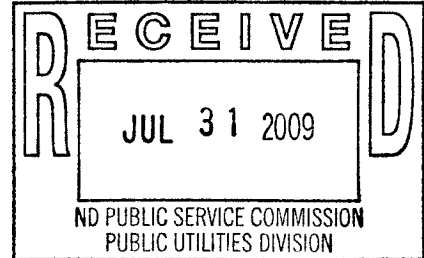


BEFORE THE NORTH DAKOTA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION IN CASE NO. PU-439-02-441
AND BEFORE THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION IN DOCKET NO. 96-45

AFFIDAVIT OF Loretel Systems, Inc. STUDY AREA 361443
REGARDING CERTIFICATION OF USE OF FEDERAL UNIVERSAL SERVICE SUPPORT

STATE OF MINNESOTA)
) ss.
COUNTY OF BROWN)



Bob Weiss, being first duly sworn on oath, does hereby declare and state upon affiant's own personal knowledge as follows:

1. Affiant is employed by Loretel Systems, Inc. (hereinafter, the "Company") in the position of Secretary.
2. The Company is an eligible telecommunications carrier within the meaning of Section 214(e) of the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996 (hereinafter, the "Act") and the Company is eligible to receive federal high-cost universal service support (hereinafter, the "Support") pursuant to Section 254(e) of the Act. The North Dakota Public Service Commission (hereinafter, the "NDPSC") has designated the Company as an eligible telecommunications carrier.
3. Affiant is personally familiar with all the Support received by the Company and with how the Company uses all of the Support that it receives.
4. The Company is filing this affidavit in compliance with the order of the Federal Communications Commission (hereinafter, "FCC") dated May 23, 2001 in Docket Number 96-45 (FCC 01-157) (hereinafter, the "Order") as codified in 47 C.F.R and 54.314, which requires certification to the FCC that all federal Support will be used by carriers within each state only for the provision, maintenance and upgrading of facilities and services for which the Support is intended, as required by Section 254(e) of the Act and 47 C.F.R and 54.7. The Company is also filing this affidavit in compliance with the Orders of the NDPSC dated August 28, 2001, in Case No. PU-439-01-460 and dated August 28, 2002 in Case No. PU-439-02-441. This affidavit is filed to facilitate the Company's receipt of federal Support for all four quarters of 2009 and for all quarters thereafter.

