

AGREEMENT

BETWEEN

COMMUNICATIONS

WORKERS

OF

AMERICA

AND

WINDSTREAM KENTUCKY, LLC

LOCAL UNION 3371

AND

LOCAL UNION 3372

Effective June 8, 2024 through June 7, 2027

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ARTICLES OF AGREEMENT
BETWEEN

KENTUCKY WINDSTREAM, LLC

AND

COMMUNICATIONS WORKERS OF AMERICA
LOCAL UNIONS 3371 AND 3372

THIS AGREEMENT entered into this eighth day of June, **2024** between Kentucky Windstream, LLC sometimes hereinafter referred to as the “Company” and COMMUNICATIONS WORKERS OF AMERICA, sometimes hereinafter referred to as the “Union” or “Bargaining Agency.”

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS the Company and the Union solemnly agree that it should be the duty of the parties to strive at all times to administer their respective affairs as they relate to each other by the most fair and just manner possible, and,

WHEREAS the parties realizing the above, agree that it is the duty of their respective officers, agents, employees and members to conduct themselves in an honorable manner and that will be conducive to good relationships between the parties and that will tend to be beneficial to the welfare of the Company, the Union, its members and the public which they jointly serve.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the covenants and terms herein contained, the parties agree as follows:

ARTICLE 1
RECOGNITION

Section 1. Kentucky Windstream, LLC does hereby recognize Communications Workers of America as an agency having the exclusive right to bargain with said Company on all matters relative to rates of pay, wages, hours of employment, and other conditions of employment for all employees in the Commercial, and Plant Departments at the Employer’s Ashland, Berea, Bryantsville, Catlettsburg, Flemingsburg, Grayson, Greenup, Hazard, Hillsboro, Hustonville, Lancaster, Leatherwood, Lexington, Liberty, Meads, Midway, Morehead, Nicholasville, Olive Hill, Owingsville, Paint Lick, Russell, Sharpsburg, South Shore, Tollesboro, Vanceburg, Versailles, and Wilmore Exchanges, excluding Safety Supervisors, Training Supervisors, Foremen, Wire Chiefs, District Plant Supervisors, Supply Supervisors, Service Supervisors, Engineers, Engineering Assistants, Cashiers, Assistant Cashiers, District and Exchange Managers, Commercial Supervisors, Commercial Representatives, District and Exchange Commercial Supervisors, District and Exchange Clerks, District and Exchange Secretaries, Independent Contractors, Contractors and/or

Agents and their Helpers, all confidential employees, all non-operating employees, guards, and other professional and supervisory employees as defined in the Labor-Management Relations Act of 1947, as amended.

Section 2. This Agreement shall be binding upon the successors and assigns of the Company, and no provisions, terms or obligations herein contained shall be affected, modified, altered or changed in any respect whatsoever by the consolidation, merger, sale, transfer, or reorganization of assignment of the Company or by any change of any kind in the legal status, ownership or management, thereof.

ARTICLE 2 DEFINITIONS

BASIC RATES, WAGES, PAY – The rates of pay exclusive of all differentials, premium, or other extra payments.

CALENDAR WEEK – A consecutive period of seven (7) days, the first day of which is Sunday.

CALL-OUT –

- A. A call of an employee to perform non-scheduled work for the Company.
 - 1. If the time worked immediately follows and connects (as defined below) with regularly scheduled time, it shall not be considered a call-out.
 - 2. If the time worked immediately precedes and connects (as defined below) with regularly scheduled time, it shall not be considered a call-out.

Connecting Work: Any overtime work which connects with the beginning or end of a scheduled session. If the employee requests and receives time off for a relief or meal period between the scheduled session and the overtime period, such break shall not change the connecting nature of such work.

CERTIFIED UNION REPRESENTATIVES – Are those representatives who are certified in writing to the Company by an International Union Representative.

COMMON PLACE OF REPORTING – Where used in this Agreement shall mean the same building location.

CONTINUOUS SERVICE – Is service from last date of employment or re-employment.

DAY TOUR – A tour which falls wholly within the period from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

DIFFERENTIAL PAY – An additional payment for certain responsibilities of positions provided for elsewhere in this Agreement.

ESSENTIALLY THE SAME TYPE OF WORK – Where used in this contract, this phrase is meant to include all work operations performed by employees who regularly interchange and/or relieve each other on work assignments within the same work group, for example, Equipment Technician to Frame Attendant, Equipment Technician to Testboard Analyzer,

Equipment Technician to PBX Equipment Technician, PBX Equipment Technician to Equipment Technician, Testboard Analyzer to Equipment Technician and any other similar combination.

EVENING TOURS – Evening tours are those tours of duty which end after 7 p.m.

FULL-TIME EMPLOYEE – An employee engaged to work a full-time or normal work week.

GENDER – Whenever the masculine gender is used it is intended to include female employees, where applicable.

HEADQUARTERS – An exchange designated by the Company as being the place of employment for a particular employee or employees and on which exchange the employee's basic wage rate is established.

HOLIDAY WORK – Any work which begins on a designated holiday.

IMMEDIATE FAMILY – Within the meaning of this contract, shall be defined as consisting of wife, husband, daughter, son, mother, father, brother, sister, grandmother, grandfather, grandmother-in-law, grandfather-in-law, mother-in-law, father-in-law, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, stepmother, stepfather, stepbrother, stepsister, grandchildren or other relatives regularly living in the household of the employee.

NET CREDITED SERVICE – The amount of net credited service credited to the employee upon his/her transfer from Verizon to the Company on August 1, 2002, if any, and the employee's length of continuous service with the Company since that date.

NEW EMPLOYEE – A "new employee" is one who joins this bargaining unit from off the street, as opposed to a transfer in from Windstream.

NIGHT TOUR – Night tours are those tours of duty which start at or after 9 p.m. and prior to 5 a.m.

NON-SCHEDULED DAY – A day on which an employee is not assigned or scheduled to work.

NORMAL WORK DAY (TOUR) – A normal work day is eight (8) hours and may be assigned on any of the days in a calendar week or a ten (10) hour day according to Article 21, Section 11.

NORMAL WORK WEEK – A normal work week shall consist of five (5) tours or their equivalent in tours, four (4) tours according to Article 21, Section 11, or part tours worked in a calendar week. This does not constitute a guarantee of a normal work week.

OVERTIME RATE, PAY – Overtime rate of pay is one and one-half (1½) times the basic rate of pay, plus such other differential and premium increments as required under the terms of the Fair Labor Standards Act as amended.

PART-TIME EMPLOYEE – An employee who is normally scheduled to work less than the number of hours in the normal work week. If the number of hours of work for part-time employees are not equal, an attempt will be made to offer the greater number to part-time employees in order of their seniority.

PART-TIME EMPLOYEE BENEFIT CALCULATION – Those benefits that relate to the average number of hours worked (e.g., short-term disability, vacation pay, holiday pay, death in the family, jury duty, union business, etc.) will be based on the normal hours worked during the past four (4) weeks. For this purpose only, the calculation of average hours worked will include any vacation, holiday and disability time paid. If for any reason the hours worked during past four (4) weeks is outside of the employees' customary hours worked, the average hours worked during the previous three months will be used.

PART-TOUR – A work assignment of less length than the normal tour or work day.

PREMIUM PAY - Is the amount in addition to basic rates which an employee is paid for working evening or night hours, Sundays and holidays.

PROMOTION – Reassignment to a job having a higher maximum rate or top basic rate. Transfer from a lower rate to a higher rated exchange where the job classification or work assignment is not changed is not a promotion. Reassignment to a different job having the same maximum, or top basic rate, is not a promotion.

REGULAR EMPLOYEE – One whose employment is reasonably expected to continue for more than one (1) year. Temporary employees are not considered regular employees.

REGULAR RATES, WAGES, PAY – Basic pay plus any differential pay.

SCHEDULED HOURS – Hours falling within an employee's scheduled tour.

SCHEDULED TOUR – Any of the tours which are officially posted on the weekly work schedule for a particular employee.

SENIORITY – The amount of seniority credited to the employee upon his/her transfer from Verizon to the Company on August 1, 2002 if any, and the employee's length of continuous service with the Company since that date.

See MOA for bridging rules in the case of any employee hired or rehired after the effective date of the Agreement. (See page 100.)

SERVICE EMERGENCIES – When used in this contract shall mean that period of time or condition when, in the opinion of management, service to the public is or would be impaired unless temporary measures are applied in an expedient manner. An increase in service levels caused by increased customer demand shall not generally constitute a service emergency. Before a service emergency is declared the President of Kentucky Operations or his designee will notify the Local President(s) or their designee.

SERVICE REQUIREMENTS – As used in this Agreement means the requirements that are necessary to provide adequate and satisfactory telephone service to telephone subscribers.

SESSION – One of the two parts into which a tour is divided or assumed to be divided when the nature of the employee's assignment requires constant attention on duty. A session for full-time employees shall not be less than three (3) hours.

SPLIT TOUR – A normal tour where the time interval between the end of the first session and the beginning of the second session is more than one (1) hour.

SUNDAY WORK – Any work or tour which begins on a Sunday.

TECHNOLOGICAL DISPLACEMENTS – Any regular employee shall be considered displaced by a technological change when his services shall no longer be required as a result of a change in Plant or equipment, or a change in a method of operation diminishing the total number of employees formerly required to supply the same service to the Company or its subscribers, and shall not include layoffs caused by business conditions, variations in subscribers' requirements or other temporary or seasonal interruption of work.

TEMPORARY EMPLOYEE – One whose term of employment is not intended to last more than one (1) year, or who is engaged for a specific project involving a period of time of more than a year.

TRAVEL TOUR – Is the time that is required for an employee to travel from one exchange to another without stopping at intermediate points. Such travel tours are of a duration necessary to travel by public, company or private (when authorized by the Company) transportation, whichever will accomplish the most expedient, safe and economical means of traveling between any two designated points or exchanges.

WAGE LENGTH OF SERVICE – (Wage Experience Credit) – is the period credited to an employee in the application of the wage schedule for his job classification. The wage length of service does not accumulate beyond the number of months at which an employee attains the maximum for his job. If one is employed at a starting rate higher than the normal starting rate on account of previous telephone or other experience or special training, the wage length of service will include such credit as is given at the time of employment or reemployment plus the service accumulated thereafter.

WORK DAY – The period of time between 12:00 midnight preceding and 12:00 midnight ending any day. Any tour or call-out is part of the work day on which such tour or call-out begins. Pay for work which starts at or after 12:00 midnight preceding the day and before midnight ending the day shall be at the rate prescribed for that day.

WORK GROUP – All those employees within an exchange who carry the same job title or classification and who have a common place of reporting except that employees within a single job classification performing distinctly different job duties shall not be grouped together. (See Article 16, Section 1.D.)

WORKING LEADER – Non-supervisory employee on productive work who coordinates and assigns the work activity of a group of two (2) or more workers and contributes to the training of employees.

ARTICLE 3 FEDERAL AND STATE LAWS

If any provision of this Agreement, or any amendments thereto, or application of the provisions of said Agreement and amendments to any employee, groups of employees, or circumstances are rendered invalid or inappropriate by any Federal or State Law, or by the final determination of any Court, Board, or Authority of competent jurisdiction, or should the National Labor Relations Board, as a result of any proceedings, hold any employee included within the bargaining unit not properly included within such unit, the remainder of said Agreement or amendments or the application of such provisions to an

employee, groups of employees and circumstances other than those as to which it is held invalid or inappropriate, shall not be affected thereby.

ARTICLE 4 SERVICE COMMITMENTS

Section 1. The Union recognizes that the Company must require its employees to follow certain operating practices and routines to provide a service that meets regulatory requirements and that will conform in uniformity to the telephone service universally furnished throughout the country, and that the Company shall have the right at all times to offer instructions to any employee to improve the operating skill of the individual and shall also have the further right to observe the work of any employee at any time, with or without the knowledge of the individual. It is the Company's responsibility to see that its employees are trained for their assigned jobs and that the employees are kept informed of various changes in the operating routines as they apply to them. The Company will provide proper equipment, safe means of transportation, and proper training to employees in order to do the job safely and properly.

Section 2. The Union recognizes the responsibility of its members to the Company and to the public, and agrees that it is the obligation of all of its members to report promptly and regularly for scheduled tours, and further to perform connecting work as requested and to report for extra work when called, except when the individual has valid reasons.

ARTICLE 5 UNION SECURITY

Union membership, and the obligation of the Company to the Union in regard to membership, are governed by federal and state law and any provision of this agreement in conflict therewith is null and void.

Section 1. Under Federal labor laws, and obligations under the Agreement, the Union is required to represent all of the employees in the bargaining unit fairly and equally without regard to whether the employee is a member of the Union.

- A. Membership in the Union is not compulsory. Employees in the job classification within the collective bargaining unit are free to accept or to decline membership in the Union.
 - 1. Any employee who is a member of the Union may, upon proper notice, voluntarily withdraw from such membership but may not, thereby, be relieved of Agency Shop requirements herein.
- B. For purposes of Article 5, Section 1, the following definitions will apply:

1. IN GOOD STANDING – Means that the employee pays, or tenders payment of initiation fee and periodic dues in amount and frequency regularly required by the Union as a condition of acquiring and retaining membership.
- C. Nothing herein shall be construed to limit the Union’s lawful rights to determine and enforce regulations regarding acquisition of and retention of membership in the Union. Any covered employee who is refused membership, or whose membership is involuntarily terminated by action of the Union body (other than for refusal to tender initiation fee and periodic dues) shall not be subject to discharge from employment but, rather, shall take on the status of a Service Fee employee.
- D. The Company shall incur no liability in the enforcement of this Article.

Section 2. The Union agrees that it will not intimidate or coerce employees into membership in the Union. The Union further agrees that the Union initiation fees and membership dues or service fees will be uniform, reasonable and not discriminatory.

Section 3. It is expressly understood and agreed between the parties that nothing herein contained shall require the Company to discharge any employee for non-membership in the Union, except upon written demand of the Union, and only for failure of a covered employee to tender the periodic dues or service fees required as a condition of employment.

Section 4. The Company will advise all new employees that there is a Collective Bargaining Agreement in existence and furnish the employees with a copy of said Agreement.

Section 5. The Company further agrees to keep the authorized Union representative advised of the names of the new employees in the respective exchanges. It is agreed, upon request of the Union representative to discuss with the new employee Union membership, the Company will arrange for the employee to meet with the representative during the regular relief period of the representative.

Section 6. The Union will be provided a forty-five (45) minute period during new hire orientation to conduct Union related orientation.

Section 7. Should the Kentucky Right to Work Act be overturned judicially or be repealed by the General Assembly the stricken language in the 2021 CBA shall become enforceable after seven (7) days’ notice from the Union.

ARTICLE 6 DEDUCTION OF UNION DUES

Section 1. The Company agrees to make bi-weekly deduction of Union dues (not including initiation fees, fines or special assessments) of any eligible employee through payroll deduction upon the order in writing by such employee, and to pay over the amount thus deducted to the Union. The written authorization shall be on the form attached to this

Agreement. All deductions shall be made from compensation paid to the employee in the first payroll in the current month.

Section 2. Cancellation by an employee of such written authorization for payroll deduction shall be in writing and signed by such employee. Such cancellations must be sent individually by certified mail to the Payroll Office Manager with a copy to the Union, postmarked during the ten (10) day period preceding the expiration date of this Agreement and the same ten (10) day period each year during the life of this Agreement. Upon receipt thereof the Company shall honor any such cancellation. An employee's authorization shall be deemed automatically canceled if the employee leaves the employ of the Company or is transferred or promoted out of the bargaining unit. The Company shall forthwith notify the Union of any such cancellation.

Section 3. The Union may, by written notice given to the Company, terminate with respect to any employee the obligation and right of the Company to make such deductions. The Company shall give notice of such termination to the employee.

Section 4. Deductions of Union dues shall be suspended during the period of an employee's leave of absence. No dues will be deducted when sufficient pay is not available to pay the full amount of one (1) month's dues. The Company agrees in the event of inability or failure to make an authorized deduction in any month, to make such deduction during the following month. Deductions will not be made for more than one (1) month's dues in arrears.

Section 5. For an authorized deduction to become effective in any month, the card authorizing same must be delivered to the Company on or before the 25th day of the preceding month. When forwarding dues deduction cards to the Company, the Union agrees to transmit with such cards an invoice showing the date of forwarding and the name of each employee for whom an authorization is being forwarded.

Section 6. Remittance will be made by the Company to the Union covering dues deducted each month by the 25th day of that month. The remittance shall be transmitted via tape to tape and shall include an alphabetical list by department showing:

1. The names of employees for whom an initial deduction is being made;
2. The names of all employees for whom a deduction was made;
3. The names of employees for whom any authorized deduction was not made and the reasons for the failure to make such deduction;
4. The names of employees for whom a deduction is made for some previous month;
5. The total deductions authorized;
6. The total deductions made;
7. The total deductions authorized but not made;
8. The old and new name of employees whose name has been changed; and
9. The names of employees whose authorization has been canceled and the reason for such cancellation.

Section 7. The Union agrees to give the Company thirty (30) days' written notice prior to the effective date of any change in dues rate.

Section 8. The Union agrees that the Company assumes no responsibility in connection with deductions of dues except that of forwarding monies deducted as set forth in this Article 6. The Union shall indemnify the Company and save the Company harmless from any and all claims against the Company by an employee or employees for amounts deducted and withheld from earnings as aforesaid.

Section 9. The Company hereby agrees to honor contribution deduction authorization from its employees upon receipt of a properly executed payroll deduction authorization providing as follows:

"I hereby authorize _____ (Company Name) to deduct from my regular wages the sum of _____ each month and to forward that amount to the CWA-COPE Political Contributions Committee. This authorization is voluntarily made on the specific understanding that the signing of this authorization and the making of payments to the CWA-COPE Political Contributions Committee are not conditions of membership in the Union or of employment with the Company and that the CWA-COPE Political Contributions Committee will use the money it receives to make political contributions and expenditures in connection with federal, state, and local elections.

It is understood that deductions I have authorized will be made the second payday of the month and further that deductions suspended by reason of absence, such as during leave of absence or layoff, will be resumed automatically upon my reinstatement except in instances of military leave.

I agree and understand that the deductions authorized shall continue until canceled by me by written notice to the Company and Union."

The monies deducted shall be transmitted to CWA-COPE at the Communications Workers of America headquarters on a monthly basis, along with an accounting of the contributors' names, amounts deducted, Social Security number and Local number.

It is understood and agreed by the Union that the Company assumes no responsibility in connection with the above deduction except that of forwarding monies due to the CWA-COPE-PCC.

ARTICLE 7 UNION ACTIVITY ON COMPANY PROPERTY

Section 1. UNION ACTIVITY ON COMPANY PROPERTY

- A. Neither the Union nor its members shall carry on Union activities on Company time, nor shall such activities occur on Company premises except as set forth in the following sub-sections:
 - 1. Union members who are also employees may solicit members, distribute Union literature and carry on similar Union organization

work outside of working periods in space where no Company operations or administrative work is being performed.

2. Any such solicitation and organization work shall be limited to small groups of employees (not to exceed eight) and shall not be carried on for any considerably continuous period and shall not interfere with the operations of the Company or the use of the space by other employees for the purposes for which the space is intended.
- B. If a certified Union representative is a Company employee on leave, or is a former employee, he may exercise the rights to engage in Union activities on Company property outlined in “A” above.
1. The Union agrees to save the Company harmless from any claims for accidental injury or loss occurring to such representatives or their property while on Company premises.

Section 2. BULLETIN BOARDS

- A. The Union shall be permitted adequate space to place bulletin boards on Company property.
- B. The number, type, and location of Union Bulletin Boards shall be satisfactory to the Company.
- C. All Union Bulletin Boards shall be plainly designated as Union Bulletin Boards and no material shall be placed thereon except by certified Union representatives, provided, however, that none of this material, either by direct statement or by inference ridicules or belittles any of the Management personnel or Company employees.
 1. The Company agrees that it will not place on its bulletin boards material which either by direct statement or inference ridicules or belittles any of the Union officers or its members.
- D. Union Bulletin Boards shall be furnished and installed by the Union without cost to the Company. After installation, the bulletin boards will become the property of the Company and will be maintained by the Company.

ARTICLE 8
TREATMENT OF UNION REPRESENTATIVES

Section 1. PROMOTION AND TRANSFER OF UNION REPRESENTATIVES

- A. The Company agrees that it will not promote or transfer a Union Representative without his consent if such promotion or transfer affects his status as a representative of the Union.
 1. The Company shall give an International Representative of the Union two (2) weeks’ advance notice of any such transfer or promotion.

Section 2. EXCUSED ABSENCES FOR UNION BUSINESS

- A. Union members who are certified in writing to the Company by a National-Union Representative of the Union as having to be absent from their Company duties shall be excused without pay for not more than thirty (30) consecutive days in any one period and not more than one hundred twenty (120) days in any calendar year. If one hundred twenty (120) days is insufficient during any calendar year, the President of the Union shall be entitled to another thirty (30) days. Similarly, if, due to the incapacity of the President, another Union Officer is needed to serve as the President's designee, that other officer shall be entitled to an additional thirty (30) days during the year involved. Each employee desiring to be so excused shall notify his immediate supervisor when the absence is to begin and for what period he expects to be absent. The status of employees absent under this Article shall be the same as for other employees excused from Company duties for personal reasons.
1. The excusal of employees from Company duty to perform Union duties shall not be followed to the extent of withdrawing adequate protection of telephone service in any department or locality.
 2. Any employee desiring to be excused shall give the Company reasonable advance notice whenever practicable.

Section 3. LEAVES OF ABSENCE

At the request of the Union, leaves for Union activity shall be granted for a period of up to eight (8) years in any ten (10) years of employment. Not more than three (3) employees shall be granted a leave at any one time.

Employees granted leaves under this section shall be treated in the same manner as any other employee to whom a leave is granted, except he shall be guaranteed reemployment.

Upon expiration of leaves of absence which are granted in accordance with the terms of this article, a Union representative, officer or member returning to work shall be allowed full service credit for the period of absence in computing net credit and total service for pension plan benefits.

ARTICLE 9
COLLECTIVE BARGAINING PROCEDURE

Bargaining on wages, hours of employment, working conditions, and other general conditions of employment shall be conducted by the duly authorized representatives of the Union and by the duly designated representative of the Company.

The Union and the Company agree to certify to each other the names of their respective officers and representatives who are authorized to represent the parties in collective bargaining.

In meetings with Management, the number of Union representatives who shall suffer no loss in basic pay for time consumed in meetings under this Article shall not exceed four (4).

The Union or the Company may record, jointly or separately, the minutes of any collective bargaining meeting or conference by any device or system. Exception: Union Representatives in meetings with Management while negotiating memorandum agreements will suffer no loss in pay during their scheduled working hours.

ARTICLE 10 RESPONSIBLE RELATIONSHIP

The Company and the Union recognize that it is in the best interests of both parties, the employees and the public that all dealings between them be characterized by mutual responsibility and respect. To ensure that this relationship continues and improves, the Company and the Union and their respective representatives at all levels will apply the terms of this contract in accordance with the language contained therein and consistent with the Union's status as exclusive bargaining representative of all employees in the unit. The grievance and arbitration provision shall be the sole remedy for all grievances which are qualified subject matter for arbitration.

Each party shall bring to the attention of all employees in the unit, including new hires, their purpose to conduct themselves in a spirit of responsibility and respect and of the measure they have agreed upon to ensure adherence to this purpose.

