



August 30, 2004

Ms. Beth O'Donnell Executive Director Commonwealth of Kentucky Public Service Commission 211 Sower Boulevard Post Office Box 615 Frankfort, KY 40652

RE: <u>A Certification of the Carriers Receiving Universal Service High Cost Support</u> Administrative Case No. 381

Dear Ms. O'Donnell:

Please find enclosed the original and four (4) copies of our annual affidavit in response to the Commission's ordered dated September 25, 2001 supporting the Commission's annual certification to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and the Universal Service Administration Company (USAC) that Peoples Rural Telephone Cooperative is eligible to receive high-cost support in accordance with 47 USC 254(3).

Should you have any questions regarding our filing, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Keith Gabbard General Manager

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KG: kv Enclosures

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

RECEIVED

ADMINISTRATIVE

CASE NO. 381

In the Matter of:

A CERTIFICATION OF THE CARRIERS RECEIVING UNIVERSAL SERVICE HIGH COST SUPPORT

PEOPLES RURAL TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE ANNUAL AFFIDAVIT TO COMMISSION'S SEPTEMBER 25, 2001 ORDER

Peoples Rural Telephone Cooperative is committed to providing excellent customer service and the highest level of telecommunications services at rates that are affordable and comparable to non-rural areas. It is critical that Peoples Rural Telephone Cooperative remain eligible to receive federal high cost support to meet these goals.

The state certification for federal support will be an annual process. In order to receive federal support beginning January 1 of each year, the Kentucky Public Service Commission must file its annual certification on or before October 1 of the previous year. The attached affidavit should be accepted by the Kentucky Public Service Commission for the purpose of notifying the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) and the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) that Peoples Rural Telephone Cooperative is eligible to receive high cost support in accordance with 47 USC 254(e).

Respectfully submitted,

Keith Gabbard General Manager

Peoples Rural Telephone Coop. Corp., Inc.

P O Box 159

McKee, KY 40447

AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF KENTUCKY COUNTY OF JACKSON

BEFORE ME, the undersigned authority, on this day personally appeared Keith Gabbard of Peoples Rural Telephone Cooperative, ("the Cooperative"), who on his oath deposed and said:

- My name is Keith Gabbard. I am employed by Peoples Rural Telephone
 Cooperative in the position of General Manager. In this position, I am personally
 familiar with the Federal Universal Service support received by the Cooperative
 and how these funds are used by the Cooperative.
- Peoples Rural Telephone Cooperative was designated as an eligible telecommunications carrier by the Kentucky Public Service Commission in PSC Case No. 360 by order dated November 26, 1997.
- Peoples Rural Telephone Cooperative estimates that it will receive \$1,969,279 of Federal Universal Service high cost support during January 1, 2005, to December 2005 time period.
- 4. The Federal Universal Service Support funds the Cooperative receives during 2005 will be used for the provision, maintenance and upgrading of facilities and service for which the support is intended, as designated by the Federal Communications Commission consistent with Section 254(e) of the Federal Telecommunications Act. These funds will be used to provide the following supported services, as outlined in 47 CFR 54.10(a), which are available to any customer in the Cooperative's service area: single-party voice grade access to the public switched network, unlimited local usage, dual-tone multi-frequency signaling or its functional equivalent, access to emergency services, including 9-1-1 service or enhanced 9-1-1 service, access to operator service, access to

interexchange service and access to directory assistance and toll limitation for qualifying low income customers.

- 5. Peoples Rural Telephone Cooperative follows Federal Communications Commission Part 32 accounting requirements for regulated local exchange carriers and Part 36 separations provisions used to determine high cost support amounts. As a regulated utility, Peoples Rural Telephone Cooperative's accounting and separations procedures are subject to periodic National Exchange Carrier Association and Kentucky Public Service Commission reviews.
- 6. While continuing to receive the estimated amount of Federal Universal Service support as described and using this support for the purposes as described, Peoples Rural Telephone Cooperative does not anticipate increasing local rates nor withdrawing any services; therefore, the comparability of rates and service between the rural areas served by Peoples Rural Telephone Cooperative and the urban areas of Kentucky will not be changed because of any action on the part of Peoples Rural Telephone Cooperative.
- 7. The matters addressed above are within my personal knowledge and are true and correct.

Voith Gabbard

Sworn and subscribed before me, the undersigned authority, on this the _______, and day of ________, 2004.

Notary Public, State of Kentucky

My Commission expires 5-20-08

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