

Via Electronic Filing

September 2, 2016

Ms. Patricia Van Gerpen
South Dakota Public Utilities Commission
State Capitol
500 East Capitol Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501-5070

Re: Responses to Staff's Data Request 1 – TC 16-022

Dear Ms. Van Gerpen:

Enclosed by e-filing please find the responses by Valley Telephone Company (the "Company") regarding data submitted in response to questions from Staff regarding the Request for Certification from the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission regarding its use of Federal Universal Service Support.

The Company requests confidential treatment of revised Attachment 1, which are submitted as a separate Confidential document pursuant to the requirements of ARSD § 20:10:01:41. These Exhibits contain financial information with independent economic value which is not generally known to, and not readily ascertainable to, competitors of the Company which could obtain economic value from disclosure. The Company maintains the information as secret. The Company requests that such information be maintained as confidential by the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission in perpetuity.

Based on additional information provided the Company requests that this Commission issue an appropriate certification to the FCC and USAC indicating that Valley Telephone Company 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 2017.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Campbell