

Decision No. C13-0151

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

DOCKET NO. 98M-236T

IN THE MATTER OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE COLORADO HIGH COST
SUPPORT MECHANISM.

**ORDER DECREASING RATE ELEMENT OF THE
COLORADO HIGH COST SUPPORT MECHANISM**

Mailed Date: February 1, 2013
Adopted Date: January 30, 2013

I. BY THE COMMISSION

A. Statement

1. Under the Colorado High Cost Support Mechanism (CHCSM) Rules at 4 *Code of Colorado Regulations* 723-2-2840, of the Commission's Rules Regulating Telecommunications Providers, Services, and Products, the Administrator shall estimate the total amount of CHCSM support that will be needed for the next quarter and shall determine the quarterly factor.

2. In Decision No. C11-0450, mailed April 29, 2011, the Commission set the Colorado Universal Service Charge at 2.9 percent, effective July 1, 2011. The rate element was increased in order to make future CHCSM distributions from the fund available to eligible providers and establish an appropriate fund balance.

3. Commission Staff estimates the target reserve balance will be sustained if the Colorado Universal Service Charge is set at 2.6 percent for the second quarter of 2013.

4. Now being fully advised and based upon its independent review, the Commission, acting as Administrator, sets the Colorado Universal Service Charge at 2.6 percent, effective

April 1, 2013. The Administrator shall review and re-evaluate the rate element for the Colorado Universal Service Charge each quarter hereafter as required by the CHCSM Rules.

II. ORDER

A. The Commission Orders That:

1. Pursuant to the Commission's Rules Regulating Telecommunications Providers, Services, and Products, 4 *Code of Colorado Regulations* (CCR) 723-2-2846(b)(IV), the Commission, acting as Administrator, has determined that the Colorado Universal Service Charge shall be decreased to 2.6 percent, effective April 1, 2013.

2. Each telecommunications service provider, as a participant in the Colorado High Cost Support Mechanism, shall make changes to its tariff by a compliance advice letter, if necessary, to reflect the current rate element for the Colorado Universal Service Charge. The required advice letter shall **not** be filed in this Docket; rather, the compliance advice letter shall be a new filing containing all of the information required by Rule 1210 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, 4 CCR 723-1. The compliance advice letter shall be filed on not less than one day's notice, citing this Order as authority, to be effective April 1, 2013.

3. Pursuant to Rule 2895 of 4 CCR 723-2, utilities failing to file the required compliance filing could be subject to a fine of up to \$500.00.

4. This Order is effective on its Mailed Date.

**B. ADOPTED IN COMMISSIONERS' WEEKLY MEETING
January 30, 2013.**

(S E A L)



ATTEST: A TRUE COPY

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Doug Dean".

Doug Dean,
Director

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

JOSHUA B. EPEL

JAMES K. TARPEY

PAMELA J. PATTON

Commissioners