

**PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
1325 G STREET, N.W., SUITE 800
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005**

PUBLIC NOTICE

October 11, 2019

FORMAL CASE NO. 988, IN THE MATTER OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF UNIVERSAL SERVICE STANDARDS AND THE UNIVERSAL SERVICE TRUST FUND FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

1. The Public Service Commission of the District of Columbia (“Commission”) hereby gives notice that, on September 27, 2019, the District of Columbia Universal Service Trust Fund Administrator (“DC USTF Administrator”), Solix, Inc. (“Solix”), submitted a proposed 2020 calendar year budget, including a proposed assessment rate of 0.000656 or 0.0656% (“Proposed 2020 USTF Budget”).¹

2. The Proposed 2020 DC USTF budget recommends a budget not to exceed \$392,808, a decrease from the 2019 DC USTF budget of \$508,345. The Proposed 2020 DC USTF budget includes a decrease in the Lifeline distribution line item (\$65,000). The Proposed 2020 DC USTF budget also includes no change for the Telecommunications Relay Service (“TRS”) line item (\$80,000) based on the current contract with Hamilton Relay; a decrease for the Captioned Telephone line item (\$18,000) based on the contract with Hamilton Relay; no change for the independent audit (\$25,000) line item; a zeroing out of the Lifeline Eligibility Verification line item due to the end of the Lifeline Eligibility Verification Administrator (“LEVA”) contract caused by the implementation of the National Verifier to check applicant eligibility for Lifeline service; no change to the DC USTF Administrator administrative fees (\$80,000); no change to the TRS Advisory Board fees (\$2,000); and an increase to the Consumer Education Program (“CEP”) line item (\$43,246), which includes both the CEP and funding for Department of Energy and Environment (“DOEE”) outreach staff. There is a \$1,000 line item for printing costs assessed by DOEE to promote Lifeline service, labeled as the DOE Printer. The Proposed 2020 DC USTF budget contains a reduction in the fund balance by \$289,750 to offset the 2020 budgetary expenses. This proposed budget combined with the reported and estimated retail revenues of \$157,071,675 yields a proposed assessment rate of 0.000656 or 0.0656%, which is the same as the assessment rate for the 2019 budget.² Contributors to the DC USTF will pay the same assessment in calendar year 2020.

3. All persons interested in commenting on the Proposed 2020 DC USTF budget may submit written comments and reply comments not later than 10 and 20 days, respectively, after the Commission’s issuance of this Notice. Comments are to be addressed to Brinda Westbrook-

¹ *Formal Case No. 988, In the Matter of the Development of Universal Service Standards and the Universal Service Trust Fund for the District of Columbia*, Recommendation of the DC USTF 2020 Budget (“Proposed 2020 DC USTF budget”), filed September 27, 2019.

² Proposed 2020 DC USTF budget, Attachment A.

Sedgwick, Commission Secretary, Public Service Commission of the District of Columbia, 1325 G Street, N.W., Suite 800, Washington, D.C. 20005. Copies of the Proposed 2020 DC USTF budget may be obtained by visiting the Commission's website at www.dcpssc.org. Once at the website, open the "eDocket" tab, click on "Search database" and input "FC 988" as the case number and "1249" as the item number. Copies may also be purchased at cost by contacting the Commission Secretary at (202) 626-5150 or PSC-CommissionSecretary@dc.gov.