

Thomas Campbell  
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Depend on Our People. Count on Our Advice.<sup>SM</sup>

***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 Red River Rural Telephone  
Association d/b/a Red River Communications SAC 381631  
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 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](mailto: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.

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

Red River Rural Telephone Association  
Thomas Campbell, Telecommunications Cons

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The Company respectfully requests that the Commission notify the FCC and USAC prior to October 1<sup>st</sup> of this year that Red River Rural Telephone Association 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  
(651) 621-8511  
[tcampbell@otcpas.com](mailto:tcampbell@otcpas.com)

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 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 2025.

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 54.10 1, 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.

RED RIVER RURAL TELEPHONE ASSOCIATION  
dba RED RIVER COMMUNICATIONS

Dated this 25<sup>th</sup> day of  
July, 2024.

By: Thomas Steinolfson  
Thomas Steinolfson  
Its: General Manager/CEO

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

On this day of July 25<sup>th</sup>, 2024, 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  
State of North Dakota  
My Commission Expires October 17, 2027

Donna Jean Schoff Thiel  
Notary Public  
For the State of ~~Minnesota~~ North Dakota  
My commission expires: Oct. 17, 2027