Regulatory Commission of Alaska 701 West Eighth Avenue, Suite 300 Anchorage, Alaska 99501 (907) 276-6222; TTY (907) 276-4533

STATE OF ALASKA

THE REGULATORY COMMISSION OF ALASKA

Before Commissioners:

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Stephen McAlpine, Chairman Rebecca L. Pauli Robert M. Pickett Norman Rokeberg Janis W. Wilson

In the Matter of the Consideration of Revisions to Regulations Governing Procedures Regarding Shortages in the Alaska Universal Service Fund

R-17-001

ORDER NO. 3

ORDER ADOPTING REGULATIONS

BY THE COMMISSION:

We opened this docket to consider eliminating the Alaska Universal Service Fund (AUSF) shortage carry-forward provision in 3 AAC 53.350(e) and sought comments.¹ We received four sets of comments in response.² Commission Staff addressed the received comments at our public meeting held August 9, 2017, and presented proposed revisions to 3 AAC 53.340 and 3 AAC 53.350 based on the submitted comments and our own recommendations.³ We issued the proposed revisions for

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¹Order R-17-001(1), *Order Opening Docket, Requesting Comments, and Addressing Statutory Timeline*, dated July 17, 2017.

²Comments of AT&T, filed July 31, 2017; Rural Coalition Comments, filed July 31, 2017; Comments of GCI, filed July 31, 2017; Alaska Telephone Association Comments, filed July 31, 2017.

³Tr. 11-38.

comment.⁴ We received five sets of comments in response.⁵ At our public meeting held October 11, 2017, Commission Staff addressed the received comments and we directed Commission Staff to work with the Attorney General to adjust language in the proposed revisions and assure compliance with Department of Law drafting guidelines.⁶

At our public meeting held November 8, 2017, Commission Staff presented the proposed revisions and we voted to adopt them.⁷ The adopted revised regulations are attached to this order as an appendix.

Final Order

This order constitutes the final decision in this proceeding. This decision may be appealed within thirty days of this order in accordance with AS 22.10.020(d) and Alaska Rule of Appellate Procedure 602(a)(2). In addition to the appellate rights afforded by AS 22.10.020(d), a party has the right to file a petition for reconsideration in accordance with 3 AAC 48.105. If such a petition is filed, the time period for filing an appeal is tolled and then recalculated in accordance with Alaska Rule of Appellate Procedure 602(a)(2).

⁴Tr. 38-51; Order R-17-001(2), *Order Issuing Proposed Regulations for Comment*, dated August 21, 2017.

⁵Comments of AT&T, filed September 20, 2017; Rural Coalition Comments, filed September 20, 2017; Comments of the Alaska Universal Service Administrative Company, filed September 20, 2017; Comments of GCI, filed September 20, 2017; Comments of Alaska Communications, filed September 21, 2017.

⁶Tr. 4-50.

⁷Tr. 97-105.

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Regulatory Commission of Alaska 701 West Eighth Avenue, Suite 300

(206)

<u>ORDER</u>

THE COMMISSION FURTHER ORDERS that the regulations set out in the appendix to this order are adopted.

DATED AND EFFECTIVE at Anchorage, Alaska, this 5th day of December, 2017.

BY DIRECTION OF THE COMMISSION (Commissioner Janis W. Wilson, dissenting)

