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Via Overnight Delivery and E-Filing

July 27, 2022

Victor Schock Director, Public Utilities Division
North Dakota Public Service Commission
600 East Boulevard, Dept. 408
Bismarck, ND 58505-0480

Re: In the Matter of the Annual Report to the North Dakota Public Service Commission for

Essential Telecommunications Carrier Certification for Red River Rural Telephone
Association d/b/a Red River Communications SAC 381631
Case No. PU-22-230.

Dear Mr. Nitschke:

Enclosed for filing in accordance with the Commission's Order of August 28, 2002, in the above-referenced proceeding, is an affidavit certifying that all federal high-cost support provided to Red River Rural Telephone Association d/b/a Red River Communications was used in the preceding calendar year and will be used in the coming calendar year only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended.

As supplemental information to the FCC 481 Annual Report the Company includes Exhibits provided in previous years as part of the Annual Report pursuant to sections 69-09-05-12 and 69-0905-12.1 of the North Dakota Administrative Code and Section 49-21-01.7(12) of the North Dakota Century Code and a Request to Protect Trade Secret Information on behalf of Red River Rural Telephone Association d/b/a Red River Communications.

A copy of each of these documents has also been provided by email to ndpsc@nd.gov. In a separate sealed envelope, marked "Trade Secret - Private," is Red River Rural Telephone Association d/b/a Red River Communications' Trade Secret Exhibit A.

31 PU-22-230 Filed 07/27/2022 Pages: 4
Affidavit regarding certification of use of Federal Universal Service Support
Red River Rural Telephone Association

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The Company respectfully requests that the Commission notify the FCC and USAC prior to October 1st of this year that Red River Rural Telephone Association is eligible to receive Federal High-Cost support for 2023.

Please contact me if further information is required.

Very truly yours,

Thomas W. Campbell
Telecommunications Consultant
(651) 621-8511
tcampbell@otcpas.com

Enclosures

**BEFORE THE NORTH DAKOTA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
IN CASE NO. PU-22-230 AND BEFORE THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS
COMMISSION IN WC DOCKET NO. 10-90 AND WC DOCKET NO. 14-58**

**AFFIDAVIT OF RED RIVER RURAL TELEPHONE ASSOCIATION
CERTIFYING USE OF FEDERAL UNIVERSAL SERVICE SUPPORT**

State of North Dakota)
) ss.
County of Richland)

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

1. Affiant is employed by Red River Rural Telephone Association dba Red River Communications (SAC 381631) (hereinafter, the "Company"), in the position of General Manager/CEO.

2. The Company is an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier ("ETC") 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 ETC.

3. Affiant is personally familiar with all of the Support received by the Company, and with how the Company uses all of Support that it receives.

4. The Company is filing this affidavit in compliance with the order of the Federal Communication Commission (hereinafter, "FCC") dated May 23, 2001, in WC Docket Number 10-90 and WC Docket Number 14-58 (FCC 01-157) (hereinafter, the "Order"), as codified in 47 C.F.R. § 54.314, which requires certification to the FCC that all federal Support was used in the preceding calendar year and will be used in the coming calendar year 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. § 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 2023.

5. The Company hereby certifies that all federal high-cost support provided to Red River Rural Telephone Association dba Red River Communications was used in the preceding calendar year and will be used in the coming calendar year only for the

provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended pursuant to and consistent with Section 254(e) of the Act and 47 C.F.R. § 54.7. The Company will use the Support for the following services, as designated in 47 C.F.R. Section 54.101, throughout the Company's study area: (a) voice grade access to the public switched network or its functional equivalent; (b) minutes of use for local service at no additional charge; (c) access to emergency services; and (d) toll limitation services to qualifying low-income consumers.

Dated this 6th day of July, 2022.

**RED RIVER RURAL TELEPHONE ASSOCIATION dba
RED RIVER COMMUNICATIONS**

By Thomas Steinolfson
Thomas Steinolfson
Its: General Manager/CEO

State of North Dakota)
) ss.
County of Richland)

On this day of July 6th, 2022, before me, a Notary Public in and for said County and State, personally appeared THOMAS STEINOLFSON, known to me to be the General Manager/CEO of RED RIVER RURAL TELEPHONE ASSOCIATION dba RED RIVER COMMUNICATIONS, the corporation that is described in and that executed the within instrument, and acknowledged to me that such corporation executed the same.

Donna Jean Schoff Thiel
Notary Public
For the State of North Dakota
My commission expires: Aug. 23, 2023

