

August 31 2016

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Ms. Beth O'Donnell Executive Director Kentucky Public Service commission PO Box 615 Frankfort, KY 40602-0615

SEP 2 2016

Public Service Commission

RE:

A Certification of the Carriers Receiving Universal Service High Cost Support

Administrative Case No. 381

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Dear Ms. O'Donnell

Enclosed please find the original and four (4) copies of our annual affidavit in response to the Commission's order dated September 25, 2001 supporting the Commission's annual certification to the Federal Communication Commission (FCC) and the Universal Service Administrative company (USAC) that e-Tel, LLC is eligible to receive high-cost support in accordance with 47 USC 254 (e).

Please date stamp and return a copy of this letter to me in the enclosed, self-addressed stamped envelope. Any questions concerning this matter may be directed to me at (270) 441-7799.

Sincerely,

Renee Hayden

Chief Operations Officer

## COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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In the Matter of:

| SEP 02 2016 |
| DUBLIC SERVICE |
| ADMINISTRATIVE |
| COMMISSION |
| CASE NO. 381 |
| HIGH COST SUPPORT |
| OUT OF THE CARRIERS |
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e-Tel, LLC ANNUAL AFFIDAVIT IN RESPONSE TO COMMISSION'S ORDER DATED SEPTEMER 2001

e-Tel, LLC 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 e-Tel, LLC remain eligible to receive federal high cost support to meet these goals.

The state certification for federal support is an annual process. In order to receive federal support beginning January 1 of each year, the Kentucky PSC must file its annual certification on or before September 1 of the previous year. The attached affidavit should be accepted by the KY PSC for the purpose of notifying USAC and the FCC that e-Tel, LLC is eligible to receive high cost support in accordance with 47 USC 254 (e).

Respectfully submitted,

Renee Hayden

Chief Operations Officer

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## **AFFIDAVIT**

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY	)	
	)	ss:
COUNTY OF MCCRACKEN	)	

Before me, the undersigned authority, on this day personally appeared Renee Hayden of e-Tel, LLC (the "Company"), who on her oath deposed and stated as follows:

- My name is Renee Hayden. I have been employed by e-Tel, LLC for 16 years, currently in the position of Chief Operations Officer. In this position, I am personally familiar with the Federal Universal Service support program and how funds are to be used by a company that received these funds.
- e-Tel, LLC was designated as an eligible telecommunications carrier by the Kentucky Public Service Commission in P SC Case NO. 2002-00323 by order dated November 26, 2002.
- e-Tel, LLC does not expect to receive Federal Universal Service high cost support during the year of 2017.
- 4. If e-Tel, LLC receives any Federal Universal Service support, it will be used for the provision, maintenance and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended, as designated by the FCC consistent with Section 254(e) of the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1934, as amended. These funds will be used to provide the following supported services as outlined in 47 CFR 54.10(a), which area available to any customer in the Company's service area: sing-part 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 911 service, access to operator service, access interexchange service and access to directory assistance and toll limitation for qualifying low income customers.
- e-Tel, LLC follows Federal Communications Commission Part 32 accounting requirements for regulated local exchange carriers to determine high cost support amounts. As a regulated utility, the Company's accounting procedures are subject to periodic National Exchange Carrier Association and Kentucky PSC reviews.
- 6. If Federal Universal Service support is received, e-Tel does not anticipate increasing local rates nor withdrawing any services; therefore; the comparability of rates and service between the rural areas served by the Company and the urban areas of Kentucky will not be changed because of any action on the part of the Company.
- 7. The matters addressed above are within my personal knowledge and are true and correct.

Further the Affiant sayeth naught.

Bense Hayden

Sworn and subscribed before me, the undersigned authority, on this the 31 day of August, 2016.

Seal

(Notary Public, State at Large)

My commission expires  $\frac{\sqrt{26/2019}}{}$