

From: "George Wigle" <geowig@voyager.net>

Date: 9/10/99 8:34 AM

Ameritech has filed for a rate increase which includes another surcharge. The telephone bill has become another method of collecting taxes and I for one, object to any arbitrary increase.

From: "Ian Levine" <ilevine@matrix-imaging.com>

Date: 9/8/99 9:10 AM

To whom it may concern: I strongly oppose the proposed rate increase. Ameritech's telephone service continues to worsen every year and yet the cost of service still increases. This proposal appears to be yet another way for Ameritech to provide less service and generate even more revenue. Until there is healthy competition among a choice of telephone service providers, the RBOCs should be highly regulated as de-regulation has only allowed decreasing service and increasing cost. At this point, cellular service providers have nearly matched, and in some cases outperformed the RBOCs both in level of service and cost. Ian Levine

From: "Mike Beveridge" <bev@wmis.net>

Date: 9/8/99 8:44 AM

Michael Beveridge; 13609 Graf Rd.; Brethren, Mi 49619; MPSC: I received notification that Ameritech desires to increase the rates on the AETCP plans. The proposed rate increase is an outrage in my opinion. Not only is this outrageous, but unfair to people like myself who live in an area where it seems that anywhere I call is one sort of long distance or another. Additionally, with this proposed rate increase, my access to the ISPs would be limited to the local provider-my local phone company; gee what a coincidence. I am not opposed to business making a fair profit. This however seems like another scheme to issue the phone company yet another license to steal. How much money will you let these people steal from us? How much profit is enough. I can tell you that my phone service does not seem to be a real value when I compare the quality of the service. I've had the unlimited plan for six years, the rate has been fifteen dollars per month. I can understand a reasonable increase, but not better than double the current rate. Drug dealers don't jump their prices at rates like that. Prostitutes wouldn't try such madness. If you went before our beloved governor and asked for such a pay raise, you be thrown out of the capitol- and most likely fired. I hope and pray that reason and good sense will prevail. Thank You, Michael Beveridge

From: "Howard M Newman" <gremlin@juno.com>

Date: 9/7/99 7:42 PM

MPSC, I am writing to Ameritech to get a copy of their proposal, but in case they don't respond in time, I want to comment here, now. If this proposal is as it appears to be on my recent phone bill, I'm totally against it. I am disabled and have diabetes. My phone is my only link to the

world, other than the few people that stop by. I may use the phone an hour or more a day. If they raise the rate to \$35 a month for that much time, I can't afford it. Even if the above weren't true. It's wrong for them to triple the current rate. I hope they are stopped on this. I may write more after reading the proposal. Thank you, Howard M. Newman

From: <Bodeysouth@aol.com>, on 10/22/99 6:58 AM:

Being a consumer who will be affected by this rate increase, we feel that this increase is far excessive. Please review the petitioners rate of return on capital investments, and we believe that you will find that they now have an adequate rate for the service rendered by this monopoly. Thank you for your consideration. Respectfully, Frank & Jane Bodenmiller

From: <TAMARA32DW@aol.com>

Date: 11/1/99 7:34 AM

This is the 2nd time I've attempted to get information via electronic mail. Your 1st response stated that I needed to contact my local phone company. I did, they know nothing more than I do. The letter I have from you provides this email address for comments/questions. MY QUESTION IS: Will we the consumer be warned of when this request to increase our rates will go into effect? So far, all we've received are notices stating that Ameritech filed with the MPSC to increase monthly rates. It does not state that the motion was granted or an effective date. We cannot afford the new rate, therefore, we will need to look at alternative companies/plans if the rates are going to increase that much. However, we do not want to change if we do not have to. At least not yet. Please let us know and it would also be helpful if our local phone company, CENTURYTEL had more information on this. Then we could deal more directly with them. Sincerely, Mr. & Mrs. Walser

From: "The Maneke's" <ctmaneke@centurytel.net>

Date: 11/1/99 7:39 AM

I read our last phone bill which included the notice about Ameritech requesting a rate increase in the AETCP plan. I am voicing my concern over this potential action. This would amount to a 133% increase. The plan, which is currently costing us an average of just over five cents per minute, would start costing us over 12 cents per minute on average. That is ludicrous! I can get a better rate than that without having to pay the 15 dollars per month for the AETCP plan. I will most certainly drop the plan if there is such a ridiculously high rate increase. I realize that this is an unlimited plan, which many customers are using far more than we are. However, if Ameritech feels they are losing money on the plan, they should consider offering some lower cost options for the average user. Christopher Maneke

From: "Anita M. Pope" <popeab@bresnanlink.net>

Date: 10/30/99 10:53 AM

Gentlemen: This email is to protest the monthly residence plan increase Ameritech has filed for in Case U-12077. First, I wasn't made aware of the proposed increase, until I received my monthly billing from the U.P. Telephone Co. on/about 25 Oct 1999, which is why this email didn't reach you until after the 10-25-99 date for comments. Their proposed increase from \$15 to \$35 for unlimited residence plan is an increase in excess of 100%. Only a mile from my home on Little Perch Lake, customers of Ameritech do not have to pay any long-distance charges for calls to Ishpeming and Negaunee. Because we are customers of U.P. Telephone Company, we must pay these ridiculous local long-distance charges. For computer owners, as I am, this effectively eliminates my access to the internet. The only internet provider within our local area is in Negaunee, and as a retiree, I cannot afford to pay this \$35 to Ameritech, plus the \$23 to Bresnan, the internet provider - a total of \$58 per month. I request that the MPSC deny the requested increase. Thank you for your consideration.
Sincerely, Anita M. Pope

From: "Dot & Thom" <dotthom@webtv.net>
Date: 10/29/99 12:09 PM

RE: Ameritech AETCP Rate Increase Our Century Telephone bill recently informed us of Ameritech's request for a 133% rate increase which will affect us. We live in northern Michigan. Our mailing address is Levering. The nearest grocery store is in Cheboygan, which is 12 miles. Levering has a post office, an antique shop, and that's about it. We consider ourselves Cheboygan residents, as that is where our schools are, where we shop, attend church, where our friends are, where we get gas for our car (which has over 200,000 miles on it), etc. We are about a mile or less from the Cheboygan telephone district. We live on a limited income. When we first moved here, we basically made very few phone calls. However, our family, which is spread out across the US, talked us into going on the internet so we could communicate by e-mail. It is so wonderful and has really brought us together. In order to be able to do that, we signed up to pay \$15 per month to be able to dial the Cheboygan internet number, unlimited. We also invested in over \$400 in equipment to be able to connect to the internet. It was quite a step for us, and have chosen it over going to movies and out to eat, etc. for the sake of family ties. With Ameritech's 133% increase from \$15 per month shooting way up to \$35 per month, my husband says we will have to drop off that program and try to sell our internet equipment. Therefore, we are very much against this enormous request, and wish you to take this into consideration on your decision to grant or not grant their request. Actually, our primary complaint is that we are not included in the Cheboygan calling area in the first place. We are within a short walking distance from neighbors who are. We would urgently request that we be included in that area, first of all! We know you have much mail to attend to, but we would appreciate a response back to especially my last paragraph. Thank you for your time and consideration. Very sincerely, Thom & Dot Rowley; 10629 Munro; Levering, MI 49755; (231) 537-2685; dotthom@webtv.net

From: "sharon bird" <birdnest@iavbbs.com>
Date: 10/29/99 7:28 PM

I live in a remote telephone area. Every call I make is long distance and I can't even connect to an internet service locally. So I have Adjacent City Service. It is now \$15.00 per month. That still does not let me conduct any business I have in Flint . If i did not have that I couldn't even call my township office without it being long distance. I do object to the more than doubling of this service I have two lines. One is dedicated to my computer so I pay the extra line fee and the AETCP fee. My basic rate is \$72.73 without tax. I could reduce it by taking off caller ID and reduce it a little but not enough to make much difference. I pay that for the privilege of having a phone. I sincerely hope you decline Ameritech's request for an increase. Sincerely Sharon Bird.

From: "bob schrader" <bschra@yahoo.com>

Date: 11/4/99 2:47 p.m.

I wish to express my extreme displeasure with the most recent increase in my Ameritech telephone bill. It seems that almost every month there is another increase in telephone usage either through your agency, or some other governmental body. The most recent is a big increase in the "state access charge" portion of my bill. The increase (per month) is \$1.83!!! Times that by every individual Michigan residential user and your talking about a great deal of money. I thought that deregulation was suppose to make telephone use cheaper. Your agency is just a "rubber stamp" for any increase that the telecommunications industry desires. The Michigan Public Service Commission is NO friend of the lowly consumer.

Sincerely,
Robert Schrader
Livonia, MI.
