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PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Mr. Darrell Nitschke
Executive Secretary
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
600 East Boulevard Avenue, Department 408
Bismarck, ND 58505-0480

STANDING ROCK TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC.
ETC DESIGNATED SERVICE AREA – APPLICATION
CASE NO. PU-10-574
OAH FILE NO. 20100288

By this letter, West River Telecommunications Cooperative, Inc., (“West River”), by counsel, hereby files this brief response to the motion for stay filed on October 7, 2010, by Standing Rock Telecommunications, Inc., (“Standing Rock”) in North Dakota Public Service Commission (the ND Commission) Case No. PU-10-574. While West River stands ready and willing to participate in any proceeding that the ND Commission begins to address this matter, West River also recognizes and appreciates the administrative efficiency that a grant of the Standing Rock motion could entail.

With this as background, West River does not necessarily oppose the Standing Rock request. However, West River’s lack of opposition is subject to the explicit confirmation and acknowledgment by Standing Rock that nothing within its motion, if granted by the ND Commission, is intended to suggest, or would in fact be used as a means of suggesting, to the Federal Communications Commission (the “FCC”) that the ND Commission has waived or deferred its rights with respect to the FCC’s recent referral of the study area redefinition issues to the ND Commission. To be clear, West River does read the recent motion by Standing Rock to suggest otherwise. Nonetheless, the confirmation and specific acknowledgment suggested herein by Standing Rock would,

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in West River's view, be proper before any action on the Standing Rock request is taken by the ND Commission.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Don Negaard", written over the text of the previous block.

Don Negaard

jt

cc: Douglas G. Bonner