



Riter Rogers

Law Office

319 South Coteau Street
P.O. Box 280
Pierre, SD 57501

Phone: 605-224-5825
Fax: 605-224-7102
www.riterlaw.com

May 26, 2010

Ms. Patricia Van Gerpen
SD Public Utilities Commission
500 E. Capitol Ave.
Pierre, SD 57501

Re: In the Matter of the Request of Valley Telecommunications Cooperative Association, Inc. for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support


Dear Ms. Van Gerpen:

Attached for electronic filing, please find Valley Telecommunications Cooperative Association's Annual ETC Certification Filing with Confidential Exhibits A & B, and Exhibit C and Venture's Lifeline/Link Up Annual Report, in the above matter.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

Very truly yours,

RITER, ROGERS, WATTIER &
NORTHTRUP, LLP

By: 
Darla Pollman Rogers

DPR-wb

Enclosure

Robert C. Riter, Jr.
Margo D. Northrup

Jerry L. Wattier
Lindsey Riter-Rapp

Darla Pollman Rogers
Robert D. Hofer, Of Counsel

with respect to the Company's planned 2010 investments noted in last year's two-year plan, the changes are referenced in that Confidential Exhibit. Estimates of the expenditures to be made by the Company for calendar year 2011, related to the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services supported by federal universal service, are provided on Confidential Exhibit B hereto as part of the Company's current Two-Year Plan. Consistent with federal universal service principles, the Company will use federal universal service amounts received in 2011 to offset a portion of these 2011 expenditures. This use of federal universal service support will enable the Company to: (1) maintain rates for its local exchange services that are affordable and reasonably comparable to rates being charged for the same services in urban areas; and (2) to upgrade its telecommunications facilities and equipment as necessary to meet evolving service requirements and maintain high quality service. The use of federal universal service support for these purposes is clearly consistent with the federal universal service provisions.

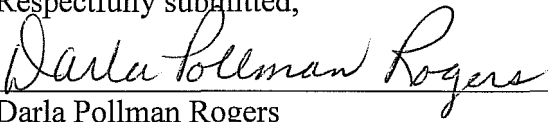
3. In addition to the information included in Confidential Exhibits A and B, the following information is provided to meet the Commission's "Certification requirements" set forth in § 20:10:32:54:

- During calendar year 2009, the Company experienced the following service outages affecting at least 10 percent of its end user customers, for a period lasting longer than 30 minutes: None.
- The Company was able to provide service to all potential customers that requested service during 2009, and as of December 31, 2009, the Company had no unfulfilled requests for service.
- During 2009, the Company's customer service department received an estimated zero complaints from consumers. No complaints were received by the Company more formally as written complaints or as complaints that needed to be resolved with the involvement of other Company representatives outside of the customer service department.
- Also attached as "Exhibit C" is a document containing other certifications, including those required under the provisions of ARSD §§ 20:10:32:54(6), 20:10:32:54(7), 20:10:32:54(8) and 20:10:32:54(9).

4. Based on all of the foregoing information, including the information provided on Confidential Exhibits A, B and Exhibit C, the Company requests that this Commission issue an appropriate certification to the FCC and USAC indicating that Valley Telecommunications Cooperative Association, Inc. is in compliance with 47 U.S.C. § 254(e) and should receive all federal universal service support determined for distribution to the Company in 2011. In order to ensure that this certification is issued to the FCC prior to October 1, 2010, the Company would further ask the Commission to expedite the process that is initiated based on this filing.

Dated this 26th day of May 2010.

Respectfully submitted,



Darla Pollman Rogers

Riter, Rogers, Wattier & Northrup, LLP

PO Box 280

Pierre, SD 57501

Phone (605) 224-5825

Attorney for Valley Telecommunications
Cooperative Association, Inc.

