



Certification of Service Quality Standards &  
Consumer Protection Rules Compliance

Golden West Telecommunications Cooperative, Inc. (hereinafter "the Company") hereby certifies that it is complying with applicable service quality standards and consumer protection rules.

This document details the processes and procedures that the Company follows to ensure compliance with service quality standards and consumer protection rules as laid out in FCC Form 481 Instructions.

The Company provides voice grade access to the public switched telephone network (PSTN) at a flat rate, thereby enabling access to emergency services provided by local government or other public safety organizations such as 911.

For service quality standards that are affected by plant issues, the Company engineers and installs its plant and other facilities in such a way as to ensure, to the greatest extent possible, safe, adequate, and continuous service at all times.

In addition, employees are periodically trained on service quality standards and consumer protection issues. In particular, if any set of issues appear to be prevalent, employees are given briefings on how to handle such issues, beyond the normal guidelines in place for resolution of customer complaints. A recent example is the call completion problems that have arisen and the customer calls that are generated as a result. Although this is not a service quality problem caused by the Company, it does affect customers of the Company and, therefore, deserves the attention of the Company employees.

The Company also periodically reviews its operating procedures to be sure that those operating procedures are in compliance with service quality standards and that the operating procedures are not in violation of consumer protection rules. Internally a compliance officer ensures annual employee training and dictates disciplinary processes for improper use of consumer information. If concerns arise that cannot be handled by the compliance officer, legal counsel is sought to assist with a resolution.

If complaints are filed with the Company related to service quality standards or consumer protection rules, the complaint is immediately investigated, the matter tracked and any corrective action noted. This process ensures that problems are addressed and corrections made.

The Company advertises the availability of its services and the charges using media of general distribution and on its website.

The Company maintains six business offices throughout its service area providing customers with access to a customer service representative either in person or via a local telephone number or toll-free telephone number during normal business hours. Customers also have access to the repair service and internet help desk twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week by calling a toll-free number, or by calling one of the business office numbers, which forward to these services after hours.