ARTICLE 11 GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

Section 1. Unless mutually agreed otherwise, all grievances must be initially presented at Step 1 of the Grievance Procedure. Two (2) copies of the written grievance shall be presented by the Union Representative to Management within thirty (30) days, fifteen (15) for suspension and discharge, from the occurrence of the facts giving rise to the grievance, unless it can be shown that the Union or the employee was not aware that a grievance did exist. The Company shall not take any disciplinary action against any employee for any act or violation after the expiration of a thirty (30) day period from the date on which such violation or act occurred, unless it can be shown that the Company was not aware that a violation or act did exist.

- A. When a grievance is initiated under this Article, the steps in the grievance procedure shall be those listed below except that the parties by mutual agreement may eliminate one or more of these steps.

First – Immediate Supervisor

Second – Manager or Department Head

Third – Vice President/General Manager or his/her designated representative.

Step 1. The aggrieved employee is encouraged by both the Union and the Company to present the grievance orally to his/her immediate supervisor and they shall promptly attempt to resolve the complaint informally. If the grievance is not resolved in this manner, the Union Representative shall reduce the grievance to writing, in duplicate, on a form identifying the grievance, setting forth the facts and any contract provisions giving rise to the grievance. Two (2) copies of the written grievance shall be presented by the Union Representative to Management within thirty (30) days, fifteen (15) for suspension and discharge, from the occurrence of the facts giving rise to the grievance, unless it can be shown that the Union or the employee was not aware that a grievance did exist. The management representative shall have ten (10) working days, unless otherwise mutually agreed, in which to answer, adjust or settle said grievance.

Step 2. If the grievance is not satisfactorily settled under Step 1 above, the representative of the Union may appeal and shall present the written grievance to the Manager, or Department Head, within ten (10) working days of the Company's answer under Step 1. The Manager, Department Head, or his/her designated representative, shall discuss the grievance and answer, adjust or settle it with the appropriate Union Area Representative, or his/her authorized representative, within ten (10) working days, unless otherwise mutually agreed, after the appealed grievance is presented.

It is agreed that grievance settlements reached at the first and second steps are not precedent setting to either party.

Step 3. If the grievance is not satisfactorily settled under Step 2 above and is appealed to the third step, the grievance shall be presented to the, Vice President/General Manager or his/her designated representative by the CWA Staff Representative and/or the Local President. The CWA Staff Representative will request a conference at the Third Step within thirty (30) days of the date of the appeal at the second level, and such meeting will be at a mutually agreeable location in the geographical location served by the bargaining unit or, if mutually agreed, by telephone conference. Following such conference, the written decision of the Company's representative at the third step shall be given to the Union within fifteen (15) days.

- B. Upon failure of the Company to submit a written decision within the specified time, the Union shall have the right to appeal to the next succeeding level.
- C. If the Union does not request a conference on an appeal within thirty (30) days of the date of the appeal, the grievance shall be closed.

Section 2. In computing any period of time prescribed by this Article 11, the day of the occurrence, presentation, appeal, decision, request or demand (after which the period of time begins to run) shall be included, unless it is a Sunday or holiday, in which event the period runs until the next day, not a Sunday or holiday. Intermediate Sundays and holidays shall be included. Any presentation, appeal, decision, request or demand required to be in

writing shall be considered to be made on the date it is postmarked, or dated by personal receipted delivery.

Section 3. If a grievance cannot be settled by the above grievance procedure and is subject to the arbitration provisions of this Agreement, it may be referred to arbitration upon written request by the Union to the Company within sixty (60) days after a decision is rendered in Step 3 of this grievance procedure.

Section 4. The Union may reject a Company answer at any level of the grievance procedure. Any such rejection shall close the grievance without prejudice to the Union's contentions regarding the merits of the grievance. While the rejected grievance may not be later reinstated, should the substance of that grievance become the basis of future disciplinary action or contract interpretation, the Union and Company may present previously presented information regarding the merits of the rejected grievance in the context of the new grievance situation. In the event a rejected grievance is submitted as evidence at arbitration, the arbitrator shall have no authority to award monetary relief or damages for the rejected grievance(s).

Section 5. Grievances occurring as the result of discharges and suspensions shall be presented in writing by the Union within fifteen (15) days after the effective date of the discharge or suspension.

Section 6. An employee or group of employees shall have the right to present to and adjust with the management any grievance as provided in Section 9(a) of the National Labor Relations Act, as amended, provided, however, that no adjustment shall be made with the employee or group of employees involved which is inconsistent with the terms of any Collective Bargaining Agreement between the parties then in effect, and provided further that the Union has been given an opportunity to be present at such adjustment.

Section 7. When a proposed answer is given at any step, both parties have signed the grievance form, and the Union Representative has marked the appealed block on the grievance form, it shall be considered appealed.

Section 8. After an employee or employees have presented a grievance to the Union for settlement and a Union Representative has informed the Company that the Union represents that employee or employees, the Company will not discuss or adjust such grievance with said employee or employees, unless the aggrieved employee or employees, initiate a request that the Company discuss and adjust such grievance directly with him or them, but in no event shall an adjustment be made unless a Union Representative is afforded an opportunity to be present at such adjustment.

Section 9. The Union shall keep the Company informed in writing of the names of the representatives authorized to participate in the settlement of grievances at each step of the grievance procedure.

Section 10. In meetings with Management, the number of Union Representatives who shall suffer no loss in pay during their scheduled working hours for time consumed in meetings with Management on grievance subjects shall not exceed two (2). In addition to the Union Representative(s), one (1) additional employee, the named grievant, may attend and shall suffer no loss of pay.

Section 11. MINUTES OF MEETINGS

Joint minutes of any grievance meetings kept by mutual agreement of the Union and the Company shall be submitted for written approval to a representative of the Company. The Union or the Company may record, jointly or separately, the minutes of the grievance meetings in written or audio-recorded form. Visual recording devices will not be permitted in meetings between the Union and Company except by mutual written consent.

Section 12. MEDIATION

Subject to the mutual consent of both parties, and subject to the limited scope and terms set forth below, certain unresolved grievances may be mediated under the following procedures:

- A. The mediation procedures herein will only apply to disciplinary action – suspensions over three (3) days and discharges – which are specifically subject to arbitration under the primary agreement.
- B. Within fifteen (15) calendar days after the filing of the request for arbitration, under Article 12, either party may elect to use the mediation process. This election shall be in writing and must be agreed to and signed by authorized representatives of both parties.
- C. The parties will proceed to select a mediator and establish a mediation conference at the earliest date feasible to all concerns.
- D. The mediation conference will normally be held in Lexington or Ashland, Kentucky, in either a Company or Union facility.
- E. Should the availability of the mediator unnecessarily delay the processing of the grievance in the opinion of either party, another mediator may be selected or the mediation process may be bypassed and the grievance pursued to arbitration.
- F. The grievant shall be present at the mediation conference and paid by the Company.
- G. Each party shall have one (1) principal spokesperson at the mediation conference.
- H. The mediation conference will normally be attended by those people actually involved in the grievance. Each party will be responsible for the wages/expenses of its representatives and witnesses.
- I. Any written material that is presented to the mediator or to the other party shall be returned to the party presenting the material at the termination of the mediation conference.
- J. Proceedings before the mediator shall be informal in nature. The presentation of evidence is not limited to that which has been presented in the grievance proceedings. The rules of evidence shall not apply and no record of the mediation conference shall be made.

- K. The mediator will have the authority to meet separately with any person or persons, but will not have the authority to compel the resolution of a grievance.
- L. The Company and the Union spokespersons may accept the resolution proposed by the mediator and such settlement or any other settlement agreement resulting from the conference shall not be precedent-setting, unless both parties agree.
- M. If no settlement is reached, the mediator shall provide the parties with an immediate oral advisory opinion, unless both parties agree that no opinion shall be provided.
- N. If no settlement is reached at mediation, the parties are free to arbitrate. The time limit for initiating arbitration proceedings, as specified in Article 12, Section 1.A., will not be extended due to the request for or actual mediation of the same grievance.
- O. In the event that a grievance which has been mediated subsequently is arbitrated, no person serving as a mediator between these parties may serve as arbitrator for the same grievance. In the arbitration proceedings there shall be no reference to the fact that a mediation conference was or was not held and there shall be no reference to or use made of any statement, oral or written, or things done at the mediation conference.
- P. The fees and expenses of the mediator shall be shared equally by the parties.

ARTICLE 12 ARBITRATION

Section 1. REFERRAL TO ARBITRATION

- A. If the Union and the Company fail to settle by negotiations any difference or dispute between them arising out of, pertaining to, or involving the interpretation, meaning, application, performance, or operation of any of the provisions of this contract, such grievance, difference, or dispute shall be referred to arbitration upon written request to the Company by the Union. The Union shall have four (4) months from the date of this request to contact the Company to initiate arbitration proceedings. Upon failure of the Union to make such contact, the grievance shall be considered closed.
- B. Neither the Union nor the Company shall take any steps or inaugurate any proceedings, legal or otherwise, to stay the arbitration of any such difference or dispute except and exclusively for the following reasons:
 - 1. That the grievance procedure has not been exhausted provided that the matter is one involving a grievance and provided, further, that neither party precludes the use of the grievance procedure, or;
 - 2. That the difference or dispute is expressly or specifically excluded from arbitration by express terms in the contract. Unless the contract

expressly provides that a specified difference or a specified dispute involving the interpretation, meaning, application, performance, or operation of a particular provision is excluded from arbitration, no such difference or dispute shall be considered as non-arbitrable.

Section 2. ARBITRATION PROCEDURE

- A. The arbitrator shall render decisions as expeditiously as possible on any and all matters submitted as provided in this Article. Unless waived or modified by mutual consent of the parties, the decision shall be rendered in no more than thirty (30) days from the date that the arbitrator receives from the parties all the facts to be used in the decision.
- B. The Union and the Company agree to provide all necessary facilities and cooperation with the arbitrator in every way possible.
- C. The arbitrator may make such investigation as he may deem proper.
- D. Either on his own initiative or at the request of either party, the arbitrator may hold a hearing and examine the witnesses of each party.
- E. Both the Company and the Union shall have the right to cross-examine all witnesses in the arbitration hearing.
- F. The arbitrator, the Union or the Company shall have the right to record or have recorded the proceedings of the arbitration.

Section 3. AUTHORITY AND DECISION OF ARBITRATOR

- A. The arbitrator shall have authority to rule on the full merits of any grievance, difference or dispute properly referred to him/her and shall have the authority to order performance either prospectively or retroactively.
- B. The arbitrator shall have no authority to add to or subtract from the provisions of any contract between the parties but this in no way shall limit him in the interpretation or meaning he may place upon any of the provision of any contract in rendering a decision and/or an award.
- C. The arbitrator shall have authority to decide on questions of fact or law involved in any difference or dispute referred to him.
- D. Where the dispute or complaint submitted to arbitration involves the payment of money by the Company, retroactively or otherwise, to an employee or employees within the bargaining unit covered by this Agreement, the arbitrator shall have the authority to include in his/her award an order for such payment of money, retroactively or otherwise, if, in his/her judgment, such money award is justified. However, in no other dispute submitted to arbitration shall the arbitrator have the authority to include in the award an order for the payment of money by either party to this Agreement to the other.
- E. The decision and/or award of the arbitrator shall be final and binding on both parties and enforceable in a court of law.

Section 4. COST OF ARBITRATION

- A. Compensation and expenses of the arbitrator and the general expenses of the arbitration shall be shared equally by the parties.
- B. Each party shall bear the expenses of its representatives and witnesses.

Section 5. SELECTION OF ARBITRATOR

- A. If, within fifteen (15) calendar days after receipt of the written request to arbitrate, the parties are unable to agree on the person to be selected as arbitrator, either or both parties may request a list of seven (7) arbitrators from the American Arbitration Association. After receipt of the list of arbitrators, the parties shall select an arbitrator from the list by alternately striking from the list until there is one (1) name remaining. The remaining name will be the arbitrator. The party who strikes the first name from the list shall be determined by lot.

ARTICLE 13
RECORDS

Section 1. PERSONNEL RECORDS

All personnel records kept by the Company regarding any employee within the bargaining unit shall be subject to his inspection.

- A. When entries other than those of a routine nature are made to an employee's personnel record which may affect the conditions of his employment, the employee shall be so advised.
- B. In the event of a dispute or grievance, all personnel records kept by the Company regarding any employee within the bargaining unit shall be subject to inspection of a certified Union Representative upon request, and with written approval of the employee.
- C. When entries other than those of a routine nature are made to an employee's personnel record which may affect terms and conditions of his/her employment, the employee will be given a copy of the entry upon request. The employee will be given the opportunity to affix his/her signature and date acknowledging that the employee has inspected the entry. Disciplinary entries (and all data related to such entries) without any intervening disciplinary action pertaining to similar subject matter shall not be referred to for any reason after a period of 30 months, unless the disciplinary action relates to the conduct that triggers a statutory obligation of the Company, a violation of the Company's Violence in the Workplace Policy, a conviction of a felony, or violates Title VII of the Civil Rights Act.

Section 2. GENERAL RECORDS

Records kept by the Company, which are pertinent to collective bargaining between the parties, shall be made available to certified Union Representatives upon request during the notification period (preceding contract negotiations) or during contract negotiations.

- A. In the event of a dispute or grievance, all records which are pertinent to the subject in dispute will be available to certified Union Representatives upon request.

ARTICLE 14 DISCHARGES, DEMOTIONS, AND SUSPENSIONS

Section 1. NOTICE

- A. No employee covered by this Agreement shall be demoted, suspended, or discharged except for proper cause.
- B. The Company shall give the employee or employees involved and a National Representative of the Union written notice and cause of any demotion, suspension, or discharge action.
- C. The Company agrees that no employee will be demoted, suspended, or discharged without prior complete investigation by the appropriate level of management.

Section 2. USE OF GRIEVANCE AND ARBITRATION PROCEDURE

Any employee or employees involved in any demotion, suspension, or discharge action shall have full access to the Grievance and Arbitration Procedure established by Articles 11 and 12 of this Agreement. (For exception, see Section 4 of this Article.)

Section 3. REINSTATEMENT

- A. If as a result of such grievance or arbitration procedure it is determined that the employee be reinstated, the Company agrees to reinstate the employee and to reimburse him to the extent agreed by the parties, in the case of a grievance, or to the extent awarded by the arbitrator, in the case of arbitration, on the following basis:
 - 1. In a discharge or suspension case, the employee shall receive his basic rate of pay for the time agreed or awarded, less the amount of the time agreed or awarded, less the amount of any termination pay received from the Company and unemployment compensation received or receivable and/or wages received from other employment.
 - 2. In a demotion case, the employee shall be made whole for the difference, if any, between his basic rate on the job to which he/she was demoted for the number of days the lower rated job to the extent agreed or awarded.

Section 4. LIMITATIONS

- A. In the event any employee is discharged who has less than six (6) months of net credited service, a charge that the discharge was without proper cause shall be subject to the full Grievance Procedure set forth in Article 11 of this Agreement, but shall not be subject to arbitration.
- B. In the event an employee is demoted who has less than three (3) months service in a job from which he/she is demoted, a charge that the demotion was without proper cause shall be subject to the Grievance Procedure set forth in Article 11 of this Agreement but shall not be subject to arbitration.

ARTICLE 15
NON-DISCRIMINATION

It is agreed that neither the Company nor the Union will discriminate against any employee because of race, creed, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, or membership or non-membership in the Union, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, and learning disabilities to the extent required by law, or any other status protected by law. We are also committed to the employment and advancement of qualified handicapped individuals, disabled veterans, and veterans of the Vietnam era. Commitment also is made to make reasonable accommodations for qualified handicapped individuals wherever feasible.

ARTICLE 16
PROMOTIONS, JOB VACANCIES AND TRAINING

Section 1. JOB BIDDING

- A. Pertinent information regarding all job classifications within the bargaining unit shall be permanently posted by the Company within all exchanges covered by this Agreement.
- B. When an approved vacancy exists, the Company will post the vacancy utilizing the on-line posting process (currently RECS) for one (1) calendar week. The posting will include vacancy specifics such as job title, location and department, as well as an outline of the education, experience, training, and other necessary qualifications required.
- C. The vacancy will be posted on a designated day of the week and remain active for one (1) calendar week. During the posting period, employees desiring to be considered for the vacancy may apply online through the Company Intranet (currently RECS).
- D. This procedure will be utilized by employees desiring a change of job classification, exchange, location or work group.
- E. Any changes to bidding procedure will be dependent upon mutual agreement.

- F. Job bids shall contain the job posting number, job classification and exchange requested, as well as an outline of the education, experience, training, and other necessary qualifications which the bidder feels that he/she possesses and which are pertinent to the job classification.
- G. All temporary and part-time vacancies, **Local Connection** Consultant vacancies and Utilityperson vacancies will not be posted for bidding purposes, but will be posted to reflect who received the job and how it was filled. However, employees desiring to be considered for these positions may apply online through the Company Intranet (currently RECS). The Company will notify the Union as to who was awarded the job.
- H. When an exchange has more than one (1) common place of reporting for the same job classification, a regular employee who wishes to transfer between such places of reporting shall submit an application on the Job Bid form in accordance with the provisions of Section 1.B. above. The bid shall also contain the present and requested place of reporting.
 - 1. An employee who successfully completes a specific Company provided technical training course such as EAX 1,2,3, GTD 5, 1000, ETS-4, TSPS, etc. of 200 hours or more duration which pertains to his/her job title will be required to perform in that job title for a period of twenty-four (24) months before he/she is eligible to bid under this paragraph.
- I. In the application of Article 2 Work Group, the Company may elect to establish separate work groups according to functional and/or specialized duties.
 - 1. For example: When there are Installation and Maintenance Specialists having the same place of reporting, those specializing in installation, maintenance, or key work, may be established as separate work groups.
 - 2. For example: When there are Equipment Technicians having the same place of reporting, those specializing in maintenance of step equipment versus S.A.T.T. equipment may be established as separate work groups.

The above is not intended to be all inclusive as to work groups that may be established but are several examples of work groups within a classification at one location.

- 3. When the Company initially establishes a functional or specialized work group within a classification at a reporting location, the qualified employees in the work group affected shall select movement into the new work group by seniority.
- 4. A regular employee who wishes to transfer between specialized work groups in a classification shall do so by order of seniority upon submitting an application on the Job Bid form and it shall be handled as a transfer.

5. When new job(s) in the bargaining unit are created by technological change, the job(s) shall be offered to a sufficient number of present employees in seniority order who are currently performing the work.

Section 2. FILLING JOB VACANCIES

A. Order of Priority

1. Vacancies shall first be filled by reinstatement from military leave of absence under the provisions of Article 31, Section 4.
2. Vacancies shall next be filled by grouping together employees wishing to return to their designated former job classification and exchange or to their designated former job classification in another exchange within the district, from which they were transferred, laid off, force adjusted, technologically displaced, or granted leave, as follows:
 - a. Employees transferred from one exchange to another or from one job classification to another at the instance of the Company under the provisions of Article 17, Section 1.B. for a period of four (4) years from the date of the transfer.
 - b. Employees moved from one exchange to another or one job classification to another as the result of a force adjustment under the provisions of Article 18, for a period of four (4) years from the date of the force adjustment.
 - c. Inactive employees wishing to return from either a medical leave of absence under Article 28 or a regular leave of absence under Article 30.
 - d. Inactive employees laid off under the provisions of Article 18.

All such employees wishing to return to their designated former job classification and exchange under this Section 2.A.2. will be considered concurrently, in seniority order. An employee may decline a vacancy more than thirty-five (35) miles (driving distance by shortest route as depicted on an Official Kentucky Highway Map) from their designated former job classification and exchange and still retain rights to consideration under this Section 2.A.2. Conversely, employees declining such vacancies within thirty-five (35) miles forfeit recall rights to their designated former job classification and exchange.

3. Vacancies shall next be filled by concurrently considering employees, in seniority order, who are:
 - a. Active employees in the same job classification wishing to transfer between different specialized work groups, places of reporting and/or exchanges within the bargaining unit. (See Article 17.)

- b. Regular full-time bidders from within the bargaining unit, including those bids described in Section 1.C. above.
 - c. Inactive employees laid off under the provisions of Article 18 desiring a job other than their designated former job classification and exchange.
 - d. Inactive employees wishing to return from either a medical leave of absence under Article 28 or from a regular leave of absence under Article 30, desiring a job other than their designated former job classification and exchange.
- 4. Vacancies shall next be filled by regular part-time employees bidding from within the bargaining unit in order of seniority.
 - 5. Vacancies shall next be filled by temporary employees within the bargaining unit in order of seniority.
 - 6. If there are no bids for that job classification and exchange or those bids are from ineligible or unqualified employees, the Company may fill the job vacancy from other sources.

B. Basis for Selection

- 1. The Company may require the passing of properly validated pre-placement tests as a condition of being considered as an eligible bidder for an announced vacancy.
- 2. Lateral moves, when excess force conditions exist in a particular job classification group, shall be handled in accordance with Article 17, Section 1, Paragraphs A. and B.
- 3. In considering for job vacancies the return of employees from leave of absence, the reemployment of laid-off employees, or the reclassification of part-time employees to full-time employees, the Company shall give consideration to seniority, qualifications, service requirements and the reason the employee desires the job vacancy. If the employee is returning from a leave of absence or a layoff, the Company shall also consider whether he has experienced any impairment during the leave or layoff which would render him unqualified to do the work, or whether he has been guilty of misconduct during the leave or layoff which would have been proper cause for discharge. Part-time employees who desire full-time work will be given preference for full-time vacancies in their job classifications and respective exchanges before new employees are hired for such vacancies.
- 4. Consideration shall be given in order of seniority to an employee's request to transfer in the same job classification between places of reporting in the same exchange (Section 1.C. above), provided that: a job vacancy exists in the location requested; he is qualified to perform the job duties required and his services can be profitably

utilized at the location requested; and service requirements permit his release from his present assignment. (Note: This Section 2.B.4. does not apply to employees in the Equipment Installer-Repairer job classification except for transfers submitted to Supply and Transportation since the common place of reporting for such employees is their entire exchange.)

5. In filling job vacancies through job bidding (except those stated in Section 2.B.4. above), seniority among those applicants who have passed required pre-placement test(s) shall be the determining factor if other necessary qualifications of the individuals are substantially equal, and further providing the service requirements permit the release of bidding employees from their present assignment. In determining the relative qualifications of competing eligible candidates, the Company will consider aptitude, skills, job knowledge, prior experience and job performance, dependability, and the candidates' performance in their interview process.

- (a) Company is not required to consider a bid from an employee who has not occupied his/her present job classification during the preceding fifteen (15) months.

However, if the Company considers a bid from such an employee, all such employees bidding on that job classification and exchange must be considered.

- (b) The provision of 5(a) above shall apply to employees who have been recalled or reclassified to their previous job following a force adjustment. However, all continuous time spent in their former location and/or job classification immediately preceding the force adjustment shall be included toward meeting the specified fifteen (15) months time limits.
- (c) The provision of 5(a) above shall not apply to employees who are force reduced under the provisions of Article 18 and who are reclassified to a lower rated job classification as a result.

C. Selection, Rejection, and Notification

1. If the selected employee declines to accept the vacant job upon notification or is otherwise unable to fill the vacant job within thirty (30) calendar days of the notification of selection, his job bid will be canceled. If the selected employee declines to accept the vacant job, he/she will not be eligible to bid on the same job classification and work location for a period of ninety (90) days.
2. The Company will notify the designated Union Representative and each eligible bidding employee with more seniority of the name and service date of the person who was selected to fill the job vacancy. The designated Union Representative and successful bidding

employee will be notified of the selection not later than thirty (30) days after the posting is removed from Company Bulletin Boards.

