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January 22, 2014

ND Public Service Commission
Darrell Nitschke, Executive Secretary
600 E Boulevard, Dept 408
Bismarck ND 58505-0480

Mr. Darrell Nitschke

In accordance with 47 C.F.R. § 54.416 (b), West River Telecommunications hereby provides the Annual Lifeline Eligible Telecommunications Carrier Certification Form (FCC Form 555) to the ND PSC pursuant to the filing instructions outlined in WC Docket No. 11-42. In this docket, the FCC adopted Lifeline reforms which required eligible telecommunication carriers to recertify each existing Lifeline subscriber's ongoing eligibility. Subscribers who failed to recertify their eligibility were required to be de-enrolled from the Lifeline program. As of February 1, 2013, West River served 1,415 lifeline subscribers in North and South Dakota. All subscribers were sent a recertification letter. 1,126 subscribers responded and 200 subscribers failed to respond or were no longer eligible and have been de-enrolled from the Lifeline Program.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Thank You,

Ranae Schmidt
Customer Service Manager

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ETC Annual Lifeline Certification FCC Form-555

West River Telecommunications Cooperative

Annual Lifeline Eligible Telecommunications Carrier Certification Form

All carriers must complete all or portions of all sections
Form must be submitted to USAC and filed with the Federal Communications Commission

IMPORTANT: PLEASE READ INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

Deadline: January 31st (Annually)

North Dakota

State

(An Eligible Telecommunications Carrier (ETC) must provide a certification form for each state in which it provides Lifeline service).

381637

West River Telecommunications

Study Area Code(s) (SAC)

ETC Name(s)

Holding Company Name(s)

DBA, Marketing or Other Branding Name(s)

Affiliated ETCs *(include names and SACs, attach additional sheets if necessary)*

Provide a list of all ETCs that are affiliated with the reporting ETC. Affiliation shall be determined in accordance with section 3(2) of the Communications Act. That Section defines "affiliate" as "a person that (directly or indirectly) owns or controls, is owned or controlled by, or is under common ownership or control with, another person." 47 U.S.C. § 153(2). See also 47 C.F.R. § 76.1200.

For purposes of this filing, an officer is an occupant of a position listed in the article of incorporation, articles of formation, or other similar legal document. An officer is a person who occupies a position specified in the corporate by-laws (or partnership agreement), and would typically be president, vice president for operations, vice president for finance, comptroller, treasurer, or a comparable position. If the filer is a sole proprietorship, the owner must sign the certification

Section 1: All ETCs MUST COMPLETE SECTION 1- Initial Certification

I certify that the company listed above has certification procedures in place either to:

- A) Review income and program-based eligibility documentation prior to enrolling a consumer in the Lifeline program, and that, to the best of my knowledge, the company was presented with documentation of each consumer's household income and/or program-based eligibility prior to his or her enrollment in Lifeline or
- B) Confirm consumer eligibility by relying upon access to a state database and/or notice of eligibility from the state Lifeline administrator prior to enrolling a consumer in the Lifeline program.

I am an officer of the company named above. I am authorized to make this certification for the Study Area(s) listed above. Initial SK

Section 2: All ETCs MUST COMPLETE SECTION 2—Annual Recertification

Do not leave empty columns. If an ETC has nothing to report in a column, enter a zero.

A	B	C
Number of Subscribers Claimed on February FCC Form(s) 497 of current Form 555 calendar year	Number of Lines Claimed on February FCC Form(s) 497 of current Form 555 calendar year provided to Wireline Resellers	Number of Subscribers claimed on the February FCC Form(s) 497 that were initially enrolled in current Form 555 calendar year
1415	0	83

Initial the certifications below that apply to your ETC and complete the tables corresponding to the certification below. Depending on the state, BOTH CERTIFICATION A AND B MAY APPLY.

A) I certify that the company listed above has procedures in place to recertify the continued eligibility of all of its Lifeline subscribers, and that, to the best of my knowledge, the company obtained signed certifications from all subscribers attesting to their continuing eligibility for Lifeline. Results are provided in the chart below. I am an officer of the company named above. I am authorized to make this certification for the Study Area(s) listed above.

Initial JK

D	E	F=D-E	G	H=(F+G)	I
Number of Subscribers ETC Contacted Directly to Recertify Eligibility Through Attestation	Number of Subscribers Responding to ETC Contact	Number of Non-Responding Subscribers	Number of Subscribers Responding That They Are No Longer Eligible	Number of Subscribers De-enrolled or Scheduled to be De-Enrolled as a Result of Non-Response or Ineligibility	Number of Subscribers Who De-Enrolled Prior to Recertification Attempt
1323	1126	197	3	200	92

AND/OR

In the space below, please list the program eligibility data sources, such as ETC access to a state database and/or notice of eligibility from the state Lifeline administrator or the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC), and indicate for which qualifying programs (e.g., SNAP, SSI) these sources are used to verify subscriber eligibility. If any of subscribers are subsequently contacted directly by the ETC in an attempt to recertify eligibility, those subscribers should be listed in columns D through I as appropriate and not in columns J through L.

B) I certify that the company listed above has procedures in place to re-certify consumer eligibility by relying on _____ . Results are provided in the chart below. I am an officer of the company named above. I am authorized to make this certification for the Study Area(s) listed above. Initial _____

J	K	L
Number of Subscribers Whose Eligibility was Reviewed By State Administrator ETC Access to Eligibility Data or by USAC	Number of Subscribers De-Enrolled or Scheduled to be De-Enrolled as a Result of Finding of Ineligibility by State Administrator, ETC Access to Eligibility Data or USAC	Number of Subscribers Who De-Enrolled Prior to Recertification Attempt
0	0	0

OR

C) I certify that my company did not claim federal low income support for any Lifeline subscribers for the February Form 497 data month for the current Form 555 calendar year. I am an officer of the company named above. I am authorized to make this certification for the Study Area(s) listed above. Initial _____

Section 3: ALL ETCS MUST COMPLETE SECTION 3 – De-enroll percentage
What is the percentage of subscribers de-enrolled for this ETC?

M	N	O	P = N + O	Q = ((P ÷ M) * 100)
Number of Subscribers Claimed on February FCC Form(s) 497 <i>(From Column A)</i>	Number of Subscribers De- Enrolled or Scheduled to be De-Enrolled as a Result of Non-Response or Ineligibility <i>(From Column H)</i>	Number of Subscribers De- Enrolled or Scheduled to be De-Enrolled as a Result of a Finding of Ineligibility <i>(From Column K)</i>	Total Number of Subscribers De-Enrolled or Scheduled to be De-Enrolled	Percentage of Subscribers De-Enrolled or Scheduled to be De-Enrolled that were Claimed on the February FCC Form(s) 497
1415	200	0	200	14%

Section 4: ALL ETCS MUST COMPLETE APPROPRIATE CHECK BOX; PRE-PAID ETCS MUST COMPLETE ALL OF SECTION 4

Is the ETC Pre-Paid?

Yes No *(A Pre-Paid ETC does not assess or collect a monthly fee from its Lifeline subscribers)*

If yes, record the number of subscribers de-enrolled for non-usage by month in column S below.

Non-Usage Results Applicable to Pre-Paid ETCS:

R	S
Month	Subscribers De-Enrolled for Non-Usage
January	
February	
March	
April	
May	
June	
July	
August	
September	
October	
November	
December	

Signature Block: ALL ETCS MUST COMPLETE SIGNATURE FIELDS

By signing below, I certify that the company listed above is in compliance with all federal Lifeline certification procedures. I am an officer of the company named above. I am authorized to make this certification for the Study Area(s) listed above.

