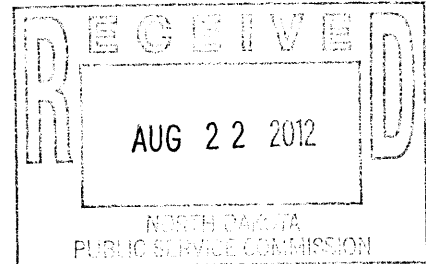




# West River Cooperative Telephone Co.

801 Coleman Ave. P. O. Box 39 Bison, SD 57620

August 13, 2012



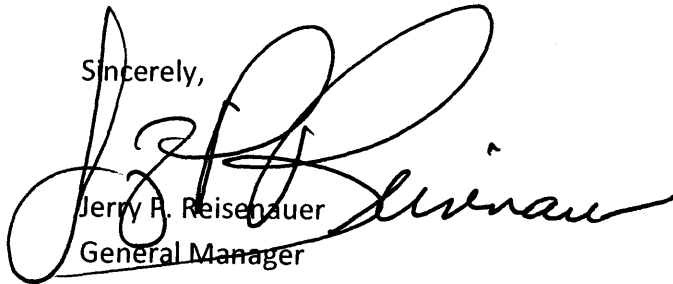
ND Public Service Commission  
12<sup>th</sup> Floor State Capitol  
600 East Blvd Ave.  
Bismarck, ND 58505-0480

Dear Sirs:

Please find enclosed our filing in accordance with Case No. PU-11-463 and Chapter 69-09-05, Section 69-09-05-12.1.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call anytime.

Sincerely,

  
Jerry P. Reisenauer  
General Manager

22 PU-12-236 Filed: 8/22/2012 Pages: 7  
Certification of use of federal universal services  
support

West River Cooperative Telephone Company

Jerry Reisenauer



provided on Exhibit B hereto as part of the Company's current Two-Year Plan. Consistent with federal universal service principles, the Company will use federal universal service amounts received in 2013 to offset a portion of these 2013 expenditures. This use of federal universal service support will enable the Company to: (1) maintain rates for its local exchange services that are affordable and reasonably comparable to rates being charged for the same services in urban areas; and (2) to upgrade its telecommunications facilities and equipment as necessary to meet evolving service requirements and maintain high quality service. The use of federal universal service support for these purposes is clearly consistent with the federal universal service provisions.

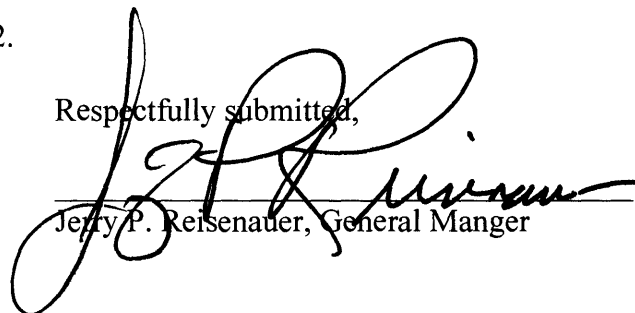
3. In addition to the information included in Exhibits A and B, the following information is provided to meet the Commission's "Certification requirements" set forth in Section 69-09-05-12.1:

- During calendar year 2011, the Company experienced no service outages affecting at least 10 percent of its end user customers, for a period lasting longer than 30 minutes:
- The Company was able to provide service to all potential customers that requested service during 2011, and as of December 31, 2011, the Company had no unfulfilled requests for service.
- During 2011, the Company's customer service department received no formal written complaints from consumers.
- Also attached as "Exhibit C" is a document containing other certifications, including those required under the provisions Section 254(e).

4. Based on all of the foregoing information, including the information provided on Exhibits A, B and C, the Company requests that this Commission issue an appropriate certification to the FCC and USAC indicating that West River Cooperative Telephone Company is in compliance with 47 U.S.C. § 254(e) and should receive all federal universal service support determined for distribution to the Company in 2013. In order to ensure that this certification is issued to the FCC prior to October 1, 2012, the Company would further ask the Commission to expedite the process that is initiated based on this filing.

Dated this 13 day of August 2012.

Respectfully submitted,



Jerry P. Reisenauer, General Manger



**EXHIBIT A**  
**Progress Report**  
**West River Cooperative Telephone Company**

**Year 2011 Federal Universal Service Receipts:**

|                                   |                     |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|
| High Cost Loop Support            | \$ 3,089,100        |
| Local Switching Support           | \$ 561,840          |
| Safety Net Additive Support       | \$ 244,308          |
| Safety Valve Loop Cost Adjustment | \$ <u>0</u>         |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                      | <b>\$ 3,895,248</b> |

**Expenditures For Provision, Maintenance, and Upgrading Of Facilities and Services Supported By Federal Universal Service Funding:**

|  | <u>Actual</u><br>2011 |
|--|-----------------------|
| <b>Plant Specific Operations Expenses</b>                          |                       |
| Network support (Accts 6110-16)                                    | \$ 4,104              |
| General support (Accts 6120-24)                                    | \$ 322,469            |
| Central office (Accts 6210-6232)                                   | \$ 552,420            |
| Cable and wire facilities (Accts 6410-41)                          | \$ 572,823            |
| Network operations (Accts 6530-35)                                 | \$ 139,507            |
| Depreciation and amortization (Accts 6560-65)                      | \$ 2,926,101          |
| <b>Customer Operations Expenses</b>                                |                       |
| Customer services (Accts 6620-23)                                  | \$ 164,080            |
| <b>Corporate Operations Expenses</b>                               |                       |
| Executive and planning (Accts 6710-12)                             | \$ 420,058            |
| General and administrative (Accts 6720-28)                         | \$ 629,291            |
| <b>Total Years Supported Expenses, Before Return on Investment</b> | <b>\$ 5,730,853</b>   |
| <b>Additions</b>   |                       |
| Switching (Acct 2210)  | \$ 2,932,434          |
| Cable and wire (Acct 2410)   | \$ 22,501             |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>\$ 2,954,935</b>   |
| <b>Total Supported Expenditures, Before Return on Investment</b>   | <b>\$ 8,685,788</b>   |

[In 2011, we were more aggressive with our construction to complete Fiber To The Home than what was projected in our 2009 Annual ETC Certification. The cable and wire for FTTH in the amount of approximately \$1,600,000 will be closed in 2012. In 2011, the following projects for electronics were completed in the following wire centers:

Newell - \$237,895; Nisland - \$110,627; Camp Crook - \$469,537; Bison - \$134,937; Buffalo - \$689,402; Lemmon - \$291,040; Meadow \$297,821; Sorum - \$459,279; Various other Projects- \$264,397]

**EXHIBIT B**  
**Two-Year Plan**  
**WEST RIVER COOPERATIVE TELEPHONE COMPANY**

The Company's service quality improvement plan is to continue to upgrade its telecommunications facilities and equipment as necessary to meet evolving service requirements and maintain high quality service throughout its service area. As an incumbent local exchange carrier and the carrier of last resort in its service area, the Company upgrades and replaces facilities and equipment as necessary. The Company believes that its planned capital additions will improve the reliability of switched calls for its customers, increase the Company's network capacity to serve remote customers and provide customers with state-of-the-art telecommunications service. In furtherance of its service quality improvement plan, the Company will use any high-cost universal service amounts received by it to offset expenditures incurred as it continues to upgrade and replace facilities and equipment.

**Estimated Year 2013 Federal Universal Service Receipts:**

|                                   |                     |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|
| High Cost Loop Support            | \$ 2,727,344        |
| Local Switching Support           | \$ 0                |
| Safety Net Additive Support       | \$ 182,121          |
| Safety Valve Loop Cost Adjustment | \$ 0                |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                      | <b>\$ 2,909,465</b> |

**Expenditures For Provision, Maintenance, and Upgrading Of Facilities and Services Supported By Federal Universal Service Funding:**

|  | Estimated<br>2013   |
|--|---------------------|
| <b>Plant Specific Operations Expenses</b>                          |                     |
| Network support (Accts 6110-16)                                    | \$ 4,600            |
| General support (Accts 6120-24)                                    | \$ 325,000          |
| Central office (Accts 6210-6232)                                   | \$ 636,000          |
| Cable and wire facilities (Accts 6410-41)                          | \$ 590,000          |
| Network operations (Accts 6530-35)                                 | \$ 150,000          |
| Depreciation and amortization (Accts 6560-65)                      | \$ 3,097,000        |
| <b>Customer Operations Expenses</b>                                |                     |
| Customer services (Accts 6620-23)                                  | \$ 166,000          |
| <b>Corporate Operations Expenses</b>                               |                     |
| Executive and planning (Accts 6710-12)                             | \$ 430,000          |
| General and administrative (Accts 6720-28)                         | \$ 640,000          |
| <b>Total Years Supported Expenses, Before Return on Investment</b> | <b>\$ 6,749,600</b> |
| <b>Additions</b>   |                     |
| Switching (Acct 2210)  | \$ 250,000          |
| Cable and wire (Acct 2410)   | \$ 1,100,000        |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>\$ 1,350,000</b> |
| <b>Total Supported Expenditures, Before Return on Investment</b>   | <b>\$ 8,099,600</b> |

**Proposed Network Improvements:**

The Company's 2013 estimated capital additions included with last year's filing are provided again for reference, together with capital additions planned for 2014.

| Wire Center | Estimated Population | Description of Capital Improvement | Start Date | End Date | Estimated Capital Expenditures Each Year |            |
|-------------|----------------------|------------------------------------|------------|----------|--|------------|
|             |                      |                                    |            |          | 2013                                     | 2014       |
| Lemmon      | 100                  | FTTH                               | 4-1-13     | 11-30-13 | \$ 900,000                               | \$         |
| Newell      | 100                  | FTTH                               | 4-1-13     | 11-30-13 | \$ 300,000                               | \$         |
| Bison       | 15                   | FTTH                               | 4-1-13     | 11-30-13 | \$ 150,000                               | \$         |
| Meadow      | 35                   | FTTH                               | 4-1-14     | 11-30-14 | \$                                       | \$ 400,000 |
| Lemmon      | 70                   | FTTH                               | 4-1-14     | 11-30-14 | \$                                       | \$ 600,000 |
| Newell      | 90                   | FTTH                               | 4-1-14     | 11-30-14 | \$                                       | \$ 200,000 |

No capital improvements are planned in the following wire centers but nonetheless may be necessary in connection with the provision of service to new customers.

| Wire Center |
|-------------|
| Buffalo     |
| Camp Crook  |
| Sorum       |
| Nisland     |