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Bob Sahr, Vice-Chair
Dustin Johnson, Commissioner

SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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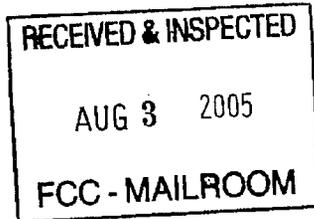
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August 2, 2005

✓ Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary
9300 East Hampton Drive
Capitol Heights, MD 20743



Irene Flannery
Universal Service Administrative Company
2000 L Street, NW - Suite 200
Washington, DC 20036

Re: Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service, CC Docket No. 96-45,
Designation and Certification of Eligible Telecommunications Carriers

Dear Ms. Dortch and Ms. Flannery:

Pursuant to section 214(e)(2) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, and 47 C.F.R. section 54.201, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (SDPUC) has designated RCC Minnesota, Inc. (RCC) and Wireless Alliance, L.L.C (WALLC) as Eligible Telecommunications Carriers (ETCs). RCC was designated as a competitive ETC in South Dakota for the following rural telephone companies' entire service areas located in South Dakota: Stockholm-Strandburg Telephone Company, Roberts County Telephone Cooperative Association, RC Communications, Inc., and Valley Telephone Company - Minnesota. RCC was also designated as a competitive ETC for the following non-rural service areas of Qwest Corporation: Milbank, Big Stone City, and Watertown wire centers. WALLC was designated as a competitive ETC in South Dakota for the following rural telephone company's entire service area: Union Telephone Company. WALLC was also designated as a competitive ETC for the following non-rural service areas of Qwest Corporation: Tea, Canton, Harrisburg, and the three Sioux Falls wire centers.

In addition, RCC and WALLC were designated as ETCs in additional rural service areas, *contingent upon the FCC's concurrence in redefinition of those ETCs service areas*. For RCC, the conditional ETC designations are for the following rural service areas:

- a. ITC: Astoria, Bradley, Brandt, Bryant, Castlewood, Clear Lake, Clark, Estelline, Florence, Gary, Goodwin, Hayti, Lake Norden, Raymond, Toronto, Waubay, Webster, and Willow Lake;

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- b. James Valley: Andover and Bristol;
- c. Venture: Britton, Langford, Pierpont, Roslyn, and Sisseton; Rosholt.

For WALLC, the conditional ETC designations are for the following rural service areas:

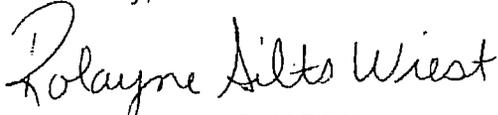
- a. Alliance (Baltic): Baltic and Crooks; Hudson;
- b. PrairieWave: Worthing and Lennox;
- c. Sioux Valley: Colton, Dell Rapids, and Humboldt; Valley Springs;
- d. Alliance (Splitrock): Brandon and Garretson.

For the conditional ETC designation, the SDPUC is submitting a request to the FCC to concur in its redefinitions. If the FCC concurs in the redefinitions, the SDPUC will submit an additional letter regarding certification for these rural service areas.

For the ETC designations listed in the first paragraph that are not subject to redefinition, the SDPUC hereby states that RCC and WALLC have been certified to receive support pursuant to 47 C.F.R. §§ 54.301, 54.305, 54.307, and/or 54.309, and/or part 36, subpart F. RCC and WALLC have shown to the SDPUC that they will use all federal high-cost support provided to them only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended, consistent with section 254(e) of the Act.

Enclosed is the SDPUC's Order granting ETC designation and certification to RCC and WALLC. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us for further information.

Sincerely,



ROLAYNE AILTS WIEST
Commission Attorney