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PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

August 14, 2008

Beth O'Donnell - Executive Director Kentucky Public Service Commission 211 Sower Blvd. P.O. Box 615 Frankfort, KY 40602-0615

Re: PSC Case No 381

This letter is to request that the Kentucky Public Service Commission notify the Federal Universal Fund Administrator (USAC) and the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) that Leslie County Telephone Company, Salem Telephone Company and Lewisport Telephone Company d/b/a TDS Telecom are eligible to receive federal universal service support in accordance with the above-referenced statute and federal rule.

The amount of federal universal service the Companies will receive in 2009 will continue to be used for the services and functionality's outlined in 47 C.F.R. Sec.54.101(a) and, as the attached affidavit shows, the Companies all certify that it will use the federal universal service support it receives for the provision, maintenance and upgrading of facilities and service for which such support is intended.

This 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 year before.

Leslie County Telephone Company, Salem Telephone Company and Lewisport Telephone Company d/b/a TDS Telecom respectfully requests that the Commission notify the FCC and USAC prior to October 1 of this year that they are eligible to receive federal universal service support for 2009.

Sincerely,

Amber Goudrean

Amber Gaudreau Sr. Administrator – Federal Affairs TDS Telecom 525 Junction Road, Suite 700S Madison, WI 53717

525 JUNCTION RD MADISON: WI 53717

#### COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

A CERTIFICATION OF THE CARRIERS ADMINISTRATIVE RECEIVING UNIVERSAL SERVICE CASE NO. 381 HIGH COST SUPPORT

### LESLIE COUNTY TELEPHONE COMPANY D/B/A TDS TELECOM LEWISPORT TELEPHONE COMPANY D/B/A TDS TELECOM SALEM TELEPHONE COMPANY D/B/A TDS TELECOM <u>RESPONSE TO COMMISSION DATA REQUEST</u>

Pursuant to the Commission's August 21, 2001 data request, TDS Telecom submits the following information to demonstrate that federal universal support has been used as intended by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), consistent with Section 254 (e) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996.

Exhibit 1 - Summary of 2009 USF-HCL & LSS for Leslie County Telephone Company
Exhibit 2 - Summary of investments & expense for Leslie County Telephone Company
Exhibit 3 - Summary of 2009 USF-HCL & LSS for Lewisport Telephone Company
Exhibit 4 - Summary of investments & expense for Lewisport Telephone Company
Exhibit 5 - Summary of 2009 USF-HCL & LSS for Salem Telephone Company
Exhibit 6 - Summary of investments & expense for Salem Telephone Company

As in prior years, TDS Telecom will utilize the federal universal support payments received in 2009 for the provision, maintenance, and construction of facilities for which the support was intended. These expenditures, those already made and those that will be made in the future, are what the USF payments are meant to support.

Exhibit 2 (Leslie County), Exhibit 4 (Lewisport) and Exhibit 6 (Salem) detail the investments & expenses that have already occurred over the last several years. For a cost company (eg, Leslie County), 12/31/2007 investments & expenses are used in the USF-HCL algorithm to calculate USF-HCL support for 2009. For average schedule companies (eg, Lewisport and Salem) USF support is received under average schedule formulas. Exhibits 2, 4, and 6 illustrate that all three companies have historically

invested in their networks. It is expected that future investment increases will be similar to those displayed on these exhibits.

The expenditures, those already made and those that will be made in the future, far exceed any federal universal support payments received by the TDS Telecom companies. In addition, USF support is already an existing revenue flow. The amounts to be received in 2009 are not significantly different than amounts received in prior years. Therefore, no proposal for reducing intrastate access rates will be submitted.

The attached affidavit signed by Kevin G. Hess, Senior Vice President, Government & Regulatory Affairs, certifies that USF funds have been expended for intended purposes. TDS Telecom respectfully requests the Commission to submit the certification to the FCC on or before October 1, 2008 in order for the companies to receive federal support during 2009.

Respectfully submitted,

Amber Gaudreau Sr. Administrator - Federal Affairs

# Summary of 2009 USF-HCL & LSS For Leslie County Telephone Company (NECA SAC 260411) Estimated Support Information

Year USF Is Received	Total Estimated Amount For Support Funds	Note	Estimated Federal High Cost Loop (HCL)	
2009	\$428,746	*1, 2	\$290,518	\$138,228
*1 LSS from NECA La	atest View File, 07-200* any from most recent filing			

# Summary of Investments & Expenses for Leslie County Telephone Company

Acc #	Investment		<u>12/31/2006</u>	<u>12/31/2007</u>
	Cental Office Switching		5,405,429	5,471,060
22	Central Office Transmission	(Total)	6,258,493	6,576,832
443"	Central Office Loop Circuit	(Incl. In Line 2)	2,990,708	2,903,350
	Cable and Wire		17,266,401	17,551,692
	General Support		2,244,146	2,181,544
	Total Tel. Plant in Service		31,174,469	31,781,128
	10tal 161. 11ano in 201.000			
	Expenses			
	General Support		138,133	112,144
	Central Office Switching		133,658	168,606
60212	Central Office Transmission	(Total)	156,134	178,735
	Cable and Wire	•	655,017	774,907
	Plant Non Specific		722,005	819,860
	Depreciation		2,036,955	2,116,326
03	Customer Oper		903,420	872,695
~ 7 + +	Corporate Oper		1,470,497	987,455
6/**	Other Oper Inc & Exp		(1,248)	(1,248)
70++	Operating Taxes		1,548,138	1,472,192
12^^	Total Operating Expenses		7,762,709	7,501,672
	Total Operating Expenses			
	Total Expenditures			39,282,800
	Total USF Received			\$ 428,746

## Summary of 2009 USF-HCL & LSS For Lewisport Telephone Company (NECA SAC 260412) Estimated Support Information

Total Estimated Amount For	Note	Estimated Federal High Cost Loop (HCL)	Estimated Federal Local Switching Support (LSS)
\$108,353	*1, 2	\$25,841	\$82,512
	Support Funds	Support Funds Note	Support Funds Note High Cost Loop (HCL)

# Summary of Investments & Expenses for Lewisport Telephone Company

22** 223* 24** 21**	Investment Cental Office Switching Central Office Transmission Central Office Loop Circuit Cable and Wire General Support Total Tel. Plant in Service	(Total) (Incl. In Line 2)	12/31/2006 1,282,974 725,968 278,780 2,058,593 612,741 4,680,276	1, 2,	31/2007 294,222 817,848 296,604 072,172 616,096 800,338
61**	Expenses General Support		25,787		25,217 23,968
6212	Central Office Switching		21,683		30,775
	Central Office Transmission	(Total)	26,241 53,329		59,392
64**	Cable and Wire		132,427		157,633
	Plant Non Specific				238,305
65**	Depreciation		254,202		120,593
	Customer Oper		158,548		166,935
67**	Corporate Oper		168,292		(1,404)
	Other Oper Inc & Exp		(1,404)		228,452
72**	Operating Taxes		255,424	-	049,866
	Total Operating Expenses		1,094,529	±,	0497000
	Total Expenditures			5,	850,204
	Total USF Received			\$	108,353

### Summary of 2009 USF-HCL & LSS For Salem Telephone Company (NECA SAC 260417) Estimated Support Information

Received Support Funds Note Frigh Cost Loop (HCL) Switching Supp		Estimated Federa Switching Suppor	Estimated Federal High Cost Loop (HCL)	Note	Total Estimated Amount For Support Funds	Year USF Is Received
	,204	\$120,204		*1, 2		

# Summary of Investments & Expenses for Salem Telephone Company

Acc #	Investment		<u>12/31/2006</u>	12	/31/2007
22**	Cental Office Switching		1,049,744	1,	052,986
	Central Office Transmission	(Total)	588,471		700,916
	Central Office Loop Circuit		399,402		432,331
24**	Cable and Wire		3,117,448	З,	167,523
	General Support		630,542		618,786
***	Total Tel. Plant in Service		5,386,205	5.	540,211
	Expenses				
	General Support		12,265		20,154
6212	Central Office Switching		28,010		28,750
	Central Office Transmission	(Total)	39,164		61,744
	Cable and Wire		86,989		110,005
	Plant Non Specific		134,591		152,879
65**	Depreciation		328,317		311,814
	Customer Oper		203,556		180,737
67**	Corporate Oper		325,337		262,260
	Other Oper Inc & Exp		(1,140)		(1,140)
72**	Operating Taxes		221,913		206,052
	Total Operating Expenses		1,379,002	1,	,333,255
	Total Expenditures			6.	,873,466
	Total USF Received			\$	142,845

#### AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF WISCONSIN ) ) ss. COUNTY OF DANE )

BEFORE ME, the undersigned authority, on this day personally appeared Kevin G. Hess, who on his oath deposed and said:

- My name is Kevin G. Hess. I am employed by TDS Telecommunications Corporation, parent company of Leslie County Telephone Company, Lewisport Telephone Company and Salem Telephone Company all d/b/a TDS Telecom (the Companies) in the position of Senior Vice President, Government & Regulatory Affairs. In this position, I am personally familiar with the Federal Universal Service support received by the Company and how these funds are used by each Company.
- The Companies were designated as an eligible telecommunications carrier by the Kentucky Public Service Commission in Case No. 360 by order dated November 26, 1997.
- 3. Leslie County Telephone Company, Lewisport Telephone Company and Salem Telephone Company all d/b/a TDS Telecom estimate that it will receive \$428,746, \$108,353, and \$142,845 respectively of Federal Universal Service high cost support and local switching support during the January 1, 2009 to December 2009 time period.
- 4. The Federal Universal Service Support funds Leslie County Telephone Company, Salem Telephone Company and Lewisport Telephone Company all d/b/a TDS Telecom will receive during 2009 will be used for the provision, maintenance and upgrading of facilities and services 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 Company'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 911 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. Leslie County Telephone Company, Salem Telephone Company and Lewisport Telephone Company all d/b/a TDS Telecom follows Federal Communication 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, Leslie County Telephone Company's, Salem Telephone Company and Lewisport Telephone Company's all d/b/a TDS Telecom 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, Leslie County Telephone Company, Salem Telephone Company and Lewisport Telephone Company all d/b/a TDS Telecom does not anticipate increasing local rates nor withdrawing any services; therefore, the comparability of rates and service between the rural areas served by Leslie County Telephone Company, Salem Telephone Company, Lewisport Telephone Company all d/b/a TDS Telecom and the urban areas of Kentucky will not be changed because of any action on the part of Leslie County Telephone Company, Salem Telephone Company, Salem Telephone Company, Salem Telephone Company and Lewisport Telephone Company and

7. The matters addressed above are within my personal knowledge and are true and correct.

vin adles

Kevin G. Hess Senior Vice President Government & Regulatory Affairs

Sworn and subscribed before me, the undersigned authority, on this the  $\frac{12}{12}$  day of

August, 2008.

Ŧ. Irmgard F. Metz Notary Public, State of Wisconsin

My Commission expires: May 8, 2011