3. When a job posting is canceled, the designated Union Representative and the bidding employee(s) will be notified in writing.
4. A selection activity report will be furnished monthly to the Local Union Presidents with a copy to the CWA Staff Representative. Such report will contain a listing of all jobs filled in the preceding month. The information will also contain the name of the selectee, new job classification, new exchange and place of reporting, old job classification, old exchange and place of reporting, seniority date, selection date and job vacancy number.

D. Promotional Increase Treatment

1. When an employee is reclassified to a higher rated job classification, the employee's wage rate shall be adjusted to the rate of pay on the new schedule which is next above the employee's present rate. Progression increases will then proceed from the date of the previous progression increase.
2. Notwithstanding Section D.1. above, an employee who has been reclassified to a lower rated job as a result of a force reduction and who is subsequently promoted to any job classification on the wage schedule from which he/she was displaced (within 2 years) shall be placed on the appropriate wage step as indicated by their total wage length of service (wage experience credit) including credit for all time spent in the lower rated job.
3. When an employee is force adjusted under the provisions of Article 18 and is reclassified to a higher rated job classification previously held as a result, the employee's wage rate will be adjusted to the same wage step previously held while in that classification.

E. Moving Expense

1. When an employee bidding on a job is selected for a job vacancy, or otherwise fills a job at his request, any transfer or moving expense will be borne by the employee. The employee will suffer no loss of basic pay for reasonable time off to arrange for the moving of household furnishings and to make the trip to the new location.
2. Moving expenses in connection with a Company initiated transfer shall be in accordance with Article 23, Section 6.

Section 3. PREFERENCE FOR TRAINING

- A. When an employee within a work group is to be selected for formal training to equip him for some higher-rated work within the bargaining unit, the matter shall be treated and handled in line with the principles contained in Section 1 of Article 16.

1. "Formal Training" includes the selection of employees who are scheduled to relieve in a higher job within the bargaining unit.
2. In case of unanticipated need for selecting a person to fill in temporarily in a higher-rated job within the bargaining unit, the principles of seniority as outlined in Section 2 of Article 16 shall be used.
3. Formal training, the completion of which results in certificate of completion, shall be offered by seniority.

ARTICLE 17 TRANSFERS

Section 1. TRANSFERS

- A. When it is necessary to fill a job by a temporary or permanent transfer from one exchange to another, from one job classification to another, one work group to another, or one location to another, preference shall be granted in the order of seniority to employees who are willing to accept transfer, provided they meet the requirements of the job to be filled.
- B. When it is necessary to fill a job by a temporary or permanent transfer from one exchange to another, from one job classification to another, one work group to another, or one location to another, and no employee is willing to accept the transfer, the transfer shall be made by transferring in the inverse order of seniority provided they meet the requirements of the job to be filled.
- C. Temporary transfers may be made after the members performing essentially the same type of work in the work group into which the temporary transfers are to be made have been offered the opportunity to work six (6) days if such work is available.
 1. The Local President will be advised of any temporary transfers exceeding five (5) calendar days.
- D. When it is necessary temporarily to transfer employees from one exchange to another due to material shortage delaying work they are customarily assigned, or from lack of work, these temporary transfers shall not be considered as a requirement, that employees into whose exchange other employees are transferred be offered the sixth (6) day of work each week in the same or any other work group.
- E. Temporary transfers shall be limited to six (6) months' duration and shall be made in accordance with Paragraph A and B of this Article, except temporary transfers in case of service emergencies which may be made without following the provisions of Paragraphs A and B for a period of time not to exceed ten (10) calendar days.

- F. The provisions of Section 1.C. and 1.E. shall not apply to line crews temporarily transferred for periods not exceeding six (6) weeks or to Equipment Installer-Repairers working in their own classification.

Section 2.

- A. The Company recognized the undesirability, both from the standpoint of the transferred employees and of the resident employees, of temporarily transferring employees to work away from their regular location or of receiving employees from other companies for extended periods, and shall not effectuate such transfers except when the protection of the service requires that they be made or when the workload is such within a given period that the regular employees cannot perform the required work.
- B. Basic pay treatment for temporarily transferred employees shall continue in accordance with the wage progression schedule in effect within their job classification at their headquarters. Any evening or premium pay applicable shall be paid in accordance with the schedule for such premium in effect in the office or exchange in which they are temporarily working.

ARTICLE 18
FORCE REDUCTIONS

Section 1. REDUCTION IN FORCE

- A. The Company will notify the Local President and the appropriate CWA Staff Representative of known force reductions prior to the reductions.
- B. Whenever the Company deems it necessary to part-time or layoff regular employees such force adjustment shall be made effective among employees within the work group(s) concerned.
- C. When force adjustments are necessary, the Company agrees to negotiate the means for the reduction with the Union. If agreement is not reached within 15 days after negotiations begin, the Company will proceed as follows:
 - 1. If required by the provisions of Article 19 and/or any MOA dealing with subcontracting, contracted employees will be released immediately.¹
 - 2. Within particular functions affected by reduction in force, temporary and part-time employees will be immediately notified of layoff with two weeks' notice.
 - 3. In an attempt to minimize the number of involuntary force reductions, all employees within the work group(s) targeted for force reduction may be offered, at the Company's discretion, the option to

¹ Section 1.C.1. is not intended to impede the elimination of classifications as set forth in the attached MOA.

voluntarily accept one of the following, subject to their meeting the requirements of the option selected:

- a. Termination Pay Plan (TPP)
 - b. Employee Adjustment Income Plan (EAIP)
 - c. EAIP Alternative
- D. After complying with C.1, 2 & 3 above, further reductions shall be made by selecting employees for force reduction in inverse order of seniority within the work group(s) concerned.
1. Employees identified as surplus under Section 1 have the right to claim vacancies within the same district subject to the following:
 - a. Vacancy claimed will be one in which he/she currently or formerly worked successfully or is on the same or lower wage schedule.
 - b. The employee must be able to meet the minimum qualifications for any vacancy claimed.

Such employees will be grouped together with employees described in Article 16, Section 2.A.2. and considered concurrently for vacancies, in seniority order.

Section 2. EXERCISING SENIORITY

Any regular full-time employee having 12 or more months' seniority who has been identified as surplus under Section 1. above, shall have the right to claim another job within the bargaining unit in which he formerly worked successfully or any other job on the same or a lower wage schedule in the same department subject to the following:

- A. An employee exercising seniority to claim a job must claim the job currently filled by the employee having the least seniority in the job classification within the district selected. For the purposes of this Article 18, Section 2, the Lancaster District will be comprised of Berea, Bryantsville, Hustonville, Lancaster, Liberty and Paint Lick exchanges.
- B. An employee must be able to satisfactorily perform any job claimed without extensive training.

Section 3. RECALL

- A. For a period of four (4) years after the effective date of any layoff, force adjustment, technological displacement or involuntary transfer, the following will apply to employees laid-off or who have exercised their seniority under Article 18, or Article 17 involuntarily transferred:
 1. Employees with 12 or more months' seniority who have been laid-off or who have exercised their seniority under Article 18, or involuntarily transferred under Article 17, shall be given one offer of recall to a designated former job classification and exchange

subject to the provisions of Article 16, Sections 2.A.2, and the following:

At the time of any layoff, involuntary transfer, force adjustment, technological displacement or granting of leave, the Company will provide all employees a form on which to designate one (1) former job classification and exchange to which they desire recall. (NOTE: Employees force adjusted, technologically displaced or involuntarily transferred to multiple job classifications and exchanges over a period of time must choose and designate one (1) former job classification and exchange to which they desire recall.)

All employees are required to make such a designation for any and all layoffs, involuntary transfers, force adjustments, technological displacements and leaves of absence. Employees failing to designate a former job classification and exchange forfeit all recall rights until such time a designation is made. Employees may take or change their designation at any time by notifying Human Resources by certified U.S. Mail. In the event Human Resources receives multiple designations, the one (1) designation of latest date will prevail. Only those designations postmarked on or before the date Human Resources receives a personnel requisition will be considered valid for that requisition.

2. Laid-off (inactive) employees with 12 months' seniority will be given one offer of re-employment to a position other than their designated former job classification as vacancies occur. Acceptance or refusals of such a vacancy will not cancel the employees recall right to a former job classification and exchange within their former district, subject to the provisions of Article 16, Section 2.A.3., as vacancies occur. Acceptance or refusal of such a vacancy will not cancel the employee's recall rights to former job classification as described in Article 17 or Article 18.
3. For the purposes of recall under Article 17 or Article 18 the Berea, Bryantsville, Hustonville, Lancaster, Lexington, Liberty, Midway, Nicholasville, Paint Lick, Versailles and Wilmore exchanges shall be considered together as one district.
4. Employees being offered return from layoff will be notified by registered letter sent to the last mailing address shown in the Company's records. Employees must accept or refuse return within 10 days of mailing and if they accept must report to the job within 15 days from the date the offer was received or forfeit all rights to reinstatement.
5. No impairment which existed at termination of the last preceding period of Company service shall be considered as proper cause for a denial of reemployment.

6. Any employee rehired under this section shall have the continuity of his service protected. Interruptions in service of 30 days or less shall be treated as a furlough.
7. Where the time periods specified in 3.A.4. above will work an undue hardship on an employee, they may be extended.

Section 4. SEPARATION ALLOWANCE

Regular employees laid off in accordance with this Article shall be paid a termination allowance in accordance with the following table.

Complete Years of Net Credited Service	No. of Weeks Basic Pay
1	1
2	3
3	5
4	6
5	8
6	11
7	12
8	14
9	16
10	18
11	20
12	22
13	24
14	26
15	28
16	30
17	32
18	34
19	36
20 and over	40

Section 5. REASSIGNMENT PAY PROTECTION

When an employee is to be placed in a lower job classification as a result of force reduction or technological displacement and the employee's wage rate prior to the adjustment is in excess of the maximum wage rate for the new job, the employee's rate will be adjusted to the maximum rate for the new job, effective at the beginning of the first payroll period that occurs six months after the effective date of the reclassification. When the employee's rate of pay at the time of the adjustment is equal to or less than the top rate of the new job classification, the employee shall be paid at his/her existing rate.

Section 6. MEDICAL BENEFITS

When an employee is laid off under Article 18 and elects to continue medical benefits under COBRA, he/she will pay the Company, monthly, for such coverage the same amount as

he/she was paying prior to layoff, and the Company will pay the remainder. This arrangement will remain in place for six (6) months following layoff. At its option, the Company may issue a lump sum check to the employee for the amount the Company would have paid for such six (6) months of coverage.

ARTICLE 19 CONTRACTING WORK

1. The Company will not subcontract work normally performed by bargaining unit personnel (except as set forth in paragraph 2, below) if such subcontracting will cause the layoff of employees regularly performing essentially the same type of work. (This restriction shall not apply to work performed by employees holding job classifications, which will be eliminated during the life of this Agreement; Vehicle Maintenance Technician, Building Service Technician, and Public Access Sales Technician.)
2. Notwithstanding the above, the Company shall also have the right to contract construction work which is beyond the capacity of the regular employees to perform.
3. Prior to any layoff, and over a period of 60 days after the Company has notified the Union of a need for force reduction, the Company will meet with the Union for the purpose of bargaining with the Union as to how reductions in force may be limited or avoided through the elimination of contractors. Should such bargaining fail to produce an agreement, the Company will proceed with the force reduction in accordance with other provisions of this Agreement.
4. It is agreed that when work is contracted the Company will not permit the contractor to perform the work with personnel who are paid less than the minimum rate specified in this agreement for the crafts involved in the contracting work.
5. Effective January 1, 2006, the Union may reopen this Agreement for the sole purpose of bargaining modifications in this Article.

ARTICLE 20 WAGES

Section 1. All progression steps on the schedules will be applied automatically as shown in the Appendixes covering basic wages.

Section 2. The wage schedules agreed upon that apply to employees are set forth in Appendix 1 for Plant and Commercial Department employees.

Section 3. WAGE RATES

A. Full-time employees

The rates of pay and progression schedules for full-time employees shall be those shown in the appendixes covering basic wages.

B. Part-time employees

1. The actual rates and increases for part-time employees shall be determined by the accumulation of the actual hours worked as they relate to the normal, full-time work week.
 2. A part-time employee shall receive a progression increase when he has accumulated hours worked equal to the number of months on the particular progression step on the schedule.
- C. The Company shall have the right to determine the amount of wage credit for new employees who possess experience or training which qualify those individuals for rates of pay greater than the specified starting rates. A “new employee” is one who joins this bargaining unit from off the street, as opposed to a transfer in from a Windstream affiliate.

The Company shall also have the right to make necessary adjustments in the rates of pay for such employees for a six (6) month period after date of original employment.

ARTICLE 21 HOURS OF WORK AND BASIS OF COMPENSATION

Section 1. SCHEDULES

- A. Work schedules shall stipulate the starting and ending time of each session. At locations where no Management person is assigned to supervise the employee involved, a letter to such employee which meets the requirements of Section 1. Paragraph B., may be addressed to him/her advising that until further notice he/she is to work that schedule. At such locations, this shall be considered as complying with Section 1. Paragraph A.

Section 2. SELECTION OF HOURS ON SCHEDULE

- A. Employees transferred, reclassified to a new job, returning from leave of absence or furlough, or employees who shall have their service bridged shall be allowed to choose by seniority on the master schedule at the next 13 week revision after entering the work group.
- B. Sunday, Saturday and Holiday Schedules shall be rotated among the employees within a work group in such a manner as to provide approximately equal opportunity of securing Sunday, Saturday and Holidays as scheduled days off.
- C. All employees shall have the right to exercise or re-exercise their seniority in the selection of tours at each revision of the master schedule or at intervals of every 13 weeks in case there is no such revision. Any individual selecting a tour on the master schedule shall be assigned that tour if he/she is adequately qualified to perform the work of the selected tour and if service requirements permit, except that employees having less than three (3) months' service may be assigned any tours.

- D. Not more than thirty-one (31) days prior to the specified effective date of a new master schedule (Monday through Friday or Monday through Saturday, as appropriate) or in the reassignment of an existing master schedule, the Company will concurrently post:
 - 1. A copy of the schedule (or a notice) indicating the starting and ending time of tours, together with the starting and ending time of each session and the number of each group of tours.

Example –

<u>Scheduled Tours</u>	<u>Number of Tours</u>
8 a.m. – 12 noon – 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.	6
8 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. – 5 p.m.	4
9 a.m. – 1 p.m. – 5 p.m. – 9 p.m.	3
3 p.m. – 7 p.m. – 8 p.m. – 11 p.m.	3

The posting shall also show the effective date of the new schedule and the date (not earlier than three days following the date of posting) on which the Company will begin contacting employees.

- E. The Company shall make a reasonable effort to contact for choice of tours by seniority, employees on vacation, working out of town, on sick benefits, or not at work for any reason, employees who were unable to be reached previously. All contacts shall be operator verified.
- F. Any employee shall have the right to inform his/her supervisor of preferred tour choice, if they will be unavailable for any reason at the time selections are made.
- G. Any employee the Company cannot contact shall be assigned by seniority the best possible tours available upon their return to the work group.
- H. If two or more employees have the same seniority date, date of birth shall determine seniority order.
- I. No employee may choose the positions where they are to work. Management will have the right of placing them on the position where they are needed or where Management decides they are to work.

Section 3.

Tours may fall on any day of the week necessary to meet service requirements except that the tours and part tours which make up the normal work week may not be spread over more than six (6) days of the calendar week.

No employee shall be scheduled to work more than thirteen (13) consecutive days, except in a case of a service emergency.

Section 4. CHANGE IN SCHEDULED TOURS

- A. Tours may be shifted or changed at the request of any employee. Requests for such changes will be accepted between the hours of 7 a.m. and 6 p.m. on

Monday through Friday even though the requested changes may fall on any day of the calendar week.

Changes, as stated above, will be accepted provided:

1. No replacement of the employee's schedule is required and when the services of the employee making the request may be profitably used during the hours to which he wishes to change.
 2. When a replacement of the employee's schedule is required, the change shall be made providing an agreeable shift can be made in the schedule of another employee, and providing such other employees agree to work the shifted tours at the regular rate.
- B. Hours worked during tours shifted by the Company shall be paid for as follows:
1. All hours worked within the 48 hours after notice of the shift but outside of the officially posted tour shall be paid for at the overtime rate.
 2. All hours worked after expiration of 48 hours notice and outside of the officially posted tour shall be paid for as if no shift in such tour had been made.
- C. If the Company contacts an employee in connection with a shift of his tour and the employee agrees to the shift, the shift shall not be considered at the request of the employee.
- D. It is understood by the parties that, in order to meet service requirements, meal periods of various durations are scheduled by the Company.

However, consideration will be given to requests from a shift within a work group to schedule meal periods for different durations when service requirements can be met.

Should it become necessary to change meal periods requested by the work group, the provisions of Article 21, Section 4.B.1. will not apply.

Section 5. RELIEF PERIODS

- A. All employees shall be assigned or allowed one fifteen (15) minute relief period during each session worked.
1. Such relief periods shall be scheduled or allowed as near the mid-point of the session as feasible or practicable but, in no event, shall they be scheduled to start less than one (1) hour from the beginning or end of each session unless a service emergency develops.
 2. Employees who drive Company vehicles in the normal course of employment may be permitted to take early or late relief at the direction of the immediate supervisor for improved efficiency when arriving at or leaving the job location.

3. Any employee working sixteen (16) hours or more **within a 24 hour period** shall have an eight (8) hour rest period before reporting to his next scheduled tour of duty. **Any eight (8) hour rest period will restart the 24 hour period.** If such rest period extends into the employee's regular scheduled tour, he shall not be required to report to work but will be paid his regular straight-time rate of pay for all hours that extended into his regular scheduled time. Should an employee be required to report back to work, and before the eight (8) hours has elapsed, he shall be paid one and one-half (1-1/2) times his regular rate of pay for all hours worked until eight (8) hours from the time his rest period began.

Section 6. ARRANGEMENT OF TOURS

- A. Arrangement of tours shall be as specified by the Company.
- B. The Company shall have the right to determine the number of employees that are to be scheduled at any time.

Section 7. TIME WORKED OUTSIDE OF SCHEDULED TOURS

- A. All employees required to work outside of a scheduled tour of duty will be paid a minimum of two hours pay at the overtime rate. (See exception Section 8.)
 1. In the event any employee is called for work, and after reporting for duty, it is found that there is not work available, he shall be credited with two (2) hours of work.
- B. Employees on such "call-out" shall have wages computed for a reasonable period from the time the employee leaves the residence until the time the employee returns to the residence, immediately upon completion of the call-out assignment(s).

Section 8. PART-TIME EMPLOYEES

- A. Part-time employees may work on days off, or additional hours outside their posted schedule on any day without being paid the overtime rate if the total hours are not over eight (8) per day or forty (40) per week.
- B. Part-time employees shall be utilized on tours that have not been selected by regular full-time employees.
- C. Part-time employees.
 1. The actual rates and increases for part-time employees shall be determined by the accumulation of the actual hours worked as they relate to the normal full-time work week.
 2. A part-time employee shall receive a progression increase when he has accumulated hours worked equal to the number of months on the particular progression step on the schedule.

Section 9. SEPARATE SCHEDULES – SATURDAY AND/OR SUNDAY AND HOLIDAY

Where separate Saturday and/or Sunday and holiday schedules are used, the following procedures shall be followed:

- A. When separate Saturday and Sunday schedules are used, employees who are to be assigned work on Saturdays and Sundays under the provisions of this agreement may notify their supervisor in writing of their preference for choice of tours by no later than noon Monday preceding the Saturday or Sunday involved. Such tours will be assigned as chosen in accordance with seniority insofar as service requirements permit. This notification of preference does not permit the employee to be assigned better hours than her/his seniority entitles. Employees who have not notified the supervisor as outlined above, will be assigned the same tour, or the nearest available tour as they are assigned on other days of the week.
- B. Where separate holiday schedules are used, the Company will post a copy of the schedule to be worked by no later than Monday of the fourth week preceding the week in which the schedule involved becomes effective. Also the Company will concurrently post a list of employees tentatively assigned to work the holiday. It is recognized that the employees scheduled to work the holiday may vary from the list of employees tentatively assigned to work the holiday due to service requirements and changes in the force available. Employees who are to be assigned work on holidays under the provisions of this agreement may notify their supervisor in writing of their preference for choice of tours by no later than noon Monday of the third week preceding the holiday. Such tours will be assigned as chosen in accordance with seniority insofar as service requirements permit. This notification of preference does not permit the employee to be assigned better hours than her/his seniority entitles. Employees who have not notified the supervisor, as outlined above, will be assigned the same tour or the nearest available tour as they are assigned on other days of the week.

Section 10. EMPLOYEES RETURNED TO THE BARGAINING UNIT

Employees may be returned to the bargaining unit, in seniority order and shall do so in strict compliance with Article 5 of this Agreement.

Section 11. 4-10 SCHEDULES

The Company and the Union agree to establish a ten (10) hour day, forty (40) hour work week. Four-ten schedules may apply in any situation where the employees and management mutually agree to the assignment.

- A. Overtime – Overtime will be paid for hours worked in excess of ten (10) in any one day or forty (40) in any one week. An exception is made when an employee is allowed to make up time as described in paragraph 4.A.

B. Holidays

1. All weeks which contain a fixed holiday (New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Fourth of July, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, Day after Thanksgiving, and Christmas Day) will be handled in one of the following ways: The affected employees will agree to either revert to normal eight hour days in order to be paid the normal 40 hours per week, or as an alternative, employees may remain on a ten hour schedule and work thirty hours for the week. A third option may be made available by the Company on a case-by-case basis only when business considerations warrant. The Company may allow the employee to work three days and make up the additional two hours on straight time during the three days.
2. With supervisory approval, the five optional holidays, may be scheduled during the ten-hour tours. These holidays will be converted to 40 hours. An employee scheduled off for one of the holidays listed in this paragraph will be compensated for up to ten (10) hours. The compensated hours will be deducted from the employee's total holiday hours. Holidays must be scheduled in increments of ten (10) or eight (8) hours, unless the remaining total hours are less than eight (8) hours. Holiday time paid but not worked, up to a maximum of ten (10) hours, will be counted toward the calculation of overtime.

Employees on a 4-10 schedule will receive the same total number of paid holiday hours as employees on a 5-8 schedule.
3. For the employee on the four-ten schedule who works on the holiday or day designated as holiday, holiday allowance is eight (8) hours and pay for the time worked will be computed in accordance with Article 24.

C. Vacation – Vacation shall be paid on the basis of forty (40) hours per week. A vacation week will be paid on the basis of five (5), eight (8) hour days. However, should an employee take a vacation day as “day at a time”, they will be allowed to take four (4) ten (10) hour days. In no case will an employee receive more hours of vacation per vacation week as a result of being on a four-ten schedule than an employee who is not on a four-ten schedule.

D. Authorized Paid Absences (death in immediate family, and jury/witness duty) – in those instances where payment is provided for authorized absences, the pay will be up to ten (10) hours per day.

E. Sickness – Disability Benefits – For an employee working the four-ten schedule, payments will be made on the basis of a ten (10) hour day. When applicable, a waiting day will be limited to eight (8) hours.

Section 12. MEAL PERIODS

It is understood by the parties that, in order to meet service requirements, meal periods of various durations are scheduled by the Company.

