

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

◆ Attorneys at Law ◆

Douglas W. Bantz (1909-1983)  
Kenneth L. Gosch  
**James M. Cremer\***  
Rory King  
Greg L. Peterson\*  
Melissa E. Neville  
Justin M. Scott  
Joshua G. Wurgler  
Carla J. Glynn  
John M. Noyes  
Collin D. Fischer\*

\*Also Licensed in North Dakota



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

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

Email: [jcremer@bantzlaw.com](mailto:jcremer@bantzlaw.com)  
Direct Dial: (605) 789-7777

July 22, 2024

VIA EMAIL TO [NDPSC@ND.GOV](mailto:NDPSC@ND.GOV) AND [VSCHOCK@ND.GOV](mailto:VSCHOCK@ND.GOV)

08416-039

Mr. Victor Schock  
Director of Public Utilities  
North Dakota Public Service Commission  
600 E. Boulevard Avenue, Dept. 408  
Bismarck, ND 58505-0480

Re: USF Certification Case No. PU-24-15

Dear Mr. Schock:

I represent James Valley Cooperative Telephone Company of Groton, South Dakota. It has five customers in North Dakota.

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 James Valley Cooperative 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. In making this filing, the company is at this time neither contesting nor conceding the jurisdiction of the North Dakota Public Service Commission to act in this proceeding.

Sincerely,

*James M. Cremer*

JAMES M. CREMER

JMC:sns

Enclosure

cc: James Groft w/enc. via email

43 PU-24-15 Filed 07/22/2024 Pages: 3  
Affidavit Regarding Certification of Use of Federal Universal Service Support  
James Valley Cooperative Telephone Company  
James Cremer-Bantz, Gosch & Cremer

**STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA**  
**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

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JAMES VALLEY COOPERATIVE  
TELEPHONE COMPANY'S  
  
ANNUAL STATE CERTIFICATION OF  
SUPPORT FOR ELIGIBLE  
TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIERS  
PURSUANT TO 47 C.F.R § 54.314

CASE NO. PU-24-15

**AFFIDAVIT OF JAMES VALLEY  
COOPERATIVE TELEPHONE  
COMPANY REGARDING  
CERTIFICATION OF USE OF  
FEDERAL UNIVERSAL SERVICE  
SUPPORT**

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SOUTH DAKOTA            )  
                                  ) ss.  
COUNTY OF BROWN        )

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

1. I am the CEO of James Valley Cooperative Telephone Company of Groton, South Dakota (hereinafter, the "Cooperative").

2. The Cooperative is an eligible telecommunications carrier within the meaning of Section 214(e) of the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996 (hereinafter, the "Act"), and the Cooperative 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 Cooperative as an eligible telecommunications carrier.

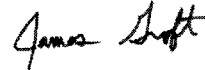
3. I am personally familiar with all of the Support received by the Cooperative, and with how the Cooperative uses all Support it receives.

4. The Cooperative is filing this affidavit in compliance with the order of the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC") dated May 23, 2001, in WC Docket Number 10-90 and WC Docket Number 14-58 (FCC 01-157) (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 Cooperative 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 Cooperative's receipt of federal Support for all four quarters of 2016, and for all quarters thereafter.

5. The Cooperative hereby certifies that all federal high-cost support provided to James Valley Cooperative 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 pursuant to and consistent with Section 254(e) of the Act and 47 C.F.R. § 54.7. The Cooperative will use the Support for the following services, as designated in 47 C.F.R. Section 54.101, through the Cooperative'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: 7/22/2024

**JAMES VALLEY COOPERATIVE  
TELEPHONE COMPANY**



By: James Groft  
Its: CEO

STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA  
SS  
COUNTY OF BROWN

On this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of July, 2024, before me, a Notary Public in and for said County and State, personally appeared **James Groft**, known to me to be the CEO of **James Valley Cooperative Telephone Company**, the cooperative that is described in and that executed the within instrument, and acknowledged to me that such cooperative executed the same.



  
Notary Public, South Dakota

My Commission Expires: 6/1/29