

JAMES E. NOSTDAHL  
DAVID J. HOGUE  
BRENT M. OLSON  
DEBRA L. HOFFARTH  
SCOTT M. KNUDSVIG  
RYAN D. SANDBERG  
MATTHEW H. OLSON  
STEVEN A. LAUTT  
ASHLEIGH B. ENSRUD  
ASHLEY A. FLAGSTAD  
MEGAN M. HOGUE

ATTORNEYS LICENSED IN  
North Dakota  
Minnesota  
Montana



LAW OFFICES OF  
**PRINGLE & HERIGSTAD, P.C.**

2525 ELK DRIVE  
POST OFFICE BOX 1000  
MINOT, NORTH DAKOTA 58702-1000  
(701) 852-0381  
FAX (701) 857-1361  
E-mail: [pringle@srt.com](mailto:pringle@srt.com)

GRAND FORKS OFFICE  
202 NORTH 3RD STREET, SUITE 200  
GRAND FORKS, NORTH DAKOTA 58203  
(701) 775-9000

RETIRED  
OF COUNSEL - CAROL K. LARSON  
DONALD A. NEGAARD  
JAN M. SEBBY

KENNETH G. PRINGLE  
(1914-1983)  
ROGER O. HERIGSTAD  
(1919-2003)  
LEROY "JOE" LODER  
(1927-2019)  
MITCHELL MAHONEY  
(1929-1996)  
MARK F. PURDY  
(1927-2011)  
HERBERT L. MESCHKE  
(1928-2017)

July 15, 2024

**VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL: [ndpsc@nd.gov](mailto:ndpsc@nd.gov)  
AND US MAIL**

Steve Kahl - Executive Secretary  
North Dakota Public Service Commission  
600 East Boulevard Avenue, Department 408  
Bismarck, ND 58505-0480

**RE: ETC FILING**

We hereby enclose for filing on behalf of Northwest Communications Cooperative, an original and one copy of the Annual Report for Essential Telecommunications Carrier Certification to the North Dakota Public Service Commission. This submission is submitted pursuant to sections 69-09-05-12 and 69-09-05-12.1 of the North Dakota Administrative Code and section 49-21-01.7(12) of the North Dakota Century Code.

Also enclosed is an original and one copy of the Public Exhibit A to accompany the Annual Report for Essential Telecommunications Carrier Certification. The enclosed Proprietary and Confidential Trade Secret information, which is in a separate sealed envelope for this company, corresponds with the public document that was signed by the company listed above and is the Exhibit A information for this company.

Very truly yours,

David J. Hogue  
Email: [dhogue@pringlend.com](mailto:dhogue@pringlend.com)

DJH/tp  
Enclosures

cc: Northwest Communications Cooperative

3 PU-24-37 Filed 07/18/2024 Pages: 5  
ND Admin Code Section 69-09-05-12.1 Annual Report  
- Redacted

Northwest Communications Cooperative, a Cooperative  
Association  
David J. Hogue, Pringle & Herigstad, P.C.

BEFORE THE NORTH DAKOTA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION IN CASE NO. PU-439-02-441  
AND BEFORE THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION IN WC DOCKET NO. 10-90  
AND WC DOCKET NO. 14-58

AFFIDAVIT OF NORTHWEST COMMUNICATIONS COOPERATIVE  
REGARDING  
CERTIFICATION OF USE OF FEDERAL UNIVERSAL SERVICE SUPPORT

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

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

1. Affiant is employed by Northwest Communications Cooperative (hereinafter, the "Company"), in the position of Manager.

2. The Company is an eligible telecommunications carrier 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 eligible telecommunications carrier.

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 2024 and all quarters thereafter.

5. The Company hereby certifies that all federal high-cost support provided to Northwest Communications Cooperative 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.

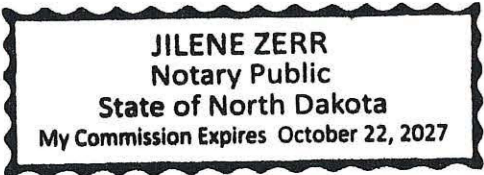
Dated this 15<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2024.

**NORTHWEST COMMUNICATIONS  
COOPERATIVE**

By Jeremy A. Becker  
Jeremy Becker  
Its: Manager

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

On this 15 day of July, 2024, before me, a Notary Public in and for said County and State, personally appeared JEREMY BECKER, known to me to be the Manager of NORTHWEST COMMUNICATIONS COOPERATIVE, the corporation that is described in and that executed the within instrument, and acknowledged to me that such corporation executed the same.



Jilene Zerr  
Notary Public  
For the State of North Dakota

**PUBLIC**

**EXHIBIT A**

This Exhibit A is supplemented by a non-public Exhibit A labeled "Trade Secret – Private." The Company does not waive any rights to Trade Secret Protection by referencing this "Trade Secret – Private" information in this form.

1. The amount of high-cost universal support the Company received in the prior calendar year and estimate of the amount of high-cost universal support it anticipates receiving in the next calendar year (the calendar year following the date of this report) are listed below:

**Year 2023 Federal Universal Service Receipts:**

High-Cost Loop Support	\$1,870,722
Local Switching Support	\$ 438,672
Interstate Common Line Support	\$6,463,320
Safety Net Additive Support	\$
Safety Valve Loop Cost Adjustment	\$ <u>          0</u>
TOTAL	\$8,772,714

2. The changes, if any, from reports previously filed with the Commission are, as follows (changes that are deemed proprietary are included on a non-public Exhibit A):

---

---

---

---

Company Name: Northwest Communications Cooperative