However, consideration will be given to requests from a shift within a work group to schedule meal periods for different durations when service requirements can be met.

Should it become necessary to change meal periods requested by the work group, the provisions of Article 21 will not apply.

ARTICLE 22
PREMIUM AND DIFFERENTIAL PAYMENTS

Employees in all departments shall be paid in addition to their basic rates, premiums for evening or night tours worked in accordance with the following:

Section 1. Employees will be paid 10% of their hourly wage if any portion of their shift falls between 8:00 p.m. and before 6:00 a.m.

- A. Where a combination of scheduled and overtime work on the same day extends into a period for which night premiums are payable, only the overtime rate shall be paid for the hours which are worked beyond the normal scheduled time.
- B. Night premiums will not be paid when an employee is receiving the overtime rate. Evening or night premiums will not be paid for call-outs.

Section 2. WORKING LEADER

Any employee who serves as a working leader shall be paid, in addition to his/her basic rate, differential rates in accordance with the following table: (The principles outlined in Article 16, Section 2.B.4. shall apply to appointments of Working Leaders):

Number of Employees	Weekly
<u>Assigned</u>	<u>Differential</u>
1	\$15.00
2 and over	\$30.00

Section 3. DIFFERENTIAL FOR WORKING ON HIGHER RATED JOBS

- A. The basic rate of an employee substituting in a higher rated non-bargaining unit hourly rated position, shall be paid at the next higher rate on the wage schedule for the job in which he/she is substituting, providing the employee works in a higher rated job for one (1) hour or more in any one (1) day.
- B. Any bargaining unit employee who substitutes in a higher rated job within the bargaining unit shall be paid at the next higher rate on the wage schedule for the job in which he/she is substituting. The employee shall be paid the

appropriate rate for all time worked in the higher rated job with the new rate being at least \$.50 greater than the employee's regular basic wage rate.

Section 4. MANAGEMENT RELIEF DIFFERENTIALS

- A. Hourly employees who are designed by management to be in charge of other hourly employees or of a non-supervisory managerial function will receive an in-charge differential of \$.75 per hour.
 - 1. The above shall apply if the employee relieving works in the position a minimum of one (1) hour.

Section 5. DIFFERENTIAL FOR TRAINING

An employee directed by the Company to assist in the training of any employee shall be paid 10% of their basic wage in addition to his basic rate per session. The opportunity to assist with training will be offered by seniority.

Section 6. Employees working split tours shall be paid in addition to their regular rate the amount of \$2.50 per tour if both sessions of the tour are worked in whole or in part.

ARTICLE 23
TRAVEL TIME AND TRAVEL CONDITIONS

Section 1. PLACE OF REPORTING

- A. The Company shall designate the place within his/her headquarters at which an employee shall report for work.
 - 1. This may be at an office, garage, storeroom or place of vehicle storage. In case of plant forces who do not operate a motor vehicle in performing their regular duties, they shall report to the job location when employees must relieve each other. However, this does not preclude the reporting by any member of a work group to the job site when mutually agreed thereto by the parties concerned.
 - 2. Nothing in this section shall be construed as prohibiting the Company from designating the job or a location en route to the job for any employee when such designation is requested by the employee and agreeable to the Company.
 - 3. The headquarters for Equipment Installer-Repairers shall be Ashland, Lexington, or Morehead.

Section 2. TIME CONSIDERED WORKED

- A. Time spent by an employee in traveling from his/her designated place of reporting to the job, and from the job back to such place at the conclusion of the day's work, shall be considered as time worked.
- B. Time during the scheduled or assigned hours of an employee which is spent at the direction of the Company in traveling from one job assignment to another or from one town to another shall be considered as time worked.

- C. Time spent by an employee, at the direction of the Company, in traveling before or after the hours of his/her scheduled or assigned tour, which may be described as “all in a day’s work,” shall be considered as time worked.
- D. Where an employee is directed to travel continuously for more than a full work day, the time spent traveling shall be compensated for at the basic rate for one travel tour. Time spent traveling in Company vehicles shall be considered as time worked.
- E. An employee required to travel on a day on which he/she was not scheduled or assigned to work or on Saturday, Sunday or a holiday shall be considered as working on those days.
- F. Employees who drive Company vehicles in the normal course of their work may drive a reasonable distance for relief and/or meal periods. Driving for meal periods shall be on the employee’s own time.

Section 3. TRAVEL EXPENSE

Employees who are required to work away from their headquarters and are not returned to such headquarters at the end of the working day shall have their expenses handled in accordance with the following:

- A. The Company will specify the means of transportation to be used, other than the employee’s personal car; however, the Company, at its option, may authorize the employee to use his/her personal car if it is agreeable to the employee. Whenever an employee is authorized to use his/her personal car in connection with job duties, such car shall be used as directed by the Company, and the Company will reimburse the employee per the current IRS guidelines.

This mileage allowance will be increased during this Agreement’s term to match allowance increases for non-bargaining unit employees.

- B. The Company may, at its option request that an employee obtain a corporate credit card. The employee may accept or reject that request. If the employee accepts the request and obtains the credit card, the employee must comply with the Company’s Travel and Entertainment Policy.
- C. When an employee is sent out of town to work or attend meetings or school requiring an overnight stay, the Company shall select and pay for lodging and transportation whether by the employee’s corporate card or otherwise.
- D. For meals, the employee can choose to have the meals paid pursuant to the following options:
 - 1) If the Employee does not have a Company credit card, the company will pay the employee a per diem of \$42.00 for each full day away overnight. This per diem shall cover all expenses other than lodging and transportation to and from the school, meeting or assignment. When such overnight assignments involve partial days out of the area, the Company shall

reimburse the employee a partial per diem for meals purchased as follows: \$10.00 for breakfast, \$12.00 for lunch, and \$20.00 for dinner.

- 2) If the employee has a corporate card, the employee may use the corporate card to cover all meals for the trip.
- 3) Employees must choose either the per diem or the corporate card option for the entire trip and may not split reimbursement between per diem and corporate card.
4. A commuting allowance per day or part day worked in lieu of all other expenses. When receiving the commuting allowance, the employee travels on his/her own time, using personal transportation to and from his/her regularly established home. Such employee may be directed or permitted to ride one way in a Company vehicle without depriving the employee of this allowance.

ZONE COMMUTING ALLOWANCE

Zone 1 - \$12.00	Up to 20 miles
Zone 2 - \$20.00	21 to 40 miles
Zone 3 - \$28.00	41 to 60 miles
Zone 4 - \$35.00	Over 60 miles

Employees traveling on Company business to a location outside of Kentucky will be allowed a meal allowance of \$ **42.00** per day for each full day of travel.

5. Company provided lodging with the meal allowance as provided in Section 3.D.1. above.
 - A. Notwithstanding other provisions of this Agreement, employees will be paid the appropriate commuting allowance (See Section D.4 above) when working in his/her home location, when such assigned location is not in his/her headquarters, unless such alternate reporting is by mutual agreement of the employee and management. Where there is mutual agreement, alternate reporting, without commuting allowance, is appropriate at any reporting location.
 - B. When the Company has not returned an employee (who is receiving expenses under Section 3.D.1 or 3.D.3 above) to his/her headquarters by the weekend or other day(s) off and when work conditions permit, such employee may return to his/her home on his/her own time with his/her travel expenses paid by the Company. The Company will not pay travel expense in excess of the amount the Company would have otherwise paid for board and lodging for the period involved. Any amount in excess of board and lodging will be paid by the employee. Such employee will be expected to report back to his/her temporary work location at the beginning of his/her

next scheduled tour. If the employee remains at the temporary work location during scheduled off days, expenses will be provided under Section 3.D.1. or 3.D.3 for such day(s).

- C. When an employee is sent out of state, and the Company determines that the allowances established under Section 3.D.1. or 3.D.3. above are inadequate, additional allowances will be authorized.

Section 4. After reporting to work if an employee uses his/her personal vehicle in the daily course of work at the direction of the Company, mileage will be paid for reporting to other work locations during the day. Such payments would be in addition to any applicable commuting allowance.

Section 5. EXPENSES IN CONNECTION WITH PERMANENT TRANSFERS

- A. The Company shall pay transfer or moving expenses when an employee is permanently transferred at the instance of the Company.
- B. The employee will suffer no loss of regular pay for reasonable time off to arrange for the moving of household furnishings and to make the trip to the new location.

Section 6. EXPENSES IN CONNECTION WITH FORCE REDUCTION

Transfer or moving expense in connection with the exercise of the rights under Article 18 shall be borne by the employee except that he/she shall suffer no loss of basic pay for up to 2 days off to arrange for the moving of household furnishings and travel time to the new location.

Section 7. When employees are attending Company sponsored training schools outside the state of Kentucky for a period of time in excess of three (3) weeks, they may be allowed to return to their headquarters once every three (3) weeks with reasonable travel expenses paid by the Company provided they do not absent themselves from class.

ARTICLE 24 HOLIDAYS

Section 1. Both parties recognize the importance of providing exceptional customer service and also allowing additional flexibility for employees to observe holidays. To maximize these objectives the following holiday schedule will be effective:

- Eight Designated Holidays
 - New Years Day
 - Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
 - Memorial Day
 - Fourth of July
 - Labor Day
 - Thanksgiving Day
 - Day after Thanksgiving
 - Christmas Day

- Five Optional Holidays

Section 2. HOLIDAYS EXCUSED AND WORKED

- A. Insofar as service requirements permit, employees, except those described in 1 and 2 below, shall be excused with basic pay on designated holidays.
1. Absentees, meaning employees failing to report for scheduled work on the holiday, or on either of the days which immediately precede or follow the holiday, shall receive no pay for the holiday unless such absences are excused as indicated below:
 - a. Excused absences are illnesses or those absences with pay as specified under non-productive time, Article 29.
 - b. Requested days off when granted by management will be considered as excused absence under this section, provided such request for absence was made in a reasonable time in advance of the absence.
 2. Employees on formal or informal leaves of absence for five (5) or more days in a holiday week, including the holiday, are not eligible for such holiday.
- B. Insofar as service requirements permit, holiday assignments shall be rotated among the employees within a particular work group.
1. Each holiday will be considered separately in the rotation of holiday schedules.

Section 3. When a designated holiday falls within an employee's vacation period, an additional day of vacation shall be provided to connect with the vacation period, or at another time if requested by the employee and approved by the Company.

Section 4. When a designated holiday falls on an employee's scheduled day off, he/she may be granted another day off within the same work week.

Section 5. As to employees not normally subject to Saturday scheduling, if the holiday falls on Saturday the preceding Friday will be observed.

Section 6. When a designated holiday falls on Sunday, the following Monday shall be recognized and observed as the holiday.

Section 7. New hire and rehired employees will receive, in the calendar year of hire or rehire, Optional Holidays as follows:

<u>Hire/Rehire Date</u>	<u>Number of hours</u>
Prior to August 1 st	24 hours
After August 1 st but before September 1 st	16 hours
After September 1 st	Not eligible

- A. While it is recognized that there may be appropriate exceptions, each employee is expected to notify the supervisor at least seven (7) calendar days

preceding the day desired to observe as an Optional Holiday so that management may review work requirements to determine that the day requested is available so that the schedule may be properly posted. The supervisor may waive this requirement. Employees may be granted an Optional Holiday under special circumstances without regard to the time limit as provided herein with the approval of the supervisor.

- B. When two (2) or more employees in a work group select the same day and because of service requirements all requests cannot be approved, the less senior employee(s) will choose alternate day(s) in order of seniority.
- C. If there is a failure to select an Optional Holiday by September 1, management will designate the day(s) to be observed. However, Optional Holidays not taken by the end of the year will be forfeited unless the employee was denied the opportunity to use these days by year-end. Optional Holidays will not be paid upon termination from the Company.

Section 8. PERSONAL TIME OFF

- A. Regular full-time employees will be eligible to take time off from work to take care of immediate personal needs.
- B. Employees who elect to utilize this benefit will do so by using up to five (5) optional holidays, if eligible. Time off shall be granted in increments of four (4) hours, for a total not to exceed forty (40) per year.
- C. At least forty-eight (48) hours advance supervisory notice and approval are required prior to the beginning of the employee's tour. This forty-eight (48) hour notice may be waived by mutual consent. Based on service requirements, supervision reserves the right to grant or deny the request.
- D. Should any increment of the eight hours remain as of November 1, supervision may schedule the remaining increment to ensure orderly work force management.
- E. The supervisor's denial of a request is subject to the grievance procedure but not the arbitration procedure of the Collective Bargaining Agreement.

ARTICLE 25 SUNDAY, HOLIDAY AND OVERTIME PAYMENTS

Section 1. Payment shall be made at the overtime rate for all time worked in any one day in excess of the length of a normal tour and for time worked in any one calendar week in excess of five such tours or their equivalent.

Section 2. SUNDAY PAY

Employees working on Sunday shall be paid at the rate of one and one-half times the basic hourly rate for all time worked and shall also receive any applicable evening or night premium. The first eight (8) hours worked on Sunday shall be included in the basic forty

(40) hours when computing overtime due for the time worked in excess of the normal work week.

Section 3. HOLIDAY PAY

Employees who work on a designated holiday shall be paid (in addition to one day's regular pay) at the rate of one and one-half times the basic hourly rate for all time worked. In addition, they shall also receive any applicable evening or night premium.

Section 4. Insofar as practicable, overtime work shall be assigned to employees within a work group who desire it.

Section 5. Employees called out to work during hours outside their scheduled hours for that day shall be paid at the overtime rate for all such call-out hours. (See exception Article 21, Section 4.A. and 8.)

Section 6. Employees who are scheduled to work on December 24 or December 31 shall be paid at the overtime rate for all time worked after 7 p.m.

Notwithstanding any other provisions of this Agreement, when Christmas falls on Sunday the Holiday schedule will apply on Sunday and the weekend schedule will apply on Monday.

Note: This paragraph applies to scheduling only and in no way alters or adjusts payment of wages.

Section 7. NON-COMPOUNDING OF OVERTIME

- A. Any overtime paid for work on any day or days will not be compensated for again in computing overtime due for the week.
- B. Absent paid time for a holiday, a day at a time vacation, jury and witness duty, death in the immediate family, pallbearer time, and excused non-paid time of Local Union Officers spent on Union activity shall be included in the computation of overtime. All other absent paid time shall not be included in the computation of overtime.

ARTICLE 26
EQUALIZATION OF OVERTIME PAY
WORK OPPORTUNITY

Section 1. Opportunity for overtime pay work shall be equalized insofar as practicable within each work group.

- A. Insofar as practicable, overtime shall be assigned to employees who desire for it.
- B. In connection with the Union's review of an alleged grievance, the Company will furnish the record of overtime hours worked by employees within the work group involved.

Section 2. POSTING OF OVERTIME RECORDS

- A. At 11:00 A.M. on the Friday following the close of each payroll period an overtime report will be **emailed** to all employees in the Work Group. This list will be used for any overtime assignments made after the 11:00 A.M. posting that are to be

worked during the 2-week period beginning at midnight on the Saturday following its posting. A separate report will be prepared for each work group and will list the employees in order of the number of overtime hours worked during the reporting period. The overtime hours will include all overtime worked, including but not limited to non-scheduled hours worked and connecting overtime worked.

- B. The overtime report will show for each employee, his/her name, and cumulative total of overtime hours worked during the elapsed portion of a 12-month period. The 12-month period will begin on the first day of a payroll period following the anniversary of the collective bargaining agreement and conclude at the end of the twelfth month (twenty-sixth payroll period). At the start of each 12-month period the overtime report will begin anew. Employees entering a new work group (either temporarily or permanently) will be credited with the same amount of overtime as worked in the Work Group from which they came.
 - 1. If 2 or more employees in the work group worked the same number of overtime hours, such employees will be grouped and listed in inverse order of their seniority.
 - 2. Employees who do not desire overtime must notify their supervisors in writing or email. This notification will be indicated by an asterisk on the report and will remain in effect until canceled in writing or email. The initial notification and the subsequent cancellation must be received one week prior to the posting of the overtime report.
 - 3. This does not preclude employees from working connecting overtime, service emergencies, or when no one else is available to work.
- C. Non-connecting, non-scheduled overtime will be offered to available employees in the work group, excluding those who do not desire overtime, in the inverse order of the overtime hours worked in the posted period (as described in Section 2A).
- D. When an employee declines, after being offered an overtime assignment, the next employee on the overtime report, omitting those who do not desire overtime, will be contacted. This procedure will be followed until someone accepts or all available employees in the work group have been contacted (or an attempt to contact has been made) and offered the assignment. Should all available employees in the work group decline, the overtime will be assigned to the employee lowest in seniority, including those who do not desire overtime, unless the employee has a valid personal reason for not accepting the assignment, in which case the employee with the next lowest seniority will be required to work the overtime.
- E. When a supervisor fails to offer non-connecting, non-scheduled overtime to available employees in the inverse order listed on the report and offers the assignment to another employee or employees, the by-passed available employees will be offered the next available overtime opportunity first and if the Employee is unavailable to work such overtime, the Company shall continue to offer Employee overtime (for up to one month) until the Employee is available to work the missed overtime.

- F. Under this procedure an employee may be offered connecting overtime without regard to his/her position on the overtime report if he/she has been working on such assignment.
- G. Employees who are on vacation for one or more full weeks will be considered as unavailable beginning with the Sunday of the first week and ending with the Saturday of the last week. Employees on vacation for less than a week will be considered as unavailable on the day(s) they are on vacation.
- H. Nothing in this Article shall suggest that overtime is not a required element of the job.

ARTICLE 27
VACATIONS

Section 1. VACATION ELIGIBILITY

- A. Employees shall be granted a vacation with basic pay during each calendar year as follows:

Two (2) weeks vacation to employees with less than four (4) years' service.

Three (3) weeks vacation to employees who will complete four (4) or more years of service within the calendar year in which the vacation is granted.

Four (4) weeks vacation to employees who will complete **Twelve (12)** or more years of service within the calendar year in which the vacation is granted.

Five (5) weeks vacation to employees who will complete twenty-five (25) or more years of service within the calendar year in which the vacation is granted.

Note: The service prescribed by the above shall be the net credited service.

- B. Employees with less than twelve (12) months of service.

New hires will receive in the calendar year of hire, the following vacation hours:

Hire Date	Number of Hours
Prior to August 1 st	24
After August 1 st but before Oct. 1 st	16
After October 1 st	Not Eligible

At the start of a calendar year, employees with less than twelve (12) months of service will receive two (2) weeks of vacation at the beginning of the calendar year after their hire.

- C. REHIRES

Rehired employees will receive vacation benefits as set forth in Section 1.B, including the two (2) weeks of vacation at the start of a calendar year, until they have been credited with prior net credited service. After they are credited with prior net credited service they will

receive additional vacation equal to the difference of their annual vacation under Section 1.A. less eighty (80) hours.

D. A part-time employee is entitled to one (1) week's vacation with pay after working 2,080 hours. Thereafter, the amount of vacation they will receive per year will be determined by relating their net credited service to A. above. Vacation pay for part-time employees shall be based on the average number of hours worked per week during the most recent four (4) weeks as described in Article 2.

E. Employees must work the first week of the calendar year (or at least one-week after returning from a leave of absence) in order to be eligible for vacation.

Section 2. VACATION ASSIGNMENTS

- A. Insofar as service requirements permit, vacations may be taken at any time during the calendar year and shall be scheduled in the order of seniority within a particular work group. Not later than November 1 of the preceding year, the Company shall post a statement showing the available periods within which vacations may be taken and the number of vacations available for each period, for the following year.
- B. Not earlier than November 15 the Company will make a reasonable effort to contact employees, in the order of their seniority, so that they may choose a vacation period from those available. Employees who will not be readily available between November 15 and December 15 may express their preference for choice of vacation periods in advance of being contacted and, if available, their vacation periods will be assigned as chosen in accordance with seniority insofar as service requirements permit. Employees not making a selection at time of contact, employees not expressing advance choices, employees whose advance choice is not available, and employees whom the Company was unable to contact after a reasonable effort to do so, shall be passed over but shall have the right to make a selection from the remaining available vacation periods in accordance with their seniority at any subsequent time prior to December 15. For an employee electing to take his/her vacation in segments, he/she shall be entitled to exercise preference for only one segment until all other employees who have expressed preference for their vacation or the first segment have been assigned or have been passed over because their preference was not available. A segment of vacation is a continuous period of vacation (in full week increments beginning with Sunday of the first week and ending with Saturday of the last week) with no work time between the beginning and end of such vacation period. Employees who have not made a vacation selection by December 15 may be assigned any of the remaining available periods.

During the selection period an employee who has made a selection will not be allowed to change that selection. Insofar as service requirements permit, an employee shall be assigned the vacation period of his/her choice.

1. The "order of seniority" as used in this section shall be determined by the employee's seniority on January 1 of the vacation year.

2. After vacation assignments have been completed, a list of such assignments shall be prepared and posted or shall be otherwise available to employees throughout the calendar year.
 3. The Company will give consideration to a request of an employee based upon his impelling reasons for a vacation period not included in the posting under A. above.
- C. Vacations may be rescheduled during the unexpired portion of the vacation year upon the request of any employee.
1. Provided no replacement is required, vacation periods shall be rescheduled upon the request of an employee.
 2. Where a replacement is required and an agreeable change can be made with another employee, vacation periods shall be rescheduled upon the request of an employee.
- D. Once vacations have been scheduled they shall not be changed at the initiative of the Company except in cases where service requirements demand such changes or such changes will obviate the layoff or separation of other employees.

Section 3.

- A. Vacations shall not be accumulated from year-to-year. In successive calendar years, vacations cannot be taken consecutively.
- B. Employees cannot waive their vacations and draw double pay for working during the time allowed.
- C. Notwithstanding any other provisions of this Agreement, employees unable to take their remaining vacation in the current calendar year due to being on a Sickness-Disability period may reschedule such remaining vacation time in the next succeeding calendar year, but no later than March 31st of that year.
- D. The vacation schedule for a calendar year will include the last week of that calendar year, even if it overlaps into the following calendar year, unless December 31 falls on a Sunday.

Section 4. VACATION TREATMENT TO EMPLOYEES LEAVING THE SERVICE

An employee who leaves the employment of the Company other than by discharge for cause before his/her vacation is completed, shall be granted pay in lieu of such vacation at termination provided he/she has given the Company a minimum of two (2) weeks prior notice of his/her leaving.

Section 5. VACATION TREATMENT FOR EMPLOYEES RETURNING TO THE SERVICE

An employee who resumed employment following a leave of absence and who has not previously received his/her vacation for the year in which he/she resumes employment shall

be eligible for a vacation when he/she has worked for as much as thirteen weeks following his/her last paid vacation.

Section 6. VACATIONS FOR EMPLOYEES TRANSFERRING

- A. An employee transferring to an associated company before his/her vacation is scheduled to begin shall receive such vacation before transferring to the other company, if such transfer is arranged on that basis. If the transfer is made before the vacation is given, the company receiving the employee on transfer will be so advised.
- B. An employee eligible for vacation under this Agreement, transferring to this Company from an associated company shall receive a vacation for the current year from this Company unless he/she has previously received such vacation from the other company.
- C. Vacation Limitation. Vacations are not cumulative and may be taken only during the calendar year within which they are due. Exception: Section 3.C. of this Article.

Section 7. DAY-AT-A-TIME VACATIONS

- A. Employees will be allowed to take vacation on one-day-at-a-time basis with the following restrictions:
 - 1. All vacation weeks will be selected as provided in Section 2 prior to any request for day-at-a-time is considered.
 - 2. All vacation day-at-a-time requests will be approved on a service requirements permitting basis.
 - 3. Employees wishing to take a vacation day-at-a-time will make this request a minimum of seven (7) days in advance.
 - 4. At the time the vacation day is approved, the employee will specify in writing the day and vacation week from which the day-at-a-time vacation will be deducted.
 - 5. Vacation weeks will be taken according to the schedule unless used via vacation day-at-a-time.

Section 8. VACATION BANKING

A. Employees eligible for four (4) weeks or more of vacation may carry forward a limited number of weeks each vacation year in accordance with the following provisions:

1. Employees eligible for four (4) or more weeks of vacation may carry forward one (1) vacation week for each vacation year.
2. Employees eligible for five (5) weeks of vacation may carry forward two (2) vacation weeks for each vacation year.
3. No more than four (4) weeks total shall be accumulated.
4. Such carried forward vacation shall be subject to advance written application.
5. Future scheduling of such carried forward accumulated vacation is subject to Company approval.

Section 9. HARSHIP VACATION

The parties agree that in rare and extreme circumstances it may be appropriate to allow employees to donate a portion of their vacation to an employee facing personal hardship. The Company and CWA agree to work together to the benefit of the affected employee.

In order to insure that this is limited to truly unusual and extreme circumstances, the following process will be used.

Application of this provision will require concurrence by the CWA Staff Representative and a Corporate Human Resources' representative on a case-by-case basis.

When either management or the Union identify a situation where a verifiable extreme personal hardship exists, the details will be forward to a Corporate Human Resources' representative and the CWA Staff Representative for evaluation. After agreement has been reached that the circumstances warrant the application of donated vacation and the maximum has been established, the need will be made public to the employee body to solicit volunteers. No employee will be allowed to donate more than one week and the departmental impact will be considered prior to final approval.

ARTICLE 28
SICKNESS AND DISABILITY BENEFIT PLAN

Section 1. All regular employees within the bargaining unit shall, after a term of net credited service of twelve (12) months, be qualified to receive payments when physically disabled from working by reason of sickness or non-compensable accident injury.

Section 2. Sickness Disability Benefits shall be as follows:

This is effective 6/1/2000:

<u>Net Credited</u> <u>Service</u>	<u>Weeks of</u> <u>Full Pay</u>	<u>Weeks of</u> <u>Half Pay</u>	<u>Waiting</u> <u>Period</u>
---------------------------------------	------------------------------------	------------------------------------	---------------------------------

12 months<5 years	4 weeks	9 weeks	2 days
5 years<10 years	13 weeks	13 weeks	1 day
10 years< 20 years	13 weeks	39 weeks	1 day
20 years +	13 weeks	39 weeks	0 day

(When week is used under this Article it shall mean a period of five (5) days and the pay will be at the basic rate). Employees on a four ten hour work week should refer to Article 21, Section 11E.

Section 3. When an employee with five (5) years or more of accredited service is absent, the waiting day will be waived if no sickness disability benefits have been paid in six (6) months immediately prior or if the absence is due to hospitalization or outpatient surgery.

Note: The waiting day for employees with 10-20 years' service and the provisions of the new Section 3 will be effective 6/1/2000.

Section 4. If an employee has received sickness disability benefits for any period and is again absent on account of sickness within fourteen (14) days after the termination of such period, any benefits on account of such further sickness shall begin on the first day of absence. If, during the previous illness, no sickness benefits were paid due to a waiting period not having been completed, the employee will be required to complete the remainder of the uncompleted waiting period, if applicable.

Section 5. Successive periods of sickness disability shall be counted together as one period in computing the period during which the employee shall be entitled to benefits, except that any sickness occurring after an employee has been continuously engaged in the performance of duty for thirteen (13) weeks shall be considered as a new sickness and not as part of any disability which preceded such period of thirteen (13) weeks.

Section 6. An employee's length of service as of the first day of absence determines the length of time for which benefits will be paid during that absence.

Section 7. Any employee who is required to be absent from work or who finds it necessary to leave work due to illness will make reasonable effort to report to his/her immediate superior at the beginning of such absence.

- A. If an employee wishes to leave town for longer than 24 hours during a period when he/she is receiving sickness disability benefits he/she will make reasonable effort to notify his/her supervisor of his/her intentions in advance.

Section 8. Vacations will be rescheduled if an employee is ill on the first day of his/her vacation period or the first day of any subsequent full week segment of his/her vacation period to the extent that he/she would be unable to take his/her vacation, or such segment, or return to work; his/her vacation, or such segment, shall be rescheduled upon request.

Section 9. An employee with more than twelve (12) months of service who is required to leave work due to illness after having worked one hour of the first session will be paid regular wages for that session and the second session will be subject to benefits or will constitute the first half day of the waiting period. Such an employee who leaves work due to illness after having worked one hour of the second session will be paid for the full day and the waiting period or benefits will begin on the following scheduled day.

Section 10. Employees who are physically disabled by reason of accidental injuries arising out of and in the course of employment for this Company shall be paid the difference, if any, between the amount paid to the employee under Worker's Compensation and the amount prescribed in Section 2 above. No waiting period will be required under this section.

Section 11. Employees who are physically disabled by reason of injuries received while engaged in employment other than with this Company, for which they receive compensation, will not be eligible for benefits under this Article for such disability.

Section 12. Employees receiving benefits under this plan must take proper care of themselves and have proper treatment. Benefits will be discontinued to employees who refuse or neglect to follow the recommendations of the physician in attendance. The Company at its option may require a doctor's certificate in any case.

Section 13. Part-time employees shall be entitled to benefits under this Article after working 2,080 hours. Thereafter, the amount of sickness benefits they will receive will be determined by relating their net credited service to Section 2 above. Payment to part-time employees shall be computed by dividing the number of hours actually worked during the four full calendar weeks prior to the beginning of the absence by 20. The result will represent the number of hours to be received per day.

Section 14. The Company may at its discretion make allowances over and above those provided by this article without establishing precedent.

Section 15. Benefits shall not be payable for both accident and sickness at the same time to the same person.

Section 16. If it becomes apparent that the plan is being abused, the Company shall have the right to give the Union thirty (30) days' written notice in advance that the plan may be modified or terminated.

Section 17. Upon expiration of pay benefits as provided in this Article, an employee may request and shall be granted a Leave of Absence for medical reasons not to exceed six (6) months. If upon expiration of the medical leave, the employee is still unable to return to work, he/she may request a leave under Article 30, Section 1.

ARTICLE 29 NON-PRODUCTIVE TIME

Section 1. Jury and Witness Duty. Employees on jury or subpoenaed witness duty will not lose base pay for normally scheduled hours. This will be in addition to any pay received for jury service.

Section 2. Death in the Immediate Family. An employee shall suffer no loss of basic pay for up to **four (4)** consecutive scheduled workdays due to a death in his/her immediate family. The employee has the option to take an additional two (2) days of paid scheduled time off (i.e. unused vacation, optional holiday), or unpaid excused time, or with the Company's approval changing of scheduled days off.

Section 3. Elections. If reasonable notice be given his/her supervisor, an employee shall be allowed a reasonable amount of scheduled time away from his/her assigned duties on account of service at the polls in connection with federal, state, municipal or county elections.

Section 4. Voting. If reasonable notice be given his/her supervisor, an employee shall suffer no loss of basic pay for reasonable time off in voting in any federal, state, municipal or county elections.

Section 5. Quarantine. Absence due to unavoidable quarantine shall be subject to the same treatment as absence due to personal illness provided under Article 28.

Section 6. Visit to Doctor. The Company shall have the right to require any employee to submit himself/herself for a medical examination by a physician at no cost to the employee. When an employee is required by the Company to visit a physician, he/she shall not suffer loss of pay.

Section 7. Employees not permitted to work by management because they have been exposed to some communicable disease not subject to legal quarantine shall be compensated in accordance with the benefits as provided in Article 28.

Section 8. Absences excused with pay other than those provided for in this Article may be permitted at the discretion of management without establishing a precedent.

Section 9. Notwithstanding Section 8, above, employees who are pallbearers shall be allowed the necessary time off with pay, up to a maximum of four (4) hours.

ARTICLE 30 LEAVES OF ABSENCE

Section 1. LEAVES OF ABSENCE (OTHER THAN MILITARY)

- A. Leaves of absence or departmental leave without pay shall be granted for good cause and for reasonable lengths of time provided service requirements permit and further provided there is nothing in the record of the employee requesting the leave which would prevent his reemployment.
- B. Leaves of absence shall be requested in writing, and the Company shall reply in writing stating the period for which the leave is granted.
- C. See Article 28, Section 17, Leave of Absence for medical reasons.

Section 2. An employee desiring to be reinstated from a leave of absence shall give the Company reasonable advance notice of the date such reinstatement is desired. A leave of absence granted to an employee shall terminate if the employee engages in gainful occupation without the prior written approval of the Company.

Section 3.

- A. Leave. An absence in excess of thirty (30) days.
- B. Departmental Leave. An absence for thirty (30) days or less.

Section 4.

- A. An employee returning from leave shall be reinstated provided work is available on the job at which he was working at the time of going on leave.
- B. If work is not available under A. above, the employee may be reinstated on any available job that is not a promotion for which he/she can qualify after a reasonable training period.
- C. If work is not available under B. above, the employee shall be offered reinstatement before any new employees are hired.
 - 1. An employee who is notified that work is available shall have fourteen (14) days from the date of mailing of any such notice to inform the Company of his intention to accept reinstatement and thirty (30) days from the date he was notified to report for work. If he fails to accept the job, the Company's obligation under this section will cease.
- D. Before reinstating an employee returning from leave of absence, consideration will be given as to whether any impairment has been encountered during the leave which would render him unqualified to do the work or whether he has been guilty of misconduct during the leave which would have been proper cause for discharge.

Section 5. None of the periods of leaves of absence under this Article shall be included in computing the employee's net credited service, nor shall such leave constitute a break in the continuity of an employee's net credited service.

ARTICLE 31
MILITARY LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Section 1. GRANTING OF MILITARY LEAVES AND THEIR DURATION

Military leave of absence will be granted to all employees (male and female) who leave positions, other than temporary, to enter the Armed Forces of the United States after June 27, 1950. Such leaves will extend from the day employees report for military service to the ninety-first (91st) day following their release from active military duty, or from hospitalization continuing for one year after discharge, or until the return to active employment, whichever date is earlier, provided that military leaves will not be extended to include a reenlistment or voluntary continuation of active duty. For the purpose of this contract, "Armed Forces" shall include the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, National Guard, Coast Guard and the Public Health Service.

Section 2. VACATION PAY

An employee who has not taken the vacation which he/she is entitled to take in the calendar year may take the vacation due him/her prior to reporting for military service or a cash payment in lieu of vacation may be paid, but the election shall be made by the employee.

Section 3. MILITARY LEAVE PAY

A. An employee who is granted a military leave will receive upon application the difference between his/her military pay and his/her Company pay where the Company pay is the greater, for a period of time dependent upon the employee's net credited service with the Company as set forth below in Subsection 3. provided:

1. This payment will terminate upon an employee's release from active military duty when the release is prior to the expiration of the period for which the employee would receive payment under Subsection 3.
2. An employee who receives more than one military leave in any consecutive twelve (12) months' period during the tenure of this Agreement shall be given as his/her military leave pay the difference between the payment he/she received for his/her last leave and the payment he/she would receive for the present leave if it were his/her original leave, following the schedule in subsection 3.
3.

Employee's net credited Service on date of reporting to military service	No. months Company will pay difference between employee's military pay and Company pay
Beginning 7 th Mo. through 12 th Mo.	1 month
Beginning 13 th Mo. through 36 th Mo.	2 months
Beginning 37 th Mo. through 60 th Mo.	3 months
Beginning 61 st Mo. and over	4 months
4. For purpose of making military leave payment, "Military Pay" will include basic pay plus any allowances for grade or rank, service, and special qualifications or duty as these are in effect and apply to the employee upon his/her entrance into military service.
5. For purpose of making the military leave payment, "Company Pay" will be computed on the employee's basic hourly rate in effect on the date the military leave becomes effective.
6. For the purpose of this Agreement, 21.75 days constitute a month in the computation of Company pay.

Section 4. REINSTATEMENT

Employees who are granted military leaves of absence will be reinstated in their former positions with the Company or will be given positions of like seniority, status, and pay provided he/she applies within ninety (90) days after discharge and presents a certificate of

satisfactory service or an honorable discharge from military service. Full recognition for wage progression and for all other purposes will be given to military leaves of absence in the same manner that the period of time would be recognized had the employee remained continuously in the position he/she held at the beginning of his/her leave of absence.

Section 5. GROUP LIFE INSURANCE AND SICKNESS BENEFITS

An employee will have his/her Group Life Insurance in the amount in force at the time of his/her leaving continued in force by the Company for a period of 120 days. It will then be terminated.

An employee at the time of his/her reinstatement with the Company shall be immediately eligible to receive sickness benefits in effect at that time as though he/she had been in active employment of the Company.

Section 6. RESERVE TRAINING

Any regular full-time employee who is a reserve officer or has enlisted in any of the reserve units shown below shall, when ordered for training by his/her Commanding Officer to any training center or camp, be excused by the Company to receive such training provided, however, such absence does not exceed the period of two (2) weeks annually. The employee shall receive the difference by which his/her regular full-time pay with the Company exceeds his/her government pay for the working days on which he/she is absent.

A. List of Military Units to be included in the above paragraph.

Army	Marine Corps	State Guard
Navy	Coast Guard	Marine Guard
Air Force	National Guard	

ARTICLE 32
PENSIONS

Employees who were employed on October 6, 2003 and were covered by the 2003-06 Collective Bargaining Agreement on October 6, 2003, who were participants in the Windstream Pension Plan shall continue to be covered by the provisions of the Windstream Pension Plan. (The old Verizon Plan for Hourly Paid Employees' Pensions provisions as reflected in the Windstream Pension Plan documents will continue in effect for these employees.) Employees who were employed on October 6, 2003 and were covered by the 2003-06 Collective Bargaining Agreement on October 6, 2003 shall be referred to as "Verizon Pension Employees."

Verizon Pension Employees shall be entitled to participate in the Windstream 401(k) Plan, consistent with the Windstream 401(k) Plan terms, but no Company contributions (i.e., no one-time Company contribution or Company matching contributions) shall be made by the Company to the Plan on behalf of the employees. All matters pertaining to the management and administration of the Windstream 401(k) Plan shall be at the sole discretion of the Company and shall not be subject to arbitration.

All employees who are not described in the first sentence of the Article (including, but not limited to, rehires, and transferees) shall be covered by the provisions of the National pension agreement between Windstream and CWA. Employees hired March 1, 2012 and later have no benefit under the Pension Plan. (See National Pension Plan Agreement effective March 1, 2012.)

ARTICLE 33 INCLEMENT WEATHER

Employees are not required to perform their regularly assigned duties when it would be unsafe to do so. When employees have reported for a normal work day and the work is discontinued by management due to inclement weather, they will be assigned to inside activities for their normal tours so that they will incur no loss in straight time pay. When employees are confronted with inclement weather they shall call their designated supervisor for instructions in accordance with this Article. Rain gear is provided for use when required by weather conditions.

ARTICLE 34 SAFETY AND FIRST AID

Section 1. It is agreed that the Company will make every reasonable effort to provide the employees with safe and sanitary working conditions and the Union will lend its support and encouragement to the practice of safety by employees.

Section 2. The Company will insofar as practicable instruct its employees in safe methods and practices of performing their work through a safety program consisting of instruction on Company time in safety practices, CPR and first aid.

Section 3. No employee's wearing apparel shall in any way interfere with the proper execution of his/her duties.

Section 4. The parties agree to form a Joint Worker's Compensation Action Committee. The goal of the committee is the reduction of work related injuries and improved employee satisfaction with the handling of claims.

The committee is charged with investigating problems and making recommendations that will result in the resolution of Worker's Compensation related problems as well as prevention. The Company will provide appropriate information and support to the process. The committee shall not formulate policy nor have the authority to modify existing labor agreement provisions.

The committee will be comprised of three (3) CWA nominated members and three (3) representatives of the Company. Meetings will be held at mutually agreed upon frequency and times.

ARTICLE 35
TOOLS

Tools used by the employees in the performance of their duties for the Company shall be purchased and furnished to the employee by the Company as follows:

Employees who are furnished tools by the Company will be held responsible for the proper use, maintenance, and care of such tools. Employees will be held to an accounting of all tools upon termination of the service of the employee with the Company.

ARTICLE 36
NON-PERFORMANCE OF WORK BY SUPERVISORS

The Company agrees that it will not work supervisory employees who are excluded from the bargaining unit on work normally performed by bargaining unit employees. Supervisors may perform work only when it is necessary during the process of actually training an employee or during periods of service emergencies. The parties, however, recognize that there are proper exceptions to this general practice made in the interest of the service, and in such cases, nothing herein is intended to prohibit the Company from working such supervisory employees on such non-supervisory work for short periods of time.

ARTICLE 37
PRINTING AND DISTRIBUTION OF CONTRACT

Section 1. The Union and the Company agree to share equally the expense of the printing of this Working Agreement in sufficient numbers to supply the needs of both parties.

Section 2. The Company shall distribute this Agreement to its present employees and to its new employees when they begin work with the Company.

Section 3. The Union and the Company agree to work together to expedite the printing and distribution of this Working Agreement with the objective that this process will not exceed six (6) months from the date of ratification.

ARTICLE 38
AMENDMENTS

Any provisions of this Agreement may be amended, modified, or supplemented at any time by mutual consent of the parties hereto without in any way affecting any of the other provisions of this Agreement.

ARTICLE 39
JOB DESCRIPTIONS AND JOB CLASSIFICATIONS

Section 1. The Company shall furnish the Union a description of the job content of each non-management job title no later than thirty (30) days prior to the expiration of the primary Agreement. This is not intended to imply that the Company is limited from modifying the job content during the term of the Agreement nor that the Union is limited in its right to challenge the wage rate should they feel the value of the job has been changed as a result of a mid-term change.

Section 2. JOB DESCRIPTIONS

The Company shall furnish to the Union descriptions for newly created or changed job titles included within the bargaining unit sufficient to identify the jobs being described and the general nature of such jobs. The use of these descriptions shall not restrict the overlapping nor interchange of job duties as required by service conditions or the prudent operation of the business.

Section 3. JOB CLASSIFICATIONS

The Company will notify the Union of the creation of new title classifications whose job content is of such nature as to render the employee or employees assigned to the new title classification eligible for Union membership so that the Company and the Union may determine jointly the appropriate wage classification in advance of the time the new title classification is made effective.

ARTICLE 40
GROUP INSURANCE

For the term of this Agreement the Company will maintain and make available to bargaining unit employees health care plans consisting of medical benefits, dental benefits, life insurance, vision, prescription drug benefits, and long-term disability benefits, described to the Union during negotiations, or benefits substantially similar thereto. To the extent that these benefits are insured and/or administered by insurance carriers/administrators, the Company may change such carriers/administrators. The Company will also make available to employees any PPO or HMO option which the Company contracts with an insurance carrier or medical provider to provide in areas covered by the bargaining unit. Such PPO or HMO options may change from year to year.

The Company shall have the right to amend the benefit levels of all health care plans except the Company's PPO Plan. Beginning January 1, 2022, the PPO Plan benefit levels shall be as set forth below and will remain unchanged through the expiration of this contract. Employees hired after December 31, 2018 are ineligible for the PPO.

The benefit levels, HSA contributions, and employee/employer cost share for all medical plans except the PPO shall be the same as those applicable to the standard Windstream

Company Plans in each respective year. When any changes in such benefits are to be made, the Company will give the Union at least thirty (30) days' notice of such changes and the reason for the change. Any amendment changing the level of benefits, HSA contributions or cost share (except the PPO) will be limited to those changes also applicable to the Windstream Company Plans.

With respect to the PPO cost and premium sharing, the Company's share of such premium costs shall be 75% and employee's share shall be 25% through the expiration of this contract. The employee contributions for all other medical plans shall be the same as the standard company plans.

For all other plans, including dental, vision, life insurance, prescription drug benefits, and long-term disability benefits, the employee contributions and benefit levels shall be the same as the standard company plans.

All employees shall be subject to the same assessments, surcharges, and wellness requirements as non-bargaining employees except the biometric screening and personal health assessment surcharges.

PPO Plan	
In-Network Deductible – Single	\$400
In-Network Deductible – Family	\$800
Out of Pocket Max – Single	\$2,200
Out of Pocket Max – Family	\$4,400
Co-Insurance, In-Network Paid by the Plan after Satisfaction of Deductible	80%
Co-Pay Office Visit	\$20
Co-Pay Specialist	\$40 No referral required
Preventive / Routine Screenings / Services at appropriate Ages and Gender	Paid by the Plan 100%
Rx Generic – Preferred Pharmacy 30 day supply	Tier 1 – Generic \$10

RX Formulary – Preferred Pharmacy Brand Name 30 day supply	Tier 2 – Preferred Brand \$30
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ARTICLE 41
NO STRIKE, NO LOCKOUT

Section 1. During the term of this Agreement, neither the Union nor any employee covered by this Agreement shall instigate, promote, sponsor, engage in or condone any interruption of or interference with work over any dispute involving the interpretation or application of this Agreement, or for any other reason, including a sympathy strike. However, no employee will be required to cross primary picket lines, except those appearing at Kentucky Windstream facilities located within the territory covered by the bargaining unit referenced in this Agreement.

In the event that any employee or group of employees covered by this Agreement shall, during the term of this Agreement, participate or engage in any of the activities herein prohibited, the Union agrees immediately upon being notified by the Company, to direct such employee or groups of employees to cease such activity and resume work at once.

Section 2. During the term of the Agreement, the Company agrees not to cause, permit or engage in any lockout of its employees.

Section 3. The Company and the Union agree that the grievance and arbitration procedures provided herein shall be the sole and exclusive means of resolving all grievances arising under the terms of this Agreement.

ARTICLE 42
RECOGNITION AWARDS

The Company will have the right to make recognition awards of more than token value to individual employees. The purpose of such awards is to recognize and reward employees for their efforts and/or innovative contributions that assist the Company in meeting its goals and objectives.

The criteria for recognition awards to individuals shall be that the employee’s contributions generally result in one or more of the following:

- Improved customer satisfaction.
- Exemplary treatment and service to customers or co-workers.
- Measurable contribution toward generation of increased revenue, the completion of a project, or improvement of operations including employee safety and/or accident reduction.

- Improves quality of service and/or cost reductions in daily operations.

Examples are:

- An evening for two on the town
- Tickets for two to a sporting event
- Gift certificate
- Check for amount of award
- Combination of the above

**ARTICLE 43
EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

Windstream Corporation encourages the educational growth and development of its employees by sponsoring the Educational Assistance Plan (the “EAP”). Eligible employees who meet the plan provisions as described in the Educational Assistance Plan document are eligible for a maximum annual reimbursement not to exceed \$2,000. However, any employee who successfully passes a course that is directly related to a Company product or service will be eligible for up to an additional \$1,000 reimbursement benefit (over and above the \$2,000 maximum). See plan documents for a full description of the Plan, application and reimbursement form.

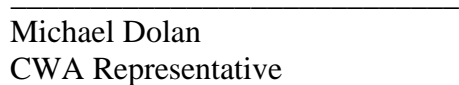
**ARTICLE 44
DURATION AND EFFECTIVE DATES**

Section 1. This Agreement shall become effective this 8th of June **2024**, and shall remain in effect until midnight June 7, **2027**, and shall continue in effect thereafter until terminated by sixty (60) days’ written notice given by either party to the other expressly stating its intention to terminate the Agreement.

Section 2. Either party may notify the other of its desire to negotiate amendments or modifications (if not terminated by the other party) by serving written notice sixty (60) days immediately prior to June 7, **2027**, or at any date thereafter with sixty (60) days’ written notice.

Kentucky Windstream, LLC

**Communications Workers of America
Locals 3371 & 3372**

Bruce Hurlbut
Director – Labor Relations

Michael Dolan
CWA Representative

June 8, 2024

June 8, 2024

APPENDIX 1
WAGE SCHEDULES

Wage Schedule 1

Job Titles:
Utility Person

		Effective	Effective	Effective
	Current	6/8/2024	6/8/2025	6/8/2026
Start	13.59	14.13	14.55	14.99
6 Months	14.41	14.99	15.44	15.90
12 Months	15.28	15.89	16.37	16.86
24 Months	16.20	16.85	17.36	17.88
36 Months	17.16	17.85	18.39	18.94
48 Months	18.18	18.91	19.48	20.06
60 Months	19.92	20.72	21.34	21.98

APPENDIX I
WAGE SCHEDULES

Wage Schedule 2

Job Titles

Teller
Local Connection Consultant

	Current	Effective 6/8/2024	Effective 6/8/2025	Effective 6/8/2026
Start	12.83	13.34	13.74	14.15
6 Months	14.13	14.70	15.14	15.59
12 Months	15.51	16.13	16.61	17.11
24 Months	17.09	17.77	18.30	18.85
36 Months	18.78	19.53	20.12	20.72
48 Months	20.68	21.51	22.16	22.82
60 Months	23.51	24.45	25.18	25.94

APPENDIX I
WAGE SCHEDULES

Wage Schedule 3

Job Titles:

Dispatch Clerk
Plant Clerk-Operations Center

		Effective	Effective	Effective
	Current	6/8/2024	6/8/2025	6/8/2026
Start	15.40	16.02	16.50	17.00
6 Months	16.64	17.31	17.83	18.36
12 Months	17.97	18.69	19.25	19.83
24 Months	19.38	20.16	20.76	21.38
36 Months	20.93	21.77	22.42	23.09
48 Months	22.61	23.51	24.22	24.95
60 Months	24.44	25.42	26.18	26.97

APPENDIX I
WAGE SCHEDULES

Wage Schedule 4

Job Titles:

Paystation Collector
Service Representative

		Effective	Effective	Effective
	Current	6/8/2024	6/8/2025	6/8/2026
Start	15.38	16.00	16.48	16.97
6 Months	16.91	17.59	18.12	18.66
12 Months	18.59	19.33	19.91	20.51
24 Months	20.46	21.28	21.92	22.58
36 Months	22.50	23.40	24.10	24.82
48 Months	24.52	25.50	26.27	27.06
60 Months	26.33	27.38	28.20	29.05

APPENDIX I
WAGE SCHEDULES

Wage Schedule 5

Job Titles:

Assignment Clerk
Frame Attendant
Testboard Analyzer

		Effective	Effective	Effective
	Current	6/8/2024	6/8/2025	6/8/2026
Start	16.70	17.37	17.89	18.43
6 Months	18.21	18.94	19.51	20.10
12 Months	19.85	20.64	21.26	21.90
24 Months	21.61	22.47	23.14	23.83
36 Months	23.58	24.52	25.26	26.02
48 Months	25.68	26.71	27.51	28.34
60 Months	27.74	28.85	29.72	30.61

APPENDIX I
WAGE SCHEDULES

Wage Schedule 6

Job Titles:

Public Access Sales Technician
Public Telephone Collector-Maintainer
Shop Repair Specialist
Storekeeper

	Current	Effective 6/8/2024	Effective 6/8/2025	Effective 6/8/2026
Start	20.86	21.69	22.34	23.01
6 Months	22.51	23.41	24.11	24.83
12 Months	24.33	25.30	26.06	26.84
24 Months	26.28	27.33	28.15	28.99
36 Months	28.36	29.49	30.37	31.28
48 Months	30.62	31.84	32.80	33.78
60 Months	32.72	34.03	35.05	36.10

APPENDIX I
WAGE SCHEDULES

Wage Schedule 7

Job Titles:

Assignment Specialist
Cable Splicer

Dispatch Zone Technician
Facility Person
I&M Specialist
Lineworker
Truck Driver

		Effective	Effective	Effective
	Current	6/8/2024	6/8/2025	6/8/2026
Start	22.20	23.09	23.78	24.49
6 Months	23.57	24.51	25.25	26.01
12 Months	25.45	26.47	27.26	28.08
24 Months	27.48	28.58	29.44	30.32
36 Months	29.69	30.88	31.81	32.76
48 Months	32.05	33.33	34.33	35.36
60 Months	34.99	36.39	37.48	38.60

APPENDIX 1
Wage Schedules

Job Title
Customer Service Technicians

Customer Service Technician (formerly FST)	Current	Effective 6/8/2024	Effective 6/8/2025	Effective 6/8/2026
Start	17.00	17.50	17.50	17.50
6 months		18.00	18.00	18.00
Year 1 (12 months)	19.00	19.00	19.00	19.00
18 months		20.00	20.00	20.00
Year 2 (24 months)	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00
30 months		22.00	22.00	22.00
Year 3 (36 months)	23.00	23.00	23.00	23.00
42 months		24.00	24.00	24.00
Year 4 (48 months)	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00
54 months		26.00	26.00	26.00
Year 5 (60 months)	27.48	28.58	29.44	30.32
Year 6 (72 months)	29.69	30.88	31.81	32.76
Year 7 (84 months)	32.05	33.33	34.33	35.36
Year 8 (96 months)	34.99	36.39	37.48	38.60

APPENDIX I
WAGE SCHEDULES

Wage Schedule 8

Job Titles:

Business Systems Technician I
Equipment Installer-Repairer
Network Technician
Special Service Test Technician
Sr. Building Maintenance Technician

		Effective	Effective	Effective
	Current	6/8/2024	6/8/2025	6/8/2026
Start	23.29	24.22	24.95	25.70
6 Months	25.13	26.14	26.92	27.73
12 Months	27.16	28.25	29.10	29.97
24 Months	29.34	30.51	31.43	32.37
36 Months	31.68	32.95	33.94	34.96
48 Months	34.21	35.58	36.65	37.75
60 Months	37.36	38.85	40.02	41.22

APPENDIX I
WAGE SCHEDULES

Wage Schedule 9

Job Titles:

Business Systems Technician II

		<u>Current</u>
Start	\$	27.71
6 Months	\$	29.93
12 Months	\$	32.31
24 Months	\$	34.92
36 Months	\$	37.72
48 Months	\$	40.73
60 Months	\$	44.24

BST II shall be frozen at the 2020-2021 rates. Effective 6/8/21, Wage schedule 9 shall not be subject to negotiated annual increases. BST IIs in progression shall receive progression increases according to the **above** progression schedule. BST IIs at top wage will receive an annual lump sum equal to **the general wage increase percentage applied to** their annual base wage.

APPENDIX 1
WAGE SCHEDULES

Wage Schedule 10

Job Title:

**Buried Drop Technician
Cable Locator**

Start	\$16.00
Year 1	\$17.80
Year 2	\$19.60
Year 3	\$21.40
Year 4	\$23.20
Year 5	\$25.00

This wage schedule is not subject to annual wage increase. In the year after the employee reaches the top range, the employee will receive the general annual percentage increase.

APPENDIX 2
LETTER OF INTENT – SERVICE COMMITMENTS

June 2, 1976

Mr. T. J. Volk
Administrative Assistant
to Vice President
Communications Workers of America
District 10
1300 City National Bank Building
1928 First Avenue North
Birmingham, Alabama 35203

Dear Mr. Volk:

This will confirm our understanding of the changes agreed to in the service commitments clause. This language serves as acceptance by the Union and the employees of their obligation to do their part in furnishing proper service to our customers. The language is not intended to waive any part of the labor agreement nor to grant the Company additional authority in exercising its management prerogatives.

Very truly yours,

A.K. McNulty
Director of Personnel

APPENDIX 3

**This Agreement is appended to the Collective Bargaining Agreement
for reference purposes only.**

AGREEMENT BETWEEN
WINDSTREAM SERVICES, LLC. AND
THE COMMUNICATIONS WORKERS OF AMERICA

WHEREAS, Windstream Services, LLC (formerly known as Windstream Corporation) (hereinafter referred to as "Windstream") maintains the Windstream Pension Plan, as amended and restated (hereinafter referred to as the "Pension Plan"); and

WHEREAS, Windstream also maintains the Windstream 401(k) Plan, as amended and restated (hereinafter referred to as the "401(k) Plan"); and,

WHEREAS, some present participants in the Pension Plan and 401(k) Plan, are represented by local affiliates of the Communications Workers of America (together with the local affiliates the "CWA"); and

WHEREAS, the CWA have conducted discussions with Windstream relative to prospective participation in both the Pension Plan and the 401(k) Plan by those represented by the CWA; and,

WHEREAS, such discussions have been solely on behalf of employees covered by a collective bargaining agreement with one of the subsidiaries of Windstream listed on Exhibit A hereto (to the exclusion of any other subsidiary company of Windstream); and,

WHEREAS, it is understood that the aforesaid discussions do not affect the continuing appropriateness of the historic, local bargaining relationships between the CWA and affiliate companies of Windstream; and,

WHEREAS, it is understood that discussions relative to the Pension Plan and/or 401(k) Plan may be entered into, on mutual consent, at any time;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS AGREED:

A. Effective as of July 8, 2018, or as soon as administratively practicable thereafter, the Pension Plan shall be frozen to any employee who had 30 or more vesting years of service under the Pension plan on July 8, 2018 or who subsequently attains 30 years of service during the term of this agreement (“Impacted Employee”). For purposes of clarity, employees hired into bargaining units covered by this Agreement on and after March 1, 2012 are not eligible to participate in the Pension Plan. For purposes of clarity, any Impacted Employee who was a participant in the Pension Plan prior to July 8, 2018 (i) shall have an accrued benefit determined under the Pension Plan as if the Impacted Employee had terminated employment as of July 7, 2018 (or, if later, the date immediately preceding the day an Impacted Employee’s accrued benefit under the Pension Plan is frozen upon attainment of 30 vesting years of service after July 7, 2018); (ii) shall continue to accrue vesting years of service for purposes of vesting and early retirement eligibility under the Pension Plan, and (iii) the other provisions of the Pension Plan shall be continued and maintained for the term of this Agreement without change in the provisions of said Pension Plan as those provisions existed on the effective date of this Agreement.

B. All Impacted Employees who are accruing participants (have not had accruals previously frozen under the terms of a prior Agreement) in the Pension Plan on July 7, 2018 (or, if later, the date immediately preceding the day an Impacted Employee’s accrued benefit under the Pension Plan is frozen upon attainment of 30 vesting years of service after July 7, 2018) shall receive a one-time employer contribution to the 401(k) Plan in the

amount of \$15,000. The contribution shall be made to the employees' 401(k) Plan account as soon as administratively possible after the freeze of the Pension Plan for the Impacted Employee and may be made in cash or shares of stock of Windstream Holdings, Inc. at the discretion of Windstream. If the \$15,000 contribution is made in shares of stock then the Company will make an additional 401k contribution of \$.03 per share to all Impacted Employees to cover the cost of transaction fees.

C. A lump sum optional form of payment shall be added to the Windstream Pension Plan effective July 1, 2018 which may be elected in accordance with the Plan terms and IRS requirements, including spousal consent, and the value of which shall be based on the participant's age 65 accrued benefit (or actual age, if later) and the IRS applicable mortality table and applicable interest rate as amended from time to time.

D. Effective July 1, 2018, an early retirement option shall be added to the Pension Plan allowing participants of any age to retire on or after July 1, 2018 with an unreduced accrued benefit for accrued benefits earned while covered under this or a prior Agreement if they have a total of thirty or more vesting years of service. This option may be elected in accordance with the Plan terms, IRS requirements and any other controlling law.

E. Employees who are participants in the Pension Plan, including Impacted Employees prior to the date their accruals are frozen, shall be permitted to participate in the 401(k) Plan on the following basis:

1. Employees will be permitted to make salary deferrals as defined for Federal Income Tax purposes ("Deferrals") to the 401(k) Plan. The amount of the Deferrals will be the same as for all other eligible 401(k) Plan participants.
2. No employer contributions of any kind will be made to the 401(k) Plan.
3. All other 401(k) Plan terms shall otherwise apply.

F. Employees who are not participants in the Pension Plan (i.e., those employees hired into bargaining units covered by this Agreement on and after March 1, 2012) and for an Impacted Employee (effective on and after July 8, 2018 or, if later, the date an Impacted Employee's accrued benefit under the Pension Plan is frozen at a later date), shall be eligible to participate in the 401(k) Plan on the following basis:

1. Employee Deferrals 1% to 50% (in increments of 1%) of 401(k) Plan compensation, as defined by the 401(k) Plan (subject to maximum limits set by the Plan).
2. Employer Contributions — For those employed on the last day of the 401(k) Plan Year, a 100% match of the first 3% of the employee's Deferrals, plus 50% of the next 2% of the employee's Deferrals. (The employee Deferrals referenced in the prior sentence do not include catch-up contributions.)
3. Participants that exceed the highly compensated definition as defined for Federal Income Tax purposes, adjusted annually by law, may be restricted in the amount that they are allowed to contribute to the Plan.
4. All other 401(k) Plan terms shall apply in the same manner applicable to non-bargaining employees, except that the employees shall not be covered by the safe-harbor formula provisions of the 401(k) Plan unless otherwise determined by the Windstream in accordance with IRS requirements.

G. Annually in February, Windstream will provide the CWA with a report which includes (a) the prior calendar year's financial performance of all investment options which were available to 401(k) Plan participants, and (b) the prior calendar year's rate of participation in the 401(k) Plan by Employees.

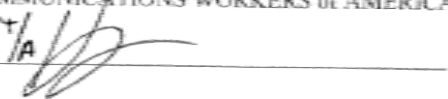
H. The CWA has submitted this agreement for ratification, and the Locals have ratified the terms set forth in this Agreement, and the CWA is fully authorized by the Locals to enter into this Agreement. In accordance with this Agreement, the CWA hereby amends any pre-existing agreement with Windstream or any affiliate company listed on Exhibit A, and agrees to comply with the terms and conditions of this Agreement and waive the right to bargain with respect to the subject of retirement benefits until December 1, 2019. Further, the CWA will execute any and all documents necessary to implement the above.

I. This Agreement and the provisions hereof are subject to the drafting of appropriate language for formal amendments to the Pension Plan and 401(k) Plan and the continued tax qualified status of both the Pension Plan and 401(k) Plan.

J. This Agreement is effective from March 2, 2017 through December 1, 2019.

COMMUNICATIONS WORKERS of AMERICA

By:



Date: 11-16-17

WINDSTREAM SERVICES, LLC

By:



Date:

Nov. 16, 2017

EXHIBIT A

The subsidiary companies of Windstream Services, LLC referenced in the foregoing Agreement are as follows:

Windstream North Carolina, LLC
Windstream Florida, LLC
Windstream Mississippi, LLC
Windstream Ohio, LLC
Windstream Pennsylvania, LLC
Windstream Western Reserve, LLC
**Windstream Kentucky East, LLC
**Windstream Kentucky West, LLC

Employees of the above subsidiary Windstream companies represented by the CWA, as a part of a currently recognized collective bargaining unit, are the only persons covered by this Agreement and the provisions hereof. Employees of Windstream subsidiary companies represented by the CWA, but not listed above, are not covered by or included within the provisions of this Agreement.

**Only those current Windstream Kentucky East, LLC bargaining unit employees that were not employed in an CWA bargaining unit position by Kentucky ALLTEL, Inc. on February 7, 2004, respectively.

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

All current FSTs will be moved to the CST job title. All CSTs will follow the new CST wage schedule below, effective June 8, 2024.

Customer Service Technician

Start	17.50
6 months	18.00
Year 1	19.00
18 months	20.00
Year 2	21.00
30 months	22.00
Year 3	23.00
42 months	24.00
Year 4	25.00
54 months	26.00
Year 5	28.58
Year 6	30.88
Year 7	33.33
Year 8	36.39

1. CSTs hired after June 7, 2024 shall be considered probationary employees for a period of eighteen (18) months from the date of hire. Accordingly, such probationary employees may be terminated without recourse to the arbitration process. (Former FSTs still serving their 18 month probation shall complete their 18 month probation.)
2. Start through 54 months is not subject to annual General Wage Increases. In lieu of general wage increases current FSTs employed on June 8, 2024 in pay progression from start to 54 months shall be progressed one step in the wage scale upon contract ratification.
3. Employees in the CST title effective June 8, 2024 who are in progression will follow this wage progressions scale, subject to any General Wage Increase.
4. FSTs currently separated from the company from a force reduction shall be eligible for recall to the new CST wage schedule in accordance with the provisions of Article 18.

Kentucky Windstream, LLC



Bruce Hurlbut
Director – Labor Relations

June 8, 2018

Communications Workers of America
Locals 3371 & 3372

Michael Dolan
CWA Representative

June 8, 2018

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT
Business System Technician II

Business System Technician II shall be frozen at the 2020-2021 rate. Effective June 7, 2021, Wage Schedule 9 shall not be subject to negotiated annual increases. BST IIs in progression shall receive progression increases according to the **Wage Schedule 9** progression schedule. BST IIs at top wage will receive an annual lump sum equal to **the general wage increase percentage applied to** their annual base wage.

Kentucky Windstream, LLC

Communications Workers of America
Locals 3371 & 3372



Bruce Hurlbut
Director – Labor Relations
June 8, 2024

Michael Dolan
CWA Representative
June 8, 2024

EMPLOYEE ADJUSTMENT INCOME PLAN (EAIP)

1. Kentucky Windstream, LLC and Communications Workers of America recognize the need for technological change in the business and hereby enter into this Memorandum of Agreement (hereinafter referred to as the Agreement). In order to lessen the economic impact upon regular employees who become surplus due to technological change, the Company and the Union agree to establishment the EMPLOYEE ADJUSTMENT INCOME PLAN (the Plan). “Technological change” shall be defined as a change in a plant or equipment, or a change in the method of operation, diminishing the total number of regular employees required to supply the same services to the Company or its subscribers. “Technological change” shall not include layoffs or force realignment caused by business conditions, variations in subscribers’ requirements or temporary or seasonal interruptions of work.

2. During the term of this Agreement, if the Company notifies the Union in writing that a technological change has created or will create a surplus in any job title in any work group and/or work location, regular employees meeting the following qualifications shall be eligible for Plan participation.

- A. Accredited service of fifteen (15) or more years.
- B. The combination of age and accredited service must total at least 76 as of the date of the Company’s notice to the Union.

However, the Company reserves the right to apply this Plan to any surplus in force, whether or not it is brought about by technological change that the Company deems appropriate. All elections shall be voluntary, and acceptance by the Company will be in order of seniority.

3. The Company reserves the right to determine the job titles and work group(s) and/or work location(s) in which a surplus exists, the number of work groups and/or work locations in which a surplus exists, the number of employees in such titles and locations which are considered to be surplus, and the period during which the employee may, if he or she so elects, leave the service of the Company pursuant to this Plan. In no event shall the number of employee elections accepted under the terms of the Plan exceed the number of employees determined by the Company to be surplus.

4. An employee’s election to leave the service of the Company and receive adjustment pay benefits must be in writing and transmitted to the Company within fourteen (14) calendar days from the date of the Company’s offer in order to be effective, and it may not be revoked after such fourteen (14) calendar day period.

5. For employees who are eligible in accordance with Sections 1 and 2, the Company will pay a monthly benefit as follows:

Schedule of Adjustment Pay Benefits

Years of Accredited Service	Monthly Payment
15 but less than 20	\$600
20 but less than 25	\$700
25 but less than 30	\$770
30 but less than 35	\$850
35 but less than 40	\$940
40 or more	\$1,040

6. Adjustment pay benefits for employees, who so elect to leave the service of the Company in accordance with Section 2, shall begin within one (1) month and after such employee has left the service of the Company and shall continue until twenty-four (24) monthly payments have been made.

7. In addition, the affected employee may elect one (1) of the following options which shall not exceed \$3,500.

- A. For up to twenty-four (24) months from the date of separation, a continuation of Company-paid premiums for existing medical plan coverage (excluding dental coverage) for the employee and his/her dependents; or in lieu thereof, the employee may elect to receive a lump sum alternative of \$3,500 subject to legally required deductions.
- B. Reimbursement for successful completion of retraining in a new career field within a twenty-four (24) month period from the date of separation.

Eligible employees may receive financial assistance for approved courses and/or programs undertaken at accredited or state-approved educational institutions.

The cost of tuition, required textbooks, and required lab and entrance fees will be reimbursed up to a maximum of \$3,500 as follows:

- (i) 35% reimbursement of approved costs upon presentation of receipted bills;
- (ii) 65% reimbursement of approved costs upon submission of proof of successful completion of course/program.

Approved training expenses that are covered by other employers, government benefits or scholarships will not be subject to reimbursement by the Company.

- C. A miscellaneous moving expense associated with an actual relocation to a new residence within a twenty-four (24) month period from the date of separation.

8. The maximum amount of adjustment pay benefits payable shall in no event exceed a total of \$24,960 and when combined with one of the elected options shall not exceed \$28,460. The dollar amounts set forth in this Agreement shall be prorated for regular part-time employees based on the percentage of a full year's equivalent (i.e., 700 hours worked taken as a percent of 2080 hours equals 33.65%).

In no event shall the total adjustment pay benefits exceed the equivalent of twice the employee's annual compensation at the basic weekly wage rate (exclusive of tour premiums or temporary differentials, overtime pay, commissions, bonuses, or other extra payments) received during the year immediately preceding the termination of service.

9. In addition to the benefits set forth in Sections 5, 6 and 7, employees who so elect to leave the service of the Company and receive adjustment pay benefits may elect to receive, in combination with such benefits, a retirement service pension if eligible for such pension.

10. Payments under the Plan, with the exception of the retraining benefits, shall cease upon the reemployment of a recipient by the Company or any affiliated or subsidiary companies within Windstream. If an employee is enrolled in a course/program at the time of reemployment, the 65% reimbursement portion of the retraining benefits will be made upon the successful completion of the course/program within twenty-four (24) months from the date of separation or twelve (12) months from the date of reemployment, whichever occurs later. No reimbursement will be made beyond that date.

11. Re-employed employees must complete one (1) full year of accredited service with the Company before becoming eligible again for termination benefits. In subsequent terminations to which this Agreement is applicable, the employee shall receive the difference between the termination benefits for which he or she is presently eligible and any benefits previously received.

12. All benefits payable under the Plan are subject to legally required deductions.

13. Upon the death of a recipient, all remaining adjustment pay benefits under the Plan will be paid as a lump sum to the designated beneficiary or estate.

14. This Agreement will be implemented prior to invoking the provisions of Article 18 (Force Reduction) of the Collective Bargaining Agreement, when conditions set forth in Section 1 of this Agreement exist as determined by the Company.

15. An employee who elects under the Plan shall not be entitled to any of the provisions outlined in Article 18 of the Collective Bargaining Agreement, nor any other termination allowance offered by the Company.

16. Neither the right to effect a technological change, the determination of a surplus condition, eligibility for participation in the Plan, nor any other part of this Plan or Agreement shall be subject to the arbitration procedure of the Collective Bargaining Agreement.

17. This Memorandum of Agreement is effective on this Sixth day of October, and shall expire on June 7, 2006. The parties specifically agree that the terms and conditions set forth in this Memorandum of Agreement, including the EAIP, shall also terminate on

June 7, 2006 and shall not survive the expiration of this Memorandum of Agreement, unless agreed to by the parties in writing.

Kentucky Windstream, LLC

Communications Workers of America
Locals 3371 & 3372

Kathy J. Warn
Director – Labor Relations

Judy Dennis
CWA Representative

October 6, 2003

October 6, 2003

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

EMPLOYEE ADJUSTMENT INCOME PLAN (EAIP) ALTERNATIVE

18. Kentucky Windstream, LLC and Communications Workers of America agree to this Employee Adjustment Income Plan (EAIP) Alternative.

19. Employees, otherwise eligible for the EAIP, may elect this alternative in lieu of the EAIP when offered at the Company's discretion.

20. In lieu of the 24 monthly payments and the \$3,500 option (for medical benefits, education benefits or moving expenses), eligible employees may elect to receive a lump sum, subject to legally required deductions. The lump sum payment schedule is as follows:

<u>Years of Accredited Service</u>	<u>Monthly Payment</u>	<u>Lump Sum Payment</u>
15 but less than 20	\$600	\$17,900
20 but less than 25	\$700	\$20,300
25 but less than 30	\$770	\$21,980
30 but less than 35	\$850	\$23,900
35 but less than 40	\$940	\$26,060
40 or more	\$1,040	\$28,460

21. This Memorandum of Agreement is effective on this Sixth of October, 2003 and shall expire on June 7, 2006. The parties specifically agree that the terms and conditions set forth in this Memorandum of Agreement, including the EAIP Alternative, shall also terminate June 7, 2006 and shall not survive the expiration of this memorandum of agreement unless agreed to by the parties in writing.

Kentucky Windstream, LLC

Communications Workers of America
Locals 3371 & 3372

Kathy J. Warn
Director – Labor Relations

Judy Dennis
CWA Representative

October 6, 2003

October 6, 2003

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT
TERMINATION PAY PLAN
EFFECTIVE JUNE 2, 1991

1. Kentucky Windstream, LLC and Communications Workers of America recognize the need for technological change in the business and hereby enter into this Memorandum of Agreement. In order to lessen the economic impact upon regular full-time employees brought about by technological change, the Company and the Union agree to establish the Termination Pay Plan ("the Plan"). For purposes of this Memorandum of Agreement only, "technological change" shall be defined as a change in plant or equipment, or a change in a method of operation, diminishing the total number of regular employees required to supply the same services to the Company or its customers. "Technological change" shall not include situations where layoffs or force adjustments would be necessary as a result of business conditions, variations in customers' requirements, or temporary or seasonal interruptions of work. The Plan shall apply when technological change would otherwise bring about a need to lay off and/or force adjust employees in any job classification.

2. During the term of this Agreement, if the Company notifies the Union in writing that a technological change has created a surplus situation in a particular location or classification while vacancies exist in different locations or classification(s), the transfer procedures in Article 16, Article 17 and Article 18 will not be used in filling the vacancies if such use would prevent the Company from offering vacant positions to qualified employees who are surplus and are in positions having the same or higher top rates than those of available vacant positions. To the extent necessary for the Company to offer qualified surplus employees transfers or reclassifications to lateral or lower positions, the job posting and bidding provisions of Article 16 shall be waived. Regular full-time employees, who have not been offered a transfer or reclassification to a position within 40 miles of their present headquarters, who meet the following qualifications shall be eligible for plan participation:

- A. Net credited service of one year or more.
- B. Not eligible to participate in the Employee Adjustment Income Plan.

The Company reserves the right to apply the Plan to any surplus situation not brought about by technological change that the Company deems appropriate. All elections shall be voluntary. (Regular full-time employees who may become surplus as a result of any sale or other disposition by the Company of a property/operation will be subject to the Plan, if offered by the Company, unless the employees are offered at least comparable employment by the new management of the property/operation.)

3. The Company reserves the right to determine the job classification(s) and work group(s) and/or work location(s) in which a surplus exists, the number of employees in such classifications, work groups and locations who are considered to be surplus, and the date on which or the period during which the employee may, if he or she so elects, leave the service of the Company pursuant to this Plan. (It is agreed that the names of the surplus

employees will be the least senior employees in the surplus group, the number of such employees being equal to the number that the Company identifies as being surplus.) In no event shall the number of employees who make an election under the terms of the Plan exceed the number of employees determined by the Company to be surplus. Additionally, an employee's election to leave the service of the Company under the terms of the Plan and receive adjustment pay benefits must be in writing and received by the Company within seven (7) calendar days from the date of the Company's offer in order to be effective, and it may not be revoked after such seven (7) calendar day period.

4. For employees who elect the Plan in accordance with the foregoing, the Company will provide:

- A. One week's pay at the "basic rate" as defined in the Labor Agreement for each full year of net accredited service up to and including ten (10) years.
- B. Two (2) weeks' pay at the basic rate for each full year of net accredited service in excess of ten (10) years to a maximum of thirty-six (36) weeks' pay in total.
- C. Continuation of one-half (1/2) of the Company paid premiums for existing medical, dental, and life insurance coverage for the employee and his or her dependents for a period not to exceed six (6) months.
- D. Reimbursement for the successful completion of retraining in a new career field within a twenty-four (24) month period from the date of separation at a cost not to exceed \$3,000.00.
- E. Reimbursement up to \$2,200 for packing and cartage fees for a move 50 miles or more from the employee's present residence within a twenty-four (24) month period from the date of separation. (Employees electing reimbursement for retraining benefits under (D.) above will not be eligible for the miscellaneous moving expense).

To be eligible for retraining benefits, approved courses, and/or programs must be taken at accredited or state-approved educational institutions, and enrollment must be within three (3) months from the date of separation from the Company.

The cost of tuition, required textbooks, required lab and entrance fees will be reimbursed as follows:

- (i) 35% reimbursement of approved costs upon presentation of receipted bills, and
- (ii) 65% reimbursement of approved costs upon submission of proof of successful completion of the course/program.

Approved training expenses that are covered by other employers, government benefits or scholarships will not be subject to reimbursement by the Company.

If an employee is enrolled in a course/program at the time of re-employment by the Company or any affiliated or subsidiary companies within Windstream Corporation, the 65% reimbursement portion of retraining benefits will be made upon successful completion of the course/program within twenty-four (24) months from the date of separation or twelve (12) months from the date of re-employment whichever occurs later. No reimbursement will be made beyond that date.

The dollar amounts set forth in this section shall be prorated for regular part-time employees based on the percentage of hours normally scheduled in a normal work week, i.e., thirty (30) hours normally worked in a normal work week would result in termination benefits paid at 75% of those set forth in Paragraphs (A.), (B.), (D.) and (E.) of this Section 4.

5. Termination pay benefits for employees who so elect to leave the service of the Company in accordance with the foregoing shall begin within two (2) weeks after such employee has left the service of the Company and shall continue on a normal pay cycle until the earliest of (a) exhausting of benefits as set forth in Section 4, or (b) offer of re-employment by the Company or any affiliated or subsidiary companies of the within Windstream Corporation at a location within 40 miles of the employee's last headquarters location, (employee will be expected to report for work no later than one (1) weeks after the offer) or (c) death of the former employee.

6. In the event that an employee should be rehired by the Company, said employee must complete one (1) full year of net credited service with the Company before becoming eligible again for termination benefits. In subsequent terminations to which this Agreement is applicable, the employee shall only receive the difference between the termination benefits for which presently eligible and any benefits previously received.

7. This Agreement will be implemented prior to invoking the layoff/force adjustment provisions of Article 18 of the Labor Agreement when conditions set forth in Sections 1 or 2 of this Agreement exist as determined by the Company.

8. An employee who elects under the Plan shall not be entitled to any of the provisions outlined in Article 18.

9. Neither the right to effect a technological change, the determination of a surplus situation, eligibility for participation in the Plan, nor any other part of the Plan or Agreement shall be subject to the arbitration provisions of the Labor Agreement.

10. This Agreement is effective this Sixth day of October 2003, and shall remain in effect up to and including June 7, 2006.

Kentucky Windstream, LLC

Communications Workers of America
Locals 3371 & 3372

Kathy J. Warn
Director – Labor Relations

Judy Dennis
CWA Representative

October 6, 2003

October 6, 2003

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT
UTILITYPERSON

The parties agree that the Utilityperson shall perform general labor duties which are unskilled or low-skilled. The duties are listed below, and it is understood that wiring terminations will not be performed by Utilitypersons under any circumstances.

It is further agreed that the number of Utilitypersons on the active payroll shall not exceed three (3) of the total number of bargaining unit employees on the active payroll at the time of the hire, unless the parties mutually agree to increase the maximum percentage of Utilitypersons.

It is further agreed that the work performed by the Utilityperson will not in any way cause layoffs or part-timing or reduce the regular earnings of any other regular employee of the Company in any other classification.

It is further agreed that no duties outside of those listed will be added to the duties of a Utilityperson unless mutually agreeable to both parties. Safety and Defensive Driving training will be the only training required other than on-the-job training.

It is further agreed that any full-time employee may submit a Letter of Request to the Division Personnel Manager requesting consideration for this position. Any full-time employee that may be determined to be surplus as a result of a force reduction will be given priority in filling a vacant position or displacing a current Utilityperson who may have less seniority.

This position is effective June 4, 1989 unless an earlier date is agreed upon between the Local Union President and the General Manager.

Kentucky Windstream, LLC

Communications Workers of America
Locals 3371 & 3372

Kathy J. Warn
Director – Labor Relations

Judy Dennis
CWA Representative

October 6, 2003

October 6, 2003

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT
READY TO SERVE

The parties agree that our future success will require that the Company be able to respond to after hours maintenance requirements in a timely manner. To that end, it is agreed that both parties will make every reasonable effort to insure that volunteers are readily available to serve on Ready to Serve. Should there be a problem, the parties agree to meet in an effort to reach workable solutions. The following shall apply:

1. In specific job classifications and/or specialized work groups where business needs exist, the Company will determine the number of employees needed to be on Ready to Serve.
2. The application of Ready to Serve will be on a voluntary basis for all applicable work groups. However, if the Company is unable to get a volunteer, the Company may rotate the assignment among all qualified employees in the same job classification and exchange for the remainder of the thirteen (13) week schedule. Employees on Ready to Serve are expected to be available and accessible to respond in a timely manner as determined by business needs. .
3. The Company will rotate Ready to Serve duties among the qualified employees. The period of rotation will be seven (7) days.
4. Ready to Serve pay will be 1 hour's pay for scheduled days and 2 hours on nonscheduled days. No additional premiums and/or differentials will be paid while Ready to Serve pay is in effect, while the employee is off duty. If work is performed, the employee shall receive the Ready to Serve pay plus the applicable call-out amount as contained in the Primary Agreement. For the purposes of this Memorandum, a Ready to Serve day begins at 5:00 p.m. and ends at 4:59 p.m. the next day.
5. Normal contact to the employee will be via the regular telephone switch network. In such areas where other technology may be available to contact the employee (example: pagers), such will be used at Company discretion.
6. This practice does not supersede normal call-out procedures if additional employees are needed.
7. The Company may elect to apply all work groups.
8. In work groups with more than 30 employees, a maximum of two employees may be required to be on Ready to Serve at one time. However, in no case will an employee be required to be on Ready to Serve more than once a month not including work for which the employee volunteers.
9. The Company agrees to continue existing practice of allowing employees to take their vehicle home.

Kentucky Windstream, LLC



Bruce Hurlbut
Director – Labor Relations
June 8, 2024

Communications Workers of America
Locals 3371 & 3372

Michael Dolan
CWA Representative
June 8, 2024

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT
DRUG/SUBSTANCE ABUSE POLICY

Windstream seeks to establish and maintain a work environment that is free from the effects of alcohol and improper drug use. "Improper drug use" includes the use of (i) any drug or substance that is illegal under federal, state or local laws, (ii) any drug not prescribed by a licensed physician for the current treatment of the employee, or (iii) any legal drug or substance in quantities or any other manner that would or would be likely to adversely affect the ability of the employee to report to work on time and in a mental and physical condition conducive to the competent performance of his or her duties. Any improper drug use and/or the use by an employee, whether off the job or on-the-job, can adversely affect the work place and our ability to accomplish our goal of a work environment free of influence from alcohol or improper drug use.

Windstream's improper drug use policy is:

Improper drug use is prohibited.

Use of alcohol on Company property and/or during work hours is prohibited.

Use of alcohol which impacts on the employee during work hours and/or while on Company property is prohibited.

Employees may be subject to probable cause testing:

- Should they report to work exhibiting an unsteady gait, slurred speech, or disoriented behavior;
- Should they discuss or offer an illegal drug or alcohol to a coworker;
- In the case of an eyewitness report of usage or the presence of a strong odor associated with that of a drug or alcohol.

Information regarding testing procedures may be obtained from the third-party vendor who administers this program. This information includes the testing methods and collection procedures, the substances that may be tested (including the brand/common name and the chemical name) and the ability to explain test results in confidence. Employees may appeal the results of the test by contacting the Employee Relations department. Refusal to submit to probable cause testing and/or failure to comply with testing procedures in the time frame specified by the company will result in immediate termination of employment.

The unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensation, possession, or use of a controlled substance on Windstream premises or while conducting Windstream business at customer or prospective locations or otherwise off Windstream premises or during working hours (including breaks) is absolutely prohibited. Violations of this policy will result in disciplinary action up to and including termination and may have legal consequences.

Any employee who participates in improper drug use while off the job will also be subject to disciplinary action up to and including discharge if he or she reports to work in a mental or physical condition not conducive to the competent performance of his or her duties. Additionally, if (in the

judgment of Windstream) that improper drug use or the result of that improper drug use is likely to undermine public confidence in Windstream, subject Windstream to public criticism, or interfere with the employee's ability to continue an efficient and productive relationship with other employees, Windstream customers, prospects, or others with whom Windstream employees typically deal, the employee will be subject to disciplinary action up to and including possible termination.

Employees must, as a condition of employment, abide by the terms of this policy. A drug test will be required for any employee who is involved in any accident that results in a fatality, serious injury, ambulance ride, or any vehicle being towed from the scene of the accident.

Kentucky Windstream, LLC

Communications Workers of America
Locals 3371 & 3372

James David Works
EVP & Chief Human Relations Officer

Isa Shabazz
CWA Representative

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT
USE OF CONTRACTORS

The parties agree that this Memorandum of Agreement is to be applied in addition to the language in Article 19 concerning the use of contractors.

The Company agrees that the use of contractors to perform bargaining unit work related to R1/B1 (single line residence and single line business accounts) and maintenance of central office equipment will be limited as follows:

1. The Company may use contractors to perform the above referenced work when the following conditions exist:
 - a. “An act of God” type service emergency (e.g. flood, hurricane, etc.).
 - b. To backfill for employee(s) on disability (one for one replacement).
 - c. For a maximum of 75 days when the Company has an approved job requisition and is in the process of filling a job vacancy (one for one replacement).
 - d. A competitive bid project (pulling wire).
 - e. For a period of seven (7) consecutive days, or more, the Company’s month to date status fails to meet one or more of the Public Service Commission required service indices for service installation, trouble clearing, and/or trouble reports per 100 access lines. (Note: Such seven day period may be during a single monthly PSC reporting period or may overlap two such periods.) In such instances the contractors authorized by this sub-paragraph will be released at close of business on the day when month to date compliance with the Public Service Commission indices is known to be restored. The Company will provide the Union with daily reports as to PSC indices compliance for the duration of contractor use under this sub-paragraph. In the case of the trouble clearing and trouble report indices, the report will be provided on each workday for the previous workday. In the case of the installation indices, the report will be provided on each workday, and will contain the most recent Company data available. In determining compliance or non-compliance with PSC service indices pursuant to this subparagraph, the measurement will be by jurisdiction, i.e., by State, Division, and DAC. If there is non-compliance only within a DAC, use of contractors under this MOA will be only within that DAC. If non-compliance is within more than one DAC in a given Division, use of contractors under this MOA may be anywhere within the respective Division. If non-compliance is Statewide, use of contractors under this MOA may be anywhere in the State.
 - f. Where contractors are utilized under 1 (a) or 1 (e), the Company will offer overtime opportunity to employees in the respective job classification(s) and affected geographic area, in a reasonable

amount, during the period of time such contractors are being utilized under these subparagraphs and during the seven day period leading to such contracting under subparagraph 1 (e). During circumstances covered by 1(a) and during the period of time when contractors are actually on the property under 1(e), a “reasonable amount” of overtime opportunity will, generally, mean two hours per weekday and eight (8) hours on Saturday.

2. The Company and Union agree that any additional use of contractors to perform the above referenced work will require mutual agreement.
3. These restrictions will be effective six (6) months after effective date of new contract.

Kentucky Windstream, LLC

Communications Workers of America
Locals 3371 & 3372

Kathy J. Warn
Director – Labor Relations

Judy Dennis
CWA Representative

October 6, 2003

October 6, 2003

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT
ELIMINATION OF JOB CLASSIFICATIONS AND WORK ASSIGNMENT

1. It is recognized that the Company will be discontinuing in-house functions currently performed by Building Service Technicians, Public Access Sales Technicians, and Vehicle Maintenance Technicians. This will eliminate these classifications and the positions currently held by employees with those job titles.
2. A. Present incumbent employees in the classifications being eliminated shall, prior to January 1, 2004, be absorbed in the classification of CZT, within their respective District, without posting or bidding, with their wages frozen (following contract effective date increase) until the new Wage Scale classification catches up and then they will proceed under that progression, and these people will not be restricted to the 15 month time in title for bid purposes. This transfer of personnel will not result in the layoff of CZT personnel through December 31, 2004. Thereafter, the provisions of Article 19 shall govern.

B. For purposes of this MOA, "District" shall mean the (1) Lexington, (2) Morehead, (3) Ashland, and (4) Hazard Districts. (The Lexington District shall be defined in Article 18, Section 3 (A)(3) of the Agreement.)
3. It is understood that nothing in Article 19 of the Agreement shall prevent elimination of the subject positions, it is being understood that the work presently performed by the employees holding these eliminated positions will be contracted out, and that paragraph 4 of Article 19 does not apply to such contracted work.
4. The Company also has stated its intent to subcontract certain work which has traditionally been performed by Lineworkers and Central Office Equipment Installation Technicians, and to reduce the number of employees in those classifications by attrition. While such attrition is occurring, it should be expected that employees in these classifications will routinely be assigned to work in other classifications, and that the provisions of Article 17 of the Agreement shall not apply to such work assignments, but the Company will attempt to honor seniority in making such job assignments where practical.

Kentucky Windstream, LLC

Communications Workers of America
Locals 3371 & 3372

Kathy J. Warn
Director – Labor Relations

Judy Dennis
CWA Representative

October 6, 2003

October 6, 2003

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT
SENIORITY/NET CREDITED SERVICE

1. Employees who were employed on October 6, 2003 were provided information showing each employee's seniority and net credited service date as of that date which included the information provided by Verizon and were offered the opportunity to challenge the date(s) provided by the Company. As of the effective date of the 2003 contract, all necessary adjustments were completed.
2. Any employee hired after the effective date of the new contract will be credited with no seniority and no net credited service for prior service with any employer, except as follows:
 - A. If the employee was transferred from Verizon to Kentucky Windstream on August 1, 2002, subsequently left Kentucky Windstream employment and is rehired by the Company, he/she shall be credited with the net credited service he/she held on August 1, 2002, plus that which he/she earned from August 1, 2002 through the date his employment first thereafter terminated once the employee has been reemployed for a period of one (1) year.
 - B. If an employee has previously worked for Kentucky Windstream or another Windstream affiliate, he/she shall be credited for such prior service for purposes of net credited service once the employee has been reemployed for a period of one (1) year.
 - C. If the employee transfers from an Windstream affiliate, having come from a bargaining unit with a reciprocal agreement, i.e., one which would grant a Kentucky Windstream bargaining unit employee credit for Kentucky Windstream seniority on transfer to the affiliate from Kentucky Windstream, the employee will be granted seniority consistent with such reciprocity agreement.
3. The "seniority" of the 13 re-hired employees identified by the Company as having been improperly credited with prior seniority will be grandfathered with the seniority earlier granted improperly, but employees re-hired/transferred hereinafter will be accorded Net Credited Service and seniority per the clear language of this MOA.

Kentucky Windstream, LLC

Communications Workers of America
Locals 3371 & 3372

James David Works
EVP & Chief Human Relations Officer

Isa Shabazz
CWA Representative

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT
REFERRAL OF PRODUCTS & SERVICES

1. It is in everyone's best interest that employees sell Company products and services to existing/potential customers. Employees in the following classifications: Business Zone Technician, Customer Zone Technician, and Customer Engineer-Data Applications are required to participate in the referral programs established by the Company.
2. Participating employees will create records of his/her referrals by using and following the mechanisms and procedures determined by the Company.
3. The Company will not discipline any employee during the term of our new Collective Bargaining Agreement, through June 7, 2009, solely for failure to complete sales or referrals. This will not prevent the discipline of any employee for other reasons (even if the employee also happens to have a poor referral record), subject to the usual just cause standard.
4. This agreement does not apply to the Retail Sales Consultant or Teller classifications.

Kentucky Windstream, LLC

Communications Workers of America
Locals 3371 & 3372

Kathy J. Warn
Director - Labor Relations

Isa Shabazz
CWA Representative

June 8, 2009

June 8, 2009

WINDSTREAM KENTUCKY, LLC

AND

COMMUNICATIONS WORKERS OF AMERICA

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

Contracting

The Communications Workers of America, Local Union 3371 and 3372, and Windstream Kentucky, LLC agree to create a joint committee to review and discuss the subject of subcontracting, the purpose of which will not be to seek a change in the Company's business model, which includes subcontracting, but to address, on an ongoing basis, ideas which may prevent or reduce force reductions which might be declared over the term of the Collective Bargaining Agreement.

WINDSTREAM KENTUCKY, LLC

COMMUNICATIONS WORKERS OF
AMERICA

Kathy J. Warn
Director - Labor Relations

Isa Shabazz
CWA Representative

June 8, 2009

June 8. 2009

WINDSTREAM KENTUCKY, LLC

AND

COMMUNICATIONS WORKERS OF AMERICA

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

Local Connection Consultants

The Communications Workers of America, Local Union 3371 and 3372, and Windstream Kentucky, LLC agree to implement the Local Connection Consultant Classification in accordance with the following terms and conditions:

1. Local Connection Consultants will be paid on Wage Schedule 2.
2. Local Connection Consultant compensation will be paid as outlined in the Local Connection Consultant Compensation Plan Document and the Incentive Summary and Overview as presented during bargaining.
3. The Local Connection Consultant classification will be added to Article 16, Section 1G, of the current Collective Bargaining Agreement. No job posting will be required.
4. Employees desiring to bump into the Local Connection Consultant position in accordance with Article 18, Section 1D.1a and b must meet the qualifications for the job. The Company is not required to recall laid off employees to this classification unless employee laid off is a Local Connection Consultant.
5. Local Connection Consultants desiring to transfer to another location will be given preference as an internal candidate as outlined in the Collective Bargaining Agreement.
6. Local Connection Consultants' Quota Plans are effective as soon as administratively possible following the ratification of the new Collective Bargaining Agreement. As stated in the Compensation Plan Document, the quotas may change from time to time. The Company will provide Union advanced notice of any changes.
7. Performance of the Local Connection Consultants will be monitored. The Memorandum of Agreement on Referral of Products and Services appearing in the current Collective Bargaining Agreement is not applicable to the Local Connection Consultant position.
8. Effective January 1, 2013 Local Connection Consultants may not have over one scheduled off on vacation during the first week of each month's billing cycle.
9. In accordance with Article 22 Section 4, if a Local Connection Consultant performs non-supervisory managerial functions such as assisting other Local Connection Consultants by providing procedural, customer service and systems subject matter

expertise, cash/deposit verifications, customer escalations, help reinforce training and/or educational efforts will receive an in-charge differential of \$.75 per hour provided the employee works in the position a minimum of one (1) hour.

WINDSTREAM KENTUCKY, LLC

COMMUNICATIONS WORKERS OF
AMERICA



Bruce Hurlbut
Director - Labor Relations
June 8, 2024

Michael Dolan
CWA Representative
June 8, 2024

WINDSTREAM KENTUCKY, LLC

AND

COMMUNICATIONS WORKERS OF AMERICA

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT
BUSINESS SYSTEMS TECHNICIAN II INTERWORKING

- The parties agree that the Company may, at its discretion, establish a team of employees classified Business Systems Technician II to install, repair, support and promote products and services generally purchased and used by large and complex business customers across the state of Kentucky. These employees may be assigned to exchanges represented by either CWA or Local 463, IBEW. It is agreed that this team of Business Systems Technician II may be assigned to perform work in either IBEW or CWA represented exchanges as needed. This provision only applies to the Business Systems Technician II.
- It is agreed that a layoff of employees in the Business Systems Technician II will result in the suspension of the provision in this memorandum that allows for the crossing of jurisdictional boundaries until such employees are recalled or the reduced position is filled otherwise.
- It is understood that employees in the Business Systems Technician II classification position may, at the Company's discretion, be required to participate in Company paid uniform program. Additionally, the Company may establish reasonable dress standards based on the needs of the business.
- The provisions of the current Collective Bargaining Agreement between Windstream, formerly Alltel, and Communications Workers of America, will govern all other working conditions, except as specifically modified above.
- This Memorandum of Agreement will remain in effect until the expiration of the June 8, 2018 Collective Bargaining Agreement unless extended by written agreement by the Company and Union. However, if Local Union 463 of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers doesn't renew or enter into a Memorandum of Agreement of a similar nature, this agreement becomes null and void at the same time the IBEW agreement is terminated.

WINDSTREAM KENTUCKY, LLC



Bruce Hurlbut
Director - Labor Relations

COMMUNICATIONS WORKERS OF AMERICA

Michael Dolan
CWA Representative

WINDSTREAM KENTUCKY, LLC

AND

COMMUNICATIONS WORKERS OF AMERICA

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

(Clarifications/Understandings/2012 Bargaining)

During 2012 bargaining certain understandings were reached which do not appear elsewhere in this collective bargaining agreement, but are memorialized in this MOA. They are as follows:

1. Travel Time – Employees will not be paid for travel time from home to work in any situation other than a call-out, i.e., when called while off duty and summoned to work.
2. Pension (401k) – Employees hired after March 1, 2012 will be eligible to participate in the 401(k) Plan as referenced in Item C of the National Pension Agreement which is effective March 1, 2012. See Appendix C for the National Pension Plan Agreement.

WINDSTREAM KENTUCKY, LLC

COMMUNICATIONS WORKERS OF AMERICA

James David Works
EVP and Chief Human Resources Officer

Isa Shabazz
CWA Representative

Date: _____

Date: _____

WINDSTREAM KENTUCKY, LLC

AND

COMMUNICATIONS WORKERS OF AMERICA

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

(Clarifications/Understandings/2009 Bargaining)

During 2009 bargaining certain understandings were reached which do not appear elsewhere in this Collective Bargaining Agreement, but are memorialized in this MOA. They are as follows:

1. Transfers - The Company will, by letter, confirm with the Union the following: "The Company has heard the Union's view that its pattern of transferring Cable Splicers over the term of the present contract has been excessive and the Union's view that such pattern has been inconsistent with the spirit and intent of Article 17. In response, the Company intends to limit its transfers of Cable Splicers so as to change those views." The Company Area Managers and Local Managers will be advised of the above.
2. Pensions - By reason of the April 23, 2009 Settlement Agreement between the parties, it is acknowledged that the "Memorandum of Agreement Lump Sum Pension Calculation," appearing at (page 112 of this 2009-12 agreement), must be read in conjunction with the said April 23, 2009 Settlement Agreement.
3. United Health Care HMO - With regard to the premium sharing arrangement referenced in Article 40 of this Collective Bargaining Agreement, the understanding with respect to premium sharing for those employees selecting UHC HMO coverage's as follows:

With respect to those who participate in the United HealthCare HMO, the Company contribution for 2010 shall be the same dollar level, per the respective tier of coverage selected, as is being paid in 2009, plus UHC's premium increase for 2010, up to a maximum increase of 8% over 2009 UHC premium rates. The employee will pay the balance. In 2011 and 2012, the Company contribution toward UHC coverage will be the same dollar amounts, per the respective tier of coverage selected, as the Company paid in 2010, and the employee will be responsible for the balance.

4. Group Insurance - The parties June 5, 2009 Settlement Agreement identifies the change to the group insurance benefits agreed to during 2009 bargaining.

WINDSTREAM KENTUCKY, LLC

COMMUNICATIONS WORKERS OF AMERICA

Katherine J. Warn
Director, Labor Relations
June 8, 2009

Isa Shabazz
CWA Staff Representative
June 8, 2009

KENTUCKY WINDSTREAM, LLC

AND

COMMUNICATIONS WORKERS OF AMERICA

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

(Clarifications/Understandings/2006 Bargaining)

During 2006 bargaining, certain changes were made in benefit plans which require modification to numbered paragraphs 2 and 3 of the October 6, 2003 Memorandum of Agreement entitled, "Clarifications/Understandings/2003 Bargaining." That earlier memorandum appears at pages 104 and 105 of the 2003-06 Collective Bargaining Agreement between the parties. The modifications to that memorandum, arising from 2006 bargaining, are as follows:

1. Retiree Medical - The Company's premium contribution toward retiree medical benefits will remain at 55% of the cost for employees retiring on or before May 31, 2009. Thereafter, for those retiring after May 31, 2009, the Company will pay \$80.00 per month toward the cost of employee-only medical insurance coverage prior to Medicare eligibility and \$17.00 per month toward Medicare maintenance of benefit insurance after Medicare eligibility. The Company level of contribution applicable at the date of the respective employee's retirement will continue to apply throughout his/her retirement. For purposes of underwriting, i.e., the setting of premium determination, retirees and their claims experience will be separate from active employees.
2. Group Insurance - The comparative document attached hereto, under the column "Proposed Coverage," identifies the group insurance program agreed to in 2006 bargaining, and referenced in Article 40 of the Collective Bargaining Agreement. Also letter, dated August 11, 2003, referenced during negotiations, setting forth additional commitments by the Company with reference to medical, dental, and prescription drug considerations.
3. Scholarship Fund – If NewCo implemented a Scholarship Fund, we would include the CWA employees.
4. Signing Bonus - If the offer is accepted prior to May 16, 2006, each employee on the payroll as of May 3, 2006, will be paid a one-time lump sum payment in the gross amount of \$500, to be paid as soon as practicable.

Kentucky Windstream, LLC

Communications Workers
of
America, Locals 3371 And 3372

Katherine J. Warn
Director Labor Relations
June 8, 2006

Judy Dennis
CWA Representative
June 8, 2006

KENTUCKY WINDSTREAM, LLC
AND
COMMUNICATIONS WORKERS OF AMERICA
MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT
(Clarifications/Understandings/2003 Bargaining)

During 2003 bargaining, substantial changes were made in the Collective Bargaining Agreement and in benefit plans. The purpose of this Memorandum of Agreement is to clarify some of these changes, and to recite certain understandings not specified on the face of the Collective Bargaining Agreement.

Specifically, the parties have agreed, as follows:

1. Pensions – The removal from the contract of previous memoranda of agreement, between Verizon and CWA, does not imply any change in pension plan features and benefits with respect to those employees who, under Article 32 of the Collective Bargaining Agreement, continue to be covered by the old Verizon Plan For Hourly Paid Employees provision. For example, the lump-sum option, the thirty years and out provision, and the rule of 76 provision continue to apply to those employees.
2. Retiree Medical – The Company’s premium contribution toward retiree medical benefits will remain unchanged through December 31, 2003. Thereafter, effective January 1, 2004, the Company’s obligation reduces to 75% of the cost for employees retiring in 2004; effective January 1, 2005, the Company’s obligation reduces to 65% of the cost for employees retiring during 2005; and effective January 1, 2006, the Company’s obligation reduces to 55% of the cost for employees retiring during 2006. The percentage applicable at the date of the respective employee’s retirement will continue to apply throughout his/her retirement. For purposes of underwriting, i.e., the setting of premium determination, retirees and their claims experience will be pooled separately from active employees.
3. Group Insurance – The Comparative document attached hereto, under the column “Proposed Coverage”, identifies the group insurance program agreed to in bargaining, and referenced in Article 40 of the Collective Bargaining Agreement. Also letter, dated August 11, 2003, referenced during negotiations, setting forth additional commitments by the Company with reference to medical, dental, and prescription drug plan considerations.
4. 401(k) – Effective for payroll periods after the final 2003 payroll period, i.e., the last payroll period fully completed during calendar year 2003, all Company matching contributions to the Windstream Corporation Thrift Plan shall cease.
5. Team Incentive and Telephone Concession – The previously existing team incentive benefit plan and telephone concessions benefit have been eliminated.

6. Transfer of Work – It is understood that any permanent transfer of work, which would result in a loss of bargaining unit positions, will be subject to the Company’s statutory bargaining obligations, if any.
7. Business Attire – Attire and appearance consistent with reasonable workplace expectations is required.

Kentucky Windstream, LLC

Communications Workers of America
Locals 3371 & 3372

Katherine J. Warn
Director Labor Relations
October 6, 2003

Judy Dennis
CWA Representative
October 6, 2003

KENTUCKY WINDSTREAM, LLC
AND
COMMUNICATIONS WORKERS OF AMERICA
MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT
IP PRODUCTS AND SERVICES

The Company agrees to include installation and maintenance work on IP Products and Services as “work normally performed by bargaining unit personnel” (Article 19) and shall be subject to all of the protections and restrictions contained in the Collective Bargaining Agreement.

Dated: _____

Kentucky Windstream, LLC

Communications Workers of America
Locals 3371 & 3372



Bruce Hurlbut
Director - Labor Relations

Michael Dolan
CWA Representative

KENTUCKY WINDSTREAM, LLC
AND
COMMUNICATIONS WORKERS OF AMERICA
MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

ELIMINATION OF RETIREE HEALTHCARE SUBSIDY

Any employee who retires on or after June 8, 2015, shall not be eligible to receive the healthcare subsidy of \$80 per month before age 65 and \$17 per month after age 65.

Dated: _____

Kentucky Windstream, LLC



Bruce Hurlbut
Director - Labor Relations

Communications Workers of America
Locals 3371 & 3372

Michael Dolan
CWA Representative

Historical Reference Only

**MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT
ALLTEL EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Alltel Corporation encourages the educational growth and development of its employees by sponsoring the Educational Assistance Plan (the "EAP"). Employees will be eligible for the plan provisions stated in this MOA.

The EAP is a fringe benefit plan administered according to the Internal Revenue Code (IRC) Sections 127 and 132. Eligible employees are reimbursed out of general corporate assets for covered expenses.

Reimbursement for an eligible employee may not exceed a maximum of \$2,000 only for the life of the agreement or the Company policy, whichever is greater, per calendar year. However, any employee who successfully passes a course which is directly related to a company product or service will be eligible for up to an additional \$1,000 reimbursement benefit (over and above the \$2,000 maximum).

COVERED EXPENSES

The following expenses are covered:

Tuition

Tuition equivalent expenses such as:

- Testing fees associated with qualifying for a course of study leading to a degree (e.g., SAT, ACT, GMAT)
- Testing fees for professional certification (e.g., CPA, PHR, CEBS)
- Fees for CLEP and other credit examination tests for which the employee receives a college credit
- Required general activity, lab, course fees
- Book expenses associated with course work
- Study materials associated with professional certification examinations (e.g., CPA Review Course)
- Correspondence courses if they meet all of the following conditions:
 1. Appropriate educational facilities are not readily available; and
 2. The course of study is job related or the degree is related to Alltel's business; and
 3. A form of certification is issued at the end of the course indicating successful completion; and

- ~~4. The course of study or the educational institution has been approved by a state or professional association.~~

WHAT IS NOT COVERED

- ~~• Any of the covered expenses listed above if the employee does not pass the course or test or become certified~~
- ~~• Any of the covered expenses listed above for which the employee received a scholarship or grant~~
- ~~• Late fees~~
- ~~• Installment payment fees~~
- ~~• Parking fees~~
- ~~• Retest fees~~
- ~~• Courses involving sports, games, or hobbies are excluded, even if required for the degree program~~
- ~~• Study aids not required for the course~~
- ~~• Supplies, including calculators, diskettes, pens and notebooks~~

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- ~~• Employee must be classified as regular full-time or regular part-time and scheduled to work at least 20 hours per week~~
- ~~• Courses must be:
 - ~~☐ Job related and normally taken at an accredited college, university, vocational/technical school or in an adult education program; or~~
 - ~~☐ Non-job related if taken as part of a degree program at an accredited college or university. The degree program must be related to Alltel's business (i.e., degrees utilized by Alltel)~~~~
- ~~• Reimbursement is limited to two courses per term~~
- ~~• The employee must receive a grade of "C" or higher. A grade report must accompany the request for reimbursement.~~
- ~~• Course work must not adversely affect the employee's job performance.~~
- ~~• All class hours must be outside of the employee's normal working hours.~~
- ~~• The employee must be active on Alltel's payroll at the time of reimbursement.~~

TAXATION OF REIMBURSEMENT

~~EAP reimbursements for undergraduate classes are non-taxable income. Reimbursements for graduate classes taken after December 31, 2001 are considered non-taxable income.~~

~~Tax laws change often. Accordingly, Alltel can provide no guarantee that any educational assistance will remain tax free.~~

APPLICATION PROCESS

- ~~An employee interested in educational assistance should:~~
 1. ~~Complete an Educational Assistance Application prior to enrollment. Any applications received after course enrollment must be accompanied by a written explanation from the employee's supervisor outlining the reason for the delay and why the application should be approved.~~
 2. ~~Obtain two levels of management approval on the application form.~~
 3. ~~Route the approved form to the Human Resources' representative coordinating the EAP program for the employee's business unit.~~
- ~~The EAP program coordinator will review the application and notify the employee and the employee's supervisor if the application is approved. Notification may be via E-mail, an approved copy of the application form, or written correspondence.~~

REIMBURSEMENT AGREEMENT

~~Employees seeking benefits under the Educational Assistance Plan will be required to sign a reimbursement agreement that provides for reimbursement to Alltel of educational benefits paid during the 12 months preceding termination of employment.~~

~~Kentucky Alltel, Inc. _____ Communications Workers of America
_____ Locals 3371 & 3372~~

~~Katherine J. Warn _____ Judy Dennis
Director Labor Relations _____ CWA Representative
June 8, 2006 _____ June 8, 2006~~

Historical Reference Only

**MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT
PLAN FOR HOURLY PAID EMPLOYEES' PENSIONS**

~~Verizon South, Inc. and Communications Workers of America agree to modify the Plan for Hourly Employees' Pensions. Such modifications are subject to approvals by the Company's Board of Directors and the United States Department of the Treasury. Therefore, the effective date of January 1, 2001 for the modifications will be contingent upon receipt of all necessary approvals.~~

~~Specific language will be prepared to modify our present Plan for Hourly Paid Employees' Pensions to effect the following:~~

Years of Accredited Service	<u>Annual Minimum Pension</u>
40 or more years	\$ 11,700
35 but less than 40 years	10,300
30 but less than 35 years	8,900
25 but less than 30 years	7,500
20 but less than 25 years	6,100
15 but less than 20 years	4,700

~~Spouse's Pension — if a married employee who is a Plan participant dies in the service of the Company after he/she attains the age of 65 or after he/she has five or more years' Vesting Service, there shall be paid to his/her spouse a Spouse's Pension, effective the first day of the month following the month of the employee's death.~~

~~The Spouse's Pension is computed the same way the employee's pension would be computed if he/she had retired at the end of the month in which death occurred and had chosen the 50% Joint Survivor Annuity.~~

~~The 3% per year reduction for employees who take early retirement before age 55 does not apply to the Spouse's Pension.~~

~~The following provisions remain the same:~~

~~A. — Unreduced Early Retirement — All eligibility provisions of the current plan shall remain in effect, except that employees who have thirty (30) years or more of accredited service may elect to take a service pension that is unreduced for early retirement.~~

~~B. — The present pension computation amount of 1.35% of average basic compensation during the five (5) consecutive years of highest earnings will be used.~~

~~C. — Disability Retirement — Any employee who shall become disabled on or off the job and whose accredited service is 15 years or more shall be entitled to a Disability Pension in accordance with the applicable provisions of the Plan.~~

~~D. — Employees who have at least 15 years of service can retire when the sum of their age and service equals "76" (Rule of 76).~~

~~E. — The pension for an employee, with less than 30 years of service, who retires early is reduced 3% for each year the employee is under age 55. Maximum 18% reduction.~~

~~F. — Accredited service will be granted for all work beyond age 65, but not past age 70.~~

~~G. — During the period after age 65, any improvement in the average basic pay during 5 consecutive years until the last day of the month in which the employee reaches age 70, will be used in the pension benefit calculation.~~

~~H. — During the period after age 65 and on or before age 70, improvements agreed to in pension calculation formula for all represented employees will be used in the pension benefit calculation at the time of the employee's retirement.~~

~~I. — Employees shall not be entitled to receive pension benefits while in the active employment of the Company.~~

~~J. — Employees will not be allowed to continue in the active employment of the Company beyond the first of the month following the month during in which they become 70 years of age.~~

~~K. — Employees who retire on the last day of the month in which they become 65 will receive retirement benefits, if any, computed at the benefit levels and in accordance with the provisions of the Plan as in effect at the time they become 65.~~

~~Employees who retire after the last day of the month in which they become 65 and who choose an optional form of retirement benefit shall have such optional benefit computed using the actuarial factors which were applicable on the last day of the month in which they became 65.~~

~~Employees may elect any person as their joint survivor as opposed to restricting this designation to the spouse~~

~~Plan Modifications and Administration~~

~~The Plan will be provided in accordance with the provisions set forth in this memorandum to the extent that such provisions are in conformity with applicable Federal and State Laws. If any such provisions require modification, such modification will be made by the Company. The administration of the Plan shall rest solely with the Company.~~

~~In the event of any dispute involving any employee's computed pension amount, the dispute, at the request of the Union, may be subject for grievance and/or arbitration in the Primary Agreement. No other matters concerning the Plan shall be subject to the grievance or arbitration procedure.~~

~~This agreement shall become effective as of June 4, 2000 and shall remain in effect until midnight, June 7, 2003, and shall automatically continue in full force and effect thereafter until terminated or amended in accordance with the following procedure:~~

~~A. — If this agreement is to be terminated, a written notice must be sent by either party to the other not less than sixty (60) days prior to the termination date set forth above or sixty (60) days prior to any date thereafter on which such cancellation is to become effective.~~

~~B. — This agreement may be amended or modified by either party by giving written notice to the other party of such desire to so amend or modify sixty (60) days and not more than ninety (90) days prior to the termination date set forth above.~~

~~That written notice shall contain a full statement as the amendments or modifications desired.~~

~~Verizon South, Inc. _____ Communications Workers
of America
Local Unions 3371 & 3372~~

~~Paul T. Gwaltney _____ Judy Dennis
Consultant - Labor Relations _____ CWA Representative~~

~~Date: 8/09/00 _____ Date: 8/09/00~~

(*In conjunction with 4-23-09 Settlement Agreement. See Item No. 2 of Memorandum of Agreement on 2009 Bargaining)

Historical Reference Only

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT
LUMP SUM PAYMENT OPTION

1. ~~Verizon South, Inc. and Communications Workers of America agree to modify the plan for Hourly Employees' Pensions (hereinafter referred to as the Plan). Such modifications are conditional upon the approval from the appropriate Board of Directors and a favorable determination from the Internal Revenue Service that the Plan is and continues to be qualified under Section 401(a) of the Internal Revenue Code. Therefore, the effective date of July 1, 1993 for the following modification will be contingent upon the necessary approvals.~~

2. ~~Regular employees who are eligible to receive a single life annuity from the Plan will be provided a lump sum payment option which will be based on the present value of their single life annuity.~~

3. ~~The amount and availability of benefits under the Plan are governed by the provisions of the Plan and are subject to the Internal Revenue Code and related regulations. Any payments received will be determined under the terms of the Plan in effect at the time regular employees separate from the service. The operation and administration of the Plan, the calculation of the lump sum benefit, eligibility requirements, all terms and conditions related thereto and the resolution of any disputes involving the terms, conditions, interpretation, and administration of the Plan shall rest with the Company and shall not be subject to the grievance or arbitration procedure set forth in the Collective Bargaining Agreement.~~

4. ~~This Memorandum of Agreement is effective September 17, 2000 and shall expire June 7, 2003. The parties specifically agree that the terms and conditions set forth in this Memorandum of Agreement, relating to the lump sum payment option, shall also terminate June 7, 2003 and shall not survive the expiration of this Memorandum of Agreement unless agreed to by the parties in writing.~~

Verizon South, Inc. _____ Communications Workers
of America
Local Unions 3371 & 3372

Paul T. Gwaltney _____ Judy Dennis
Consultant - Labor Relations _____ CWA Representative

Date: 8/09/00 _____ Date: 8/09/00

Historical Reference Only

**MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT
LUMP SUM PENSION CALCULATION**

~~GTE South, Inc. and Communications Workers of America (CWA), recognize the lump sum pension calculations for retirement eligible employees change on January 1, 2000, as a result of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trades (GATT) legislation.~~

~~The Company and Union agree to protect employees who are eligible to retire on or before December 31, 1999, from adverse implications from GATT legislation.~~

~~All employees who are eligible to retire on or before December 31, 1999, and who are eligible for lump sum pension distributions will be allowed to continue to receive the highest lump sum produced by the two lump sum calculation methods currently used in the GTE South, Inc. Pension Plans and a third new method that complies with GATT. Regardless of when these employees retire, on or after January 1, 2000, they will receive the highest lump sum amount produced by these three methodologies.~~

~~For employees who are eligible to retire on or after January 1, 2000, pensions will be calculated by using whichever of the following rates produces the largest lump sum amount:~~

~~-The GTE South, Inc. Plan Rate (currently the 10-year treasury bond rate)~~

~~-The GATT rate (30-year treasury bond rate)~~

~~This Memorandum of Agreement is effective January 1, 1999, and shall expire on December 31, 2001, unless extended by the parties in writing.~~

Verizon South, Inc. _____ Communications Workers
of America
Local Unions 3371 & 3372

_____ Donald R. Walton _____ T. O. Moses
_____ Richard Esquivel _____ Dina G. Beaumont
_____ J. Randall McDonald _____ Morton Bahr, President
_____ Executive Vice President-
_____ Human Resources & Admin.

_____ Date: 4/19/99 _____ Date: 3/15/99

