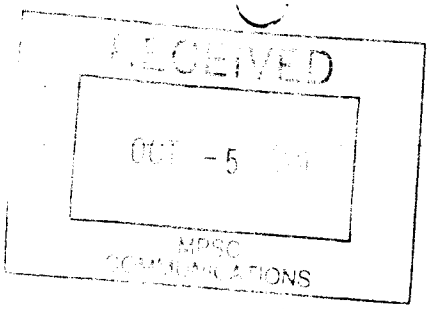
Docket U12077 35



October 5, 1999

To Whom it may Concern -

Please be aware that we are heartily opposed to the proposed rate increase - reference U12077.

We live in a very rural area & all of our doctors, dentists, places of employment, and even our school district are outside of our assigned telephone exchange.

Even though our address is Oscoda, it is still considered long distance for us to dial Oscoda.

Without the unlimited adjacent program, our phone bills would be astronomical. Please consider our plight. We may have to consider getting rid of our phone service all together.

Most Sincerely -

Michael T. Rhoads
Toni M. Rhoads

MICHAEL T. RHOADS
TONI M. RHOADS
4414 M-65
OSCODA, MI 48750

Case U12077 35

Oct 4, 1999

To Whom It Concerns,

I'm writing to let you know I will definately drop our ~~tenton~~ unlimited calls we now pay $15.00 a month for if the proposal passes to raise it to $35.00. We would never use that amount of money don't even use ½ the amount of $15.00 most months. There are so many different companies offering real good rates now we can choose a different one if we choose.

Sincerely
Bev Hanna

Tom Hanna
8432 Brown Bridge Rd
Traverse City, Mi
49686

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OCT -5
MPSC
COMMUNICATIONS

Docket U 12077

2173 W. 46 Road
Cadillac, Mi 49601
October 11, 1999

Michigan Public Service Commission
P.O. Box 30221
Lansing, Mi 48908

Dear Commissioners:

Ameritech has notified me that they wish to raise their rates for adjacent exchange toll calling.

I wish to register a strong objection to the raise they are requesting for the unlimited plan. It is more than twice what they were charging. And I'm sure they'll say this is an indication that they are losing money now. First of all, I don't believe that, but if this were fact, there needs to be some middle ground for customers. For very limited service, (2 hours) they wish to charge $7.00. Their next plan is an unlimited plan which has been $15.00 and which they now wish to bump up to $35.00 a month! Nothing in between.

This is a rural area. But I live closer to Cadillac than I do to the Hoxeyville exchange they have me listed in. My mailing address is Cadillac. All business is done in Cadillac. Hoxeyville is strictly residential. I don't think it's even a little bit fair that I am listed in the Hoxeyville exchange to start with. I don't have any choice in that matter. And the phone company itself is in Mesick which is more than twice as far as Cadillac is from my home. Where is the reason in that planning? And I have to pay for this kind of foolishness.

If you have any kind of life going, the two hour plan is exhausted before the month is half over. My phone bill, even with the unlimited plan is close to $100.00 a month! That's absurd. And all I have on it is residence service and one adjacent exchange plus all the fees and taxes they can spell. I don't have call waiting, star 69, or any other feature. I can't afford them.

And neither can the poor. Please be advised that the poorer people are, the farther away from towns they must live, and the fewer services are available to them. Most of the people I work with (I'm a social worker) do not have telephones because of the incredible expense. This causes immense hardship for countless people. Phone service in Michigan was .35 for many years while it was .20 in other states. Maybe the phone company needs to look at it's management practices instead of raising rates.

With the automated phone machines so many companies have these days, it can take 5 minutes of listening to menus and choosing between options, over and over, before you even reach a department you want. And then it's more waiting for someone to talk to you! And all the time, the phone company's clock is running up a humongous bill.

I appreciate that communications is becoming more and more sophisticated but the line needs to be drawn somewhere for the phone companies. They are working out many services to offer to people, but those services need to be kept within an affordable range. It is my firm belief that Ameritech is gouging the consumer in an unethical manner and that the way it has drawn its service lines is forcing us to pay for services we shouldn't have to based on where we live.

I would like to ask you to refuse to let Ameritech get away with this exploitation any longer.

Sincerely,

Yvonne C. Hebert

October 29, 1999

Michigan Public Service Commission
P. O. Box 30221
Lansing, MI 4890

Re: Case No. U-12077

To Whom It May Concern:

We live in an area which is 12 miles south of Ishpeming, MI, and is served by U.P. Telephone Co. in Carney, MI. Since their domain ends a mile and a half down the road, 99 and 9/10% of our personal, business, and Internet calls are local toll calls billed by Ameritech. We presently have a plan with Ameritech for unlimited calling at $15.00 per month which covers calls within, approximately, a 15-mile radius. This doesn't include Marquette, a major business area. For those calls we pay 25 cents a minute.

Included in our last telephone bill from U. P. Telephone was the statement that Ameritech is filing a proposal to raise its rates, and that comments could be made to the Public Service Commission by October 25, 1999. (Our bill with this information arrived on October 26, 1999, but, that's a different problem.)

The following are the reasons we feel that Ameritech's proposal to raise their rates should be denied.

1. Those of us who use the Internet for work, school work, or enjoyment have to dial a local toll number to get Bresnanlink in Negaunee, MI. We would end up paying more that twice the amount we now pay ($15 a month raised to $35 a month) for this service. Our counterparts who are not served by U. P. Telephone get their dial-up service free.
2. Ameritech's service has not been top-notch. Beginning in June of this year, every time we had a rainstorm, our phone would go out and there were times when it was out for hours. This continued through July and part of August. I would call our phone company (when I could finally get through) and complain and they would tell me that it was Ameritech's problem because it was in their cable. In fact, one woman that I talked to from U. P. Telephone said that she was writing a complaint to the Commission because the problem was not being resolved.
3. As I stated above, the majority of our business and personal calls are local toll calls even though they may be as close as 3 miles away. Our phone bill averages $50 a month just for local calls.

As far as phone service is concerned, we are at a definite disadvantage in this area, and I certainly hope that you will see fit not to make that disadvantage even greater.

Sincerely,

Karen J. Dobson
Robert E. Dobson

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- 5

CENTURYTEL

Ameritech

U12077

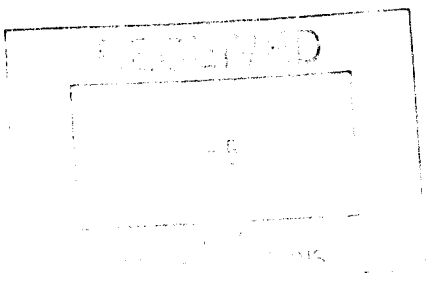
ACCOUNT NUMBER 517-874-4229
BILLING DATE 10/25/99

AETCP RATE CHANGES
Ameritech filed with the MPSC to increase monthly rates for half hour ($1.75), two hour ($7), and unlimited ($35) residence plans. This filing also includes a monthly toll surcharge increase to $.07 for all Ameritech and certain Michigan Exchange Carrier Association customers. For a copy of the proposal contact Ameritech at 444 Michigan, Rm 1540, Detroit, MI 48226. For a copy or to comment on the proposal, contact the Michigan Public Service Commission at 800-292-9555 and reference Case No. U-12077. Comments are due by 10-25-99 and may be filed in paper or electronic form. Send paper copy of comments to the MPSC, P.O. Box 30221, Lansing, MI 48909. Send e-mail comments to: efile@ermisbbs.cis.state.mi.us.

I object to this rate increase!
Also comments are due by 10-25-99
which is the billing date & impossible
to comply with 10-25-99 date.

35.00 Rate Excessive
for Unlimited
residence Plan!

Thank You,
Mrs. Ray Gunza
3264 Weaver Rd.
Port Austin, Mi.
48467



TYPE:

A-DIRECT DIAL	B-CALLING CARD	C-COLLECT
T-THIRD NUMBER	O-OPERATOR HANDLED	P-PERSON TO PERSON
M-MULTIPLE RATE PERIODS	G-DIRECTORY ASSISTANCE	R-REBILL

NOTE: ALL CALLS ARE STATION TO STATION UNLESS OTHERWISE DENOTED.

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-5
MPSC
COMMUNICATIONS

36

Nov. 2, 1999

Michigan Public Service Commission;

I'm writing to express my concern over a proposal contract case No. U-12077. Ameritech wants to increase our unlimited rate plan which we subscribe to from $15. a month to $35. per month. I think an increase over 100% is ridiculous. We pay Upper Peninsula Telephone Company $20. a month for their service. Then we pay our $15. plus all of the long distance calls we make that arn't included in the area of our unlimited calls. Our telephone bill usually runs from $50. - $80. per month now. We are not hooked up to the internet now but would like to be. This would add another $20. to our telephone service. We think this is very unfair because homes that are 1½ miles away from us pay regular telephone bills, and they have Ameritech service. It seems right now we have no other choice but to pay. We think cell phones are looking more attractive.

I hope you will consider

our problem when you make your decision. Most of us in our area are retired and on a fixed income. We need your help. I'm sorry, this letter is later than the deadline, but the bill to inform us of the possible rate increase came two days after the deadline.

Sincerely
Carol & Ray Perrault
905 Little Perch N. S.
Ishp. Mi. 49849
phone 906-255-3455

34

107TH DISTRICT
STATE CAPITOL
LANSING, MICHIGAN 48913
PHONE: (517) 373-2629
TOLL-FREE: 1-877-SCOTT-107
FAX: (517) 373-8429
E-MAIL: sshackleton@house.state.mi.us

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
STATE OF MICHIGAN
SCOTT SHACKLETON

ASST. MAJORITY WHIP
COMMITTEES:
GREAT LAKES AND TOURISM, CHAIR
TRANSPORTATION
INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES
HOUSE OVERSIGHT AND OPERATIONS

FILED
NOV - 5 1999
MICHIGAN PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

October 29, 1999

Ms. Dorothy Wideman, Executive Secretary
Michigan Public Service Commission
P.O. Box 30221
Lansing, MI 48909

Dear Ms. Wideman,

As the state representative of the 107th District, I am writing on behalf of my constituents, in regards to the proposed cost increase of the Adjacent Exchange Toll Calling Plan through Ameritech Michigan, case number U-12077.

I understand that Ameritech Michigan has submitted a request for a rate increase of their Adjacent Exchange Toll Calling Plan from the rate of $15.00 to $35.00. I believe that this dramatic rate increase will be a serious hardship for many individuals who rely on the Adjacent Exchange Toll Calling Plan for making frequent calls to near-by communities.

Additionally, Ameritech Michigan is the only long distance carrier that is proposing an increase in the cost for the Adjacent Exchange Toll Calling Plan in Michigan. While occasional increases in the price of goods and services is somewhat expected, this proposed increase of more than 100% is hard to justify. I respectfully request that the Michigan Public Service Commission deny the request of Ameritech Michigan in this matter.

If I may be of any additional assistance in this matter, please feel free to contact me directly at (517) 373-2629.

Sincerely,

Scott Shackleton
State Representative
107th District

36

TO: Michigan Public Service Commission
P.O. Box 30221
Lansing, MI 48909

FROM: James & Nancy Harris
HC 01 Box 17
Harwood, Mich 49807
Phone No. 906 246-3232 906 246-3627

RE: Reference No. U-12077

This letter is to inform you that I am very much opposed to the Upper Peninsula Telephone Company, located in Carney, Michigan, to raising my flat rate of $15.00 per month for long distance unlimited use in limited areas. An increase to $35.00 per month is outrageous.

We live in a very rural area of Upper Michigan. WE HAVE NO OTHER INTERNET ACCESS OTHER THAN OUR TELEPHONE LINES.

This increase would deny Internet access to hundreds of homes and families. This is not fair to the children of this community!

The phone system we have was upgraded several years ago and the service is better, but still poor. We still do not have Caller ID available. Upper Peninsula Telephone Company wants us to pay rates that are higher than the larger companies, yet the services aren't even close to being comparable. We believe our phone bills are too high already for what we receive.

PLEASE DON'T DENY OUR CHILDREN ACCESS TO THE INTERNET BY ALLOWING THIS INCREASE.

Thank you for your attention to this matter, which is so important to us.

Sincerely,

James Harris
Nancy Harris

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10
MPSC
COMMUNICATIONS