

**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

DT 13-243

SPRINT COMMUNICATIONS COMPANY, L.P.

Petition to Increase Price for Telecommunications Relay Service

SUMMARY OF ORDER NO. 25,629 APPROVING PRICE INCREASE

February 18, 2014

On August 12, 2013, Sprint Communications Company, L.P. (Sprint) filed a petition to increase the rates at which it provides telecommunications relay service (TRS) and related services in New Hampshire (Petition). Sprint simultaneously filed a motion for confidential and proprietary treatment with respect to rate and pricing information contained in the filed Petition. On December 6, 2013, Sprint filed additional information in response to Staff inquiries.

On December 19, 2013, the Commission granted Sprint's motions for confidential treatment with respect to the commercially-sensitive pricing, rate and term information contained in the Petition and Sprint's December 6 letter. The Petition and subsequent docket filings, other than any information for which confidential treatment is requested of or granted by the Commission, are posted to the Commission's website at

<http://www.puc.nh.gov/Regulatory/Docketbk/2013/13-243.html>.

On February 7, 2014, Commission Staff filed a memorandum containing an analysis of Sprint's proposed rate options and their effect on local service charges in New Hampshire, and comparing the proposed TRS rates to those in effect in a number of other states. According to Staff's analysis, the 6 cents per line collected in local service charges for TRS would not need to be increased to cover the increased rates proposed by Sprint. Staff pointed out that Sprint's

current TRS rates have been in effect, without increase, since 1999, and that the proposed rates were in the range of those paid in other states. Staff therefore recommended the Commission approve the proposed per session minute rate option.

Based on the information presented in Sprint's Petition and Staff's memorandum, the Commission found that the proposed rates under the per session minute rate option are reasonable and approved these rates for a five-year period beginning on March 1, 2014. The Commission determined that the proposed increase in Sprint's TRS charges would not require an increase in the amount established by the Commission to be collected from retail customers through local service charges. The proposed rates have been approved on a *nisi* basis, which affords any member of the public who does not support the Commission's determination to submit written argument why the rates should not be approved. The specific rates approved by the Commission will be publicly disclosed once the Order *Nisi* has become effective.

Sprint is authorized by the Order *Nisi* to bill the proposed rates under the per session minute rate option for a five-year period beginning on March 1, 2014, in the event the Commission does not otherwise order by March 18, 2014. All persons interested in responding to the Order *Nisi* may submit their comments or file a written request for a hearing which states the reason and basis for a hearing no later than March 10, 2014, for the Commission's consideration; and any party interested in responding to such comments or request for a hearing shall do so no later than March 13, 2014. The Order *Nisi* shall be effective March 18, 2014, unless the Commission orders otherwise.