

Bantz, Gosch & Cremer, L.L.C.

PROF. L.L.C.

◆ Attorneys at Law ◆

Douglas W. Bantz (1909-1983)
Kenneth L. Gosch
James M. Cremer
Rory King
Greg L. Peterson*
Ronald A. Wager
Melissa E. Neville
Justin M. Scott
Marshall C. Lovrien**
*Also Licensed in North Dakota
**Also Licensed in Arizona



305 SIXTH AVENUE, S.E.
P.O. BOX 970
ABERDEEN, SD 57402-0970

Telephone (605) 225-2232
Fax (605) 225-2497

www.bantzlzaw.com
Writer's Email: gpeterson@bantzlzaw.com

July 25, 2014



08416-039
Mr. Darrell Nitschke
Executive Secretary
North Dakota Public Service Commission
600 E. Boulevard Avenue, Dept. 408
Bismarck, ND 58505-0602

RE: James Valley Cooperative Telephone Company ETC Filing

Dear Mr. Nitschke:

On behalf of James Valley Cooperative Telephone Company, enclosed for filing are the following:

1. 2014 ETC Annual Report, *excluding* Exhibit A and Exhibit B, which are confidential, trade-secret information (three copies);
2. Application for Protective Order for Exhibit A and Exhibit B; and
3. Trade-Secret Information, which is in a separate, sealed envelope containing Exhibit A and Exhibit B (three copies).

Thank you.

Sincerely yours,


GREG L. PETERSON

GLP:crh

Enclosures

cc: *via email*
Patrick Fahn/ND Public Service Commission
James Groft

1 **PU-14-647** Filed: 7/25/2014 Pages: 4
ND Admin Code Section 69-09-05-12.1 Annual Report

**ANNUAL REPORT TO THE NORTH DAKOTA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
ESSENTIAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIER CERTIFICATION**

The undersigned, on behalf of the telecommunications company named below (the Company), does hereby state and certify, as follows:

1. The Company will provide service on a timely basis to requesting customers within the Company's designated service area where the Company's network already passes the potential customer's premises, and
2. The Company will provide service, within a reasonable period of time, if the potential customer is within the company's designated service area but outside the Company's existing network coverage, if service can be provided at a reasonable cost.
3. The Company is able to remain functional in emergency situations and has a reasonable amount of back-up power to ensure functionality without an external power source.
4. The Company is satisfying and will satisfy applicable consumer protection and service quality standards.
5. If the company is a non-incumbent local exchange carrier, it will offer a local usage plan comparable to the one offered by the incumbent local exchange carrier in the designated service area.
6. The Company acknowledges that the North Dakota Public Service Commission (the Commission) may require it to provide equal access to long distance carriers in the event that no other eligible telecommunications carrier is providing equal access within the proposed designated service area.
7. The Company has met and will meet the requirements of eligible telecommunications carrier advertising.

Attached hereto as "Exhibit A" is information indicating "Year 2013 Federal Universal Service Receipts" received by the Company. This same Exhibit also shows total expenditures of the Company in 2013 related to the provision, maintenance and upgrading of the facilities and services that are supported by Federal Universal Service Funding and further estimates these same expenditures for calendar year 2015. Consistent with federal universal service principles, the Company will use federal universal service amounts received in 2015 to offset a portion of these 2015 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. In addition to the information included in Exhibit A, the following information is provided to meet the Commission's "Certification requirements":

- 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

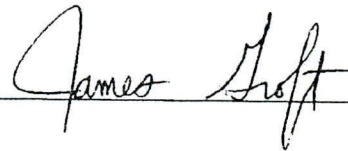
Company upgrades and replaces facilities and equipment as necessary. The Company believes that its planned capital additions will improve the reliability of switched calls for its customers, increase the Company's network capacity to serve remote customers and provide customers with state-of-the-art 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. A progress report on the Company's two-year service quality improvement plan is attached hereto as "Exhibit B."

- During calendar year 2013, 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 2013, and as of December 31, 2013, the Company had no unfulfilled requests for service.
- During 2013, the Company's customer service department received no formal complaints from consumers.

I hereby certify that the above information is true and correct and is submitted on behalf of the Company named below. The information is submitted in the year 2014.

James Valley Cooperative
Telephone Company
Company

By:



Title:

CEO

AFFIDAVIT

As an authorized representative of James Valley Telecommunications, I, James Groft hereby affirm familiarity with and an understanding of the requirements of the Federal Communications Act of 1934, as amended by the Telecommunications Act of 1996, with respect to the receipt of any federal universal service funds received as high-cost loop support, local switching support, safety net additive support, and/or safety valve support and hereby affirm that any such support amounts received by James Valley Telecommunications will be used only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended consistent with 47 U.S.C. 254(e).


James Groft, CEO

Subscribed and Sworn to before me the 8th day of July 2014.


NOTARY PUBLIC

My Commission expires: 9/21/16