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September 11, 2006

**FAX Received** SEP 11 2006

**VIA FAX: 1-605-773-3809**

Patricia Van Gerpen  
 Executive Director  
 South Dakota Public Utilities Commission  
 500 East Capitol Avenue  
 Pierre, SD 57501

RE: In the Matter of the Request of RCC Minnesota, Inc. for Certification Regarding Use of  
 Federal Universal Service Support TC 06-100

In the Matter of the Request of Wireless Alliance, LLC (WALLC) for Certification  
 Regarding Use of Federal Universal Service Support TC 06-101

GPGN File No. 7401.040099

Dear Ms. Van Gerpen:

On Friday, I was informed by Staff Counsel Karen Cremer that the Commission is requesting that materials provided to Staff be provided by the Commission, either through a confidential filing or a direct filing in the ETC Request for Certification filings. In compliance with this request, enclosed you will find two responses the above companies made to Staff questions. The original plus ten copies will follow via U.S. Mail.

One is