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AUG 27 2012 PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

August 23, 2012

Mr. Jeff Derouen, Executive Director Kentucky Public Service Commission P.O. Box 615 Frankfort, KY 40602-0615

RE: PSC Case No. 381

Dear Mr. Derouen:

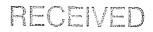
Please find enclosed the original and four (4) copies of our response to the Public Service Commission's order dated September 27, 2002 requesting a detailed proposal for the certification process from carriers receiving federal high cost support for the Public Service Commission's annual certification to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC).

Please call me should you have any questions regarding our filing.

Sincerely,

Harlon E. Parker General Manager

Enclosures



AUG 27 2012

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

A CERTIFICATION OF THE CARRIERS)ADMINISTRATIVERECEIVING UNIVERSAL SERVICE)CASE NO. 381HIGH COST SUPPORT

BALLARD RURAL TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE CORPORATION, INC. RESPONSE TO COMMISSION'S SEPTEMBER 27, 2002 ORDER

Ballard Rural Telephone Cooperative Corporation, Inc. is dedicated to providing excellent customer service and the greatest level of telecommunications services at rates that are inexpensive and equivalent to those in non-rural areas. It is vital that Ballard Rural Telephone Cooperative Corporation, Inc. remain qualified 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 Ballard Rural Telephone Cooperative Corporation, Inc. is eligible to receive high cost support in accordance with 47 USC 254(e).

Respectfully submitted,

Harlon E. Parker Chief Executive Officer/General Manager Ballard Rural Telephone Cooperative Corporation, Inc. P.O. Box 209 La Center, KY 42056

AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF KENTUCKY COUNTY OF BALLARD

BEFORE ME, the undersigned authority, on this day appeared Harlon E. Parker, who on his oath deposed and said:

- 1. My name is Harlon E. Parker. I am employed by Ballard Rural Telephone Cooperative Corporation, Inc. in the position of CEO/General Manager. In this capacity, I am personally familiar with the Federal Universal Service support received by the Cooperative and how these funds are used by the Cooperative.
- 2. Ballard Rural Telephone Cooperative Corporation, Inc. was designated as an eligible telecommunications carrier by the Kentucky Public Service Commission in PSC Case Number 360 by order dated November 26, 1997.
- 3. Ballard Rural Telephone Cooperative Corporation, Inc. estimates that it will receive a total of \$1,820,000 High Cost Loop Support of Federal Universal Service high cost support during the calendar year of 2013.
- 4. All federal high-cost support provided to Ballard Rural Telephone Cooperative was used in the preceding 2012 calendar year and will be used in the coming 2013 calendar year only 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 Cooperative's service area: single-party voice grade access to the public switched network, unlimited local usage, dual-tone multifrequency signaling or its functional equivalent, access to emergency enhanced 9-1-1 service, access to operator service, access to interexchange service, access to directory assistance and toll limitation for qualifying low income customers.
- 5. Ballard Rural Telephone Cooperative Corporation, Inc. 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, Ballard 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, Ballard Rural Telephone Cooperative Corporation, Inc. does not anticipate withdrawing any services; therefore, the comparability of service between the rural areas served by Ballard Rural Telephone Cooperative Corporation, Inc. and the urban areas of Kentucky will not be changed

because of any action on the part of Ballard Rural Telephone Cooperative Corporation, Inc.

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

ula Harker

Harlon E. Parker

Sworn and subscribed before me, the undersigned authority, on this the <u>23</u> day of <u>August</u>, 2012.

Rendy Centre Grogon Notary Public, State of Kentucky

My Commission expires June 16, 2016