests in Docket No. 32235-U.

Respondent: Joan Albert, Chief Financial Officer, Ringgold Telephone Company

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STF-1-14 Please provide an accounting schedule in Excel format showing the plant account investment account balance**,** depreciation rate, depreciation expense, and accumulated depreciation by account and demonstrate how the total amount of depreciation expense and accumulated depreciation agrees with the UAF Application for the year ending 6/30/2023.

Response:

Fourteen (14) pages of Trade Secret information have been filed by Ringgold Telephone Company, Inc. in response to STF-1-14 of the Staff's First Set of Data Requests in Docket No. 32235-U.

Respondent: Joan Albert, Chief Financial Officer, Ringgold Telephone Company

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STF-1-15 If applicable, please provide a copy of the FCC Part 64 reports that were used as a basis to adjust rate base or revenue requirement as shown in the UAF model.

Response: Information was included in UAF application filed with the Commission by Ringgold Telephone Company on December 15, 2023.

Respondent: Joan Albert, Chief Financial Officer, Ringgold Telephone Company

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STF-1-16 Please provide the spreadsheet(s) used for direct assignments and/or allocations of costs. Please provide a copy of the relevant cost allocation manual.

Response: Information was included in UAF application filed with Commission by Ringgold Telephone Company on December 15, 2023.

Respondent: Joan Albert, Chief Financial Officer, Ringgold Telephone Company

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STF-1-17 Please provide the outside auditor report for the fiscal year ending 2022 and 2023. If the 2023 audit report is not available, please provide the un-audited financial statements for the fiscal year ending 2023.

Response: The 2022 audit report was included in UAF application filed with Commission by Ringgold Telephone Company on December 15, 2022.

The 2023 audit report will be completed in the March 2024 timeframe. The audit report will be provided as soon as it is available.

Respondent: Joan Albert, Chief Financial Officer, Ringgold Telephone Company

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STF-1-18 Please specify how any long-term debt interest costs that were booked as AFUDC (Allowance for Funds Used During Construction) were treated (e.g., as current year income or as a reduction to interest rates). Please provide documentation sufficient to verify that such costs were treated in the specified manner.

Response: Not applicable.

Respondent: Joan Albert, Chief Financial Officer, Ringgold Telephone Company

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STF-1-19 Please provide documentation sufficient to verify that any patronage dividends credited (not necessarily received in cash) from long term lenders are treated as a reduction to the cost of debt.

Response: Please see the Net Income Dev. Tab in the Earnings Report included in UAF application filed with Commission by Ringgold Telephone Company on December 15, 2023.

Respondent: Joan Albert, Chief Financial Officer, Ringgold Telephone Company

RINGGOLD TELEPHONE COMPANY
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STF 1-20 For ACAM UAF companies only, please provide the company spreadsheet(s) depicting calculated ACAM amounts, consultant prepared adjustments, and provide detailed support of the ACAM adjustments in the UAF application model.

Response: Not applicable.

Respondent: Joan Albert, Chief Financial Officer, Ringgold Telephone Company

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STF 1-21 For Tier II companies, please provide the schedule and/or work paper showing the rate of return on rate base to be limited to the lesser of 8.0% or the level computed based on a 9.25% return on equity, using the applicant's actual cost of debt and the applicant's actual debt/equity structure.

Response: Please see the Earnings Report included in the UAF application filed with the Commission by Ringgold Telephone Company on December 15, 2023.

Ringgold's actual rate of return on rate base is compared to the 8% and the lesser applied in the ROE-CALC tab.

The authorized return on equity of 9.25% is applied in the Net Income Dev. Tab.

Respondent: Joan Albert, Chief Financial Officer, Ringgold Telephone Company

RINGGOLD TELEPHONE COMPANY
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STF 1-22 Please provide a schedule as to how income taxes were computed.

Response: Please see the Net Income Dev. tab of the Earnings Report included in the UAF application filed with the Commission by Ringgold Telephone Company on December 15, 2023.

Respondent: Joan Albert, Chief Financial Officer, Ringgold Telephone Company

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STF 1-23 By May 3, 2024, please provide the required Management Representations letter to Hurlbert CPA LLC shown below.

Response: Ringgold Telephone Company will have the required Management Letter prepared and signed by the date requested by the Auditor.

Respondent: Joan Albert, Chief Financial Officer, Ringgold Telephone Company

THIS INFORMATION HAS BEEN FILED WITH THE GEORGIA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION AS A TRADE SECRET UNDER SECTION 515-3-1-11

Alice Evitt Bandy
President

Celeste Bandy Weaver
Executive
Vice President

May 3, 2024

Hurlbert CPA, LLC
PO Box 615
Liberty, MO 64069

In connection with your engagement to apply agreed-upon procedures to the UAF Application as of 6/30/2023, we confirm, to the best of our knowledge and belief, the following representations made to you during your engagement.

1. We are responsible for the UAF Application.
2. As of 6/30/2023, the UAF Application is presented in accordance with Georgia PSC Regulations.
3. The Georgia Public Service Commission is responsible for selecting the criteria. We are responsible for determining that such criteria are appropriate for our purposes.
4. We have disclosed to you all known matters contradicting the UAF Application.
5. We have disclosed to you any communications from regulatory agencies, internal auditors, other independent practitioners or consultants, and others affecting the UAF Application, including communications received between 7/1/2023 and 5/3/2024.
6. We have provided you with access to all records that we believe are relevant to UAF Application and the agreed-upon procedures.
7. We have disclosed to you all data requested and pertinent to the UAF Application.
8. We have responded fully to all inquiries made to us by you during the engagement.
9. No events have occurred subsequent to 5/3/2024 that would require adjustment to or modification of the UAF Application.

Signature by Executive:

