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PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

August 31, 2015

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

RE: Affidavit Pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 54.314 Requirements

Dear Mr. Derouen:

Please find enclosed our annual affidavit in supporting the Commission's Annual Certification filing pursuant to 54.314 with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) that Ballard Rural Telephone Cooperative Corporation, Inc. is eligible to receive high-cost support in accordance with 47 USC § 254(e).

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

Sincerely,

Randy C Strogan

Randy C. Grogan CEO/General Manager

Enclosures



AFFIDAVIT

Certification of Support for Eligible Telecommunications Carriers Pursuit to 47 C.F.R.§ 54.314

1 ursuit to 47 C.F.R.g 54..

STATE OF KENTUCKY

COUNTY OF BALLARD

BEFORE ME, the undersigned authority, on this day personally appeared Randy C. Grogan of Ballard Rural Telephone Cooperative Corporation, Inc., ("the Cooperative"), who on his oath deposed and said:

- 1. My name is Randy C. Grogan. 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 Administrative Case Number 360 by order dated November 26, 1997. Ballard Rural Telephone Cooperative Corporation, Inc. provides service in study area 260396.
- 3. Pursuant to the requirements of 47 C.F.R. § 54.314, Ballard Rural Telephone Cooperative hereby certifies all federal high-cost support provided to the Cooperative was used in the preceding 2015 calendar year and will be used in the coming 2016 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 § 54.101(a), which are available to any customer in the Cooperative's service area: voice grade access to the public switched network or its functional equivalent; minutes of use for local service provided at no additional charge to end users; access to emergency services provided by local government or other public safety organizations, such as 911 and enhanced 911, to the extent the local government in an eligible carrier's service area has implemented 911 or enhanced 911 systems; and toll limitation services to qualifying low income consumers.
- 4. 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.

- 5. While continuing to receive 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.
- 6. The matters addressed above are within my personal knowledge and are true and correct.

Randy C. Grogan

Sworn and subscribed before me, the undersigned authority, on this the <u>31st</u> day of <u>August</u>, 2015.

Notary Public, State of Kentucky My Commission expires <u>07/29/2018</u>