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

Docket No. 32235-U
February 9, 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: Progressive Rural Telephone Cooperative is a member owned cooperative business, formed for the purpose of providing telecommunication services to rural areas of Laurens, Dodge, Bleckley, Wilkinson and Wheeler counties. The cooperative has an 8 member board of directors, who are responsible for establishing policies for accomplishing the cooperative's business objectives. These policies are carried out by the general manager, who directs a staff of 26 employees who are all employed by the cooperative.

Progressive Holding Company is a wholly owned subsidiary of Progressive Rural Telephone Cooperative; the holding company has no employees and was formed to provide certain telecommunications services and facilities outside the scope of the cooperative business as well as investing in entities that provide telecommunication services.

Progressive Rural Long Distance was formed as a wholly owned subsidiary of Progressive Holding Company. PRLD provides retail long distance service to cooperative members under certificate granted by the Georgia Public Service Commission. PRLD has no employee force and is a reseller of long-distance service.

Progressive Cooperative Communications Services provides services outside of Progressive Rural Telephone Cooperative's service area.

Respondent: Ron Chambers, General Manager, Progressive Rural Telephone Cooperative

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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: One hundred forty-two (142) pages of Trade Secret information have been filed electronically by Progressive Rural Telephone Cooperative in response to STF-1-2 of the Staff's First Set of Data Requests in Docket No. 32235-U.

Respondent: Ron Chambers, General Manager, Progressive Rural Telephone Cooperative

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

Response: Sixteen (16) pages of Trade Secret information have been filed by Progressive Rural Telephone Cooperative in response to STF-1-3 of the Staff's First Set of Data Requests in Docket No. 32235-U.

Respondent: Ron Chambers, General Manager, Progressive Rural Telephone Cooperative

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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: The only services offered by any of the affiliate companies is long distance service, which is provided through our Progressive Rural Long Distance affiliate company**.**

Thirty two (32) pages of Trade Secret information have been filed by Progressive Rural Telephone Cooperative in response to STF-1-4 of the Staff's First Set of Data Requests in Docket No. 32235-U.

Respondent: Ron Chambers, General Manager, Progressive Rural Telephone Cooperative

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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 calendar 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; and
(vii) Link-Up program.
(viii) Alternative Connect America Cost Model ("ACAM")

Response: (i) High-Cost Loop Support ("HCLS") or High-Cost Model Support ("HCMS"):
TY2021: $0
TY2022: $0
TY2023: $0

(ii) Interstate Common Line Support ("ICLS") or Interstate Access Support ("IAS"):
TY2021: -$121,536
TY2022: $400
TY2023: $0

(iii) Local Switching Support ("LSS"):
TY2021: $0
TY2022: $0
TY2023:

(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: $0
TY2022: $0
TY2023: $0

(vii) Link-Up program:
TY2021: $0
TY2022: $0
TY2023: $0

(ix) A-CAM
TY2021: $2,036,056
TY2022: $1,985,471
TY2023: $2,086,641

The figures for HCL and SNA can be found in the UAF filing in Operating Revenues, Line 4 Federal USF High-Cost Loop. ICLS and LSS 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: Ron Chambers, General Manager, Progressive Rural Telephone Cooperative

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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: Ron Chambers, General Manager, Progressive Rural Telephone Cooperative

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

Response: Two (2) pages of Trade Secret information have been filed by Progressive Rural Telephone Cooperative in response to STF-1-7 of the Staff's First Set of Data Requests in Docket No. 32235-U.

Respondent: Ron Chambers, General Manager, Progressive Rural Telephone Cooperative

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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: Ron Chambers is the General Manager & CEO for Progressive Rural Telephone. The General Manager & CEO's duties are to oversee all operations of Progressive Rural Telephone Cooperative. His salary & benefits are provided in the answer to STF1-9, as he is the only executive whose salary and benefits are included in Account 6711.1.

One (1) page of Trade Secret information has been filed by Progressive Rural Telephone Cooperative in response to STF-1-7 of the Staff's First Set of Data Requests in Docket No. 32235-U.

Respondent: Ron Chambers, General Manager, Progressive Rural Telephone Cooperative

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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: Five (5) pages of Trade Secret information have been filed by Progressive Rural Telephone Cooperative in response to STF-1-9 of the Staff's First Set of Data Requests in Docket No. 32235-U.

Respondent: Ron Chambers, General Manager, Progressive Rural Telephone Cooperative

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

Respondent: Ron Chambers, General Manager, Progressive Rural Telephone Cooperative

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STF-1-11 If 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: Ron Chambers, General Manager, Progressive Rural Telephone Cooperative

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

Response: Thirteen (13) pages of Trade Secret information have been filed by Progressive Rural Telephone Cooperative in response to STF-1-12 of the Staff's First Set of Data Requests in Docket No. 32235-U.

Respondent: Ron Chambers, General Manager, Progressive Rural Telephone Cooperative

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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: Three (3) pages of Trade Secret information have been filed by Progressive Rural Telephone Cooperative in response to STF-1-13 of the Staff's First Set of Data Requests in Docket No. 32235-U.

Respondent: Ron Chambers, General Manager, Progressive Rural Telephone Cooperative

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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: Seven (7) pages of Trade Secret information have been filed by Progressive Rural Telephone Cooperative in response to STF-1-14 of the Staff's First Set of Data Requests in Docket No. 32235-U.

Respondent: Ron Chambers, General Manager, Progressive Rural Telephone Cooperative

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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: Not applicable. Progressive Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc. is an Average Schedule Company.

Respondent: Ron Chambers, General Manager, Progressive Rural Telephone Cooperative

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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: Not applicable. Progressive Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc. is an Average Schedule Company.

Respondent: Ron Chambers, General Manager, Progressive Rural Telephone Cooperative

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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 Progressive Rural Telephone Cooperative on December 15, 2023.

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

Respondent: Ron Chambers, General Manager, Progressive Rural Telephone Cooperative

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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 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: Ron Chambers, General Manager, Progressive Rural Telephone Cooperative

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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: Not applicable.

Respondent: Ron Chambers, General Manager, Progressive Rural Telephone Cooperative

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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: Information included in the Intrastate Adj CAF-ICC Tab of the Earnings Report filed with Commission by Progressive Rural Telephone Cooperative on December 15, 2023.

Respondent: Ron Chambers, General Manager, Progressive Rural Telephone Cooperative

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STF 1-21 For Tier II companies, please provide the schedule 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 Company's actual cost of debt and the Company's actual debt/equity structure.

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

Progressive'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: Ron Chambers, General Manager, Progressive Rural Telephone Cooperative

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

Response: Not applicable.

Respondent: Ron Chambers, General Manager, Progressive Rural Telephone Cooperative

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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: Progressive Rural Telephone Cooperative will have the required Management Letter prepared and signed by the date requested by the Auditor.

Respondent: Ron Chambers, General Manager, Progressive Rural Telephone