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Via Overnight Delivery and E-Filing

July 10, 2024

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 Halstad Telephone Company
- SAC 389002 Case No. PU-24-16

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 Halstad Telephone Company 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 Halstad Telephone Company.

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 Halstad Telephone Company's Trade Secret Exhibit A.

36 PU-24-15 Filed 07/29/2024 Pages: 4
Affidavit Regarding Certification of Use of
Federal Universal Service Support

Halstad Telephone Company Study Area 389002
Thomas Campbell Telecom. Consultant

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The Company respectfully requests that the Commission notify the FCC and USAC prior to October 1st of this year that Halstad Telephone Company is eligible to receive Federal High-Cost support for 2025.

Please contact me if further information is required.

Very truly yours,

Thomas W. Campbell
Telecommunications Consultant
tcampbell@otcpas.com
(651) 621-85311

Enclosures

**BEFORE THE NORTH DAKOTA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
IN CASE NO. PU-24-16 AND BEFORE THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
IN WC DOCKET NO. 10-90 AND WC DOCKET NO. 14-58**

**AFFIDAVIT OF HALSTAD TELEPHONE COMPANY
CERTIFYING USE OF FEDERAL UNIVERSAL SERVICE SUPPORT**

State of Minnesota)
) ss.
County of Norman)

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

1. Affiant is employed by Halstad Telephone Company (hereinafter, the "Company"), in the position of 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 ET C . The Company receives Support from two study area codes identified by USAC as 361401 and 389002.
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 2025.
5. The Company hereby certifies that all federal high-cost support provided to Halstad Telephone Company was used in the preceding calendar year of 2022 and will be used in the coming calendar year of 2024 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.

HALSTAD TELEPHONE COMPANY

Dated this 10 day of July, 2024.

By : *Mark Forseth*

Mark Forseth
Its: CEO

State of Minnesota)
) ss
County of Norman)

On this day of July 10, 2024, before me, a Notary Public in and for said County and State, personally appeared MARK FORSETH, known to me to be the CEO of HALSTAD COOPERATIVE TELEPHONE COMPANY, the corporation that is described in and that executed the within instrument, and acknowledged to me that such corporation executed the same.

Melanie Dee Nelson

Notary Public
For the State of Minnesota

My commission expires Jan 31, 2026

