



March 18, 2026

Ms. Sallie K. Tanner
Executive Secretary
Georgia Public Service Commission
244 Washington Street, S.W.
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

VIA Electronic Filing System

In Re: Docket No. 32235 – Generic Proceeding to Implement HB 168

Dear Ms. Tanner:

On behalf of Public Service Telephone Company (“Company”), please find enclosed copies of the Company’s response to the Staff’s second Set of Data Requests to Applicants for Disbursements from The Universal Access Fund in Docket No. 32235.

Please note that the responses to STF 2-10 are being filed as a Trade Secret under Section 515-3-1-.11. The request for Trade Secret Treatment under 515-3-1-.11 is attached to this letter.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me directly at 478.847.4111.

Sincerely,

///SIGNED///

James L. Bond
President
Email: jim.bond@publicsvc.com

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BEFORE THE
GEORGIA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
PUBLIC SERVICE'S STATEMENT FOR TRADE SECRET PROTECTION

Public Service Telephone Company ("Public Service") hereby files this Statement for Trade Secret Protection for Public Service's Universal Access Fund, including all associated work papers pursuant to Section 515-3-1-.11 of the Rules of the Georgia Public Service Commission ("PSC"), and states as follows:

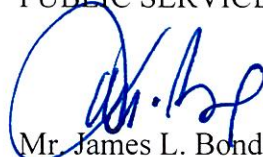
1. Rule 515-3-1-.11 requires that a party claiming that information constitutes a trade secret provide, in writing, that basis of this claim. Rule 515-3-1-.11(c) specifically requires that this statement detail (1) the economic benefit derived from the information not being generally known; (2) the economic benefit to others if disclosure were to occur and (3) the procedures utilized to maintain confidentiality. This statement is submitted pursuant to those requirements. Public Service is submitting this statement in accordance with the Commission's rules requiring submission of cost studies stating expenses and revenues associated with the Universal Access Fund High Cost Applications. The expenses and revenues and other financial information included in these studies are trade secret.
2. The subject trade secret material is the expense and revenue data derived from the conducting cost studies.
3. The release of this expense and revenue information would disadvantage Public Service by providing its competitors an unfair competitive advantage by disclosing data regarding Public Service's customers and finances that is not generally known and would not be readily ascertainable to third parties by any proper means. Public

Service takes all appropriate and legal measures to ensure that such information is disseminated internally only to those with a need to know, and that all public measures are taken to protect the information when it is required to be filed in a public forum.

4. Release of Public Service's proprietary financial information to the general public would provide Public Service's competitors an unfair advantage in a competitive market.

This 18th day of March 2026.

PUBLIC SERVICE TELEPHONE COMPANY



Mr. James L. Bond, President
8 N. Winston Street
Reynolds, Georgia 31076

**PUBLIC SERVICE TELEPHONE COMPANY
RESPONSE TO
GEORGIA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION STAFF'S
SECOND SET OF DATA REQUESTS TO
COMPANY**

DOCKET No. 32235-U
March 18, 2026

STF 2-1 Does the telephone company provide broadband, or is it provided through an affiliate?

Response: Public Service Telephone Company, the telephone company, provides regulated, wholesale broadband internet transmission services to Public Service Data, Inc., an affiliate. Retail broadband internet access is provided to end users by the affiliate.

Respondent: James L. Bond - President, Public Service Telephone Company

**PUBLIC SERVICE TELEPHONE COMPANY
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DOCKET No. 32235-U
March 18, 2026

STF 2-2 How are broadband costs handled?

Response: Costs associated with the regulated, wholesale broadband transmission services are recorded to the telephone company and are assigned to the interstate jurisdiction in the Part 36 cost separations process. Costs associated with retail broadband internet access are assigned to the non-regulated affiliate.

Respondent: James L. Bond - President, Public Service Telephone Company

**PUBLIC SERVICE TELEPHONE COMPANY
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COMPANY**

DOCKET No. 32235-U
March 18, 2026

STF 2-3 Does the telephone company have broadband transmission costs to the internet service provider (“ISP”)?

Response: Yes.

Respondent: James L. Bond - President, Public Service Telephone Company

**PUBLIC SERVICE TELEPHONE COMPANY
RESPONSE TO
GEORGIA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION STAFF'S
SECOND SET OF DATA REQUESTS TO
COMPANY**

DOCKET No. 32235-U
March 18, 2026

STF 2-4 How are broadband transmission costs handled?

Response: Public Service Telephone Company provides transmission facilities to the ISP, and monthly charges are based on the National Exchange Carrier's Association's ("NECA") annual tariff that is filed with the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC"). The revenues are recorded by the telephone company and are directly assigned to the interstate jurisdiction. The costs are recorded by the non-regulated ISP.

Respondent: James L. Bond - President, Public Service Telephone Company

**PUBLIC SERVICE TELEPHONE COMPANY
RESPONSE TO
GEORGIA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION STAFF'S
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COMPANY**

DOCKET No. 32235-U
March 18, 2026

STF 2-5 Does the telephone company provide voice and/or data lines to the ISP?

Response: The telephone company provides data lines to the ISP.

Respondent: James L. Bond - President, Public Service Telephone Company

**PUBLIC SERVICE TELEPHONE COMPANY
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GEORGIA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION STAFF'S
SECOND SET OF DATA REQUESTS TO
COMPANY**

DOCKET No. 32235-U
March 18, 2026

STF 2-6 How are the voice and/or data lines costs to the ISP handled?

Response: Public Service Telephone Company bills its affiliated ISP on a monthly basis, utilizing tariffed rates that NECA files with the FCC. Revenues to the telephone company are directly assigned to the interstate jurisdiction. The costs are recorded as an expense by the non-regulated ISP.

Respondent: James L. Bond - President, Public Service Telephone Company

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DOCKET No. 32235-U
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STF 2-7 Does the telephone company provide consumer broadband-only loop (“CBOL”) lines?

Response: Yes.

Respondent: James L. Bond - President, Public Service Telephone Company

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STF 2-8 How are the CBOL costs handled?

Response: Costs associated with the regulated, wholesale broadband transmission services are recorded to the telephone company and are assigned to the interstate jurisdiction in the Part 36 cost separations process. Costs associated with retail broadband internet access are assigned to the non-regulated affiliate. Additionally, Public Service Telephone Company bills its affiliated ISP on a monthly basis, utilizing tariffed rates that NECA files with the FCC. Revenues to the telephone company are directly assigned to the interstate jurisdiction. The costs are recorded as an expense by the non-regulated ISP.

Respondent: James L. Bond - President, Public Service Telephone Company

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STF 2-9 Is the telephone company an ISP?

Response: No.

Respondent: James L. Bond - President, Public Service Telephone Company

**PUBLIC SERVICE TELEPHONE COMPANY
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DOCKET No. 32235-U
March 18, 2026

STF 2-10 What are the total broadband costs ending 6/30/2025 for the telephone company?

Response: One (1) page of Trade Secret Information has been filed by Public Service Telephone Company in response to STF 2-10 of the Staff's Second Set of Data Requests in Docket 32235-U.

Respondent: James L. Bond - President, Public Service Telephone Company

**PUBLIC SERVICE TELEPHONE COMPANY
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STF 2-11 Of the total broadband costs, how much of the cost is total company, interstate, and intrastate as filed in the UAF application request?

Response: The broadband costs as discussed in the response to STF 2-10 are considered total company costs and are directly assigned to the interstate jurisdiction. No broadband costs are included as intrastate costs in the UAF application request.

Respondent: James L. Bond - President, Public Service Telephone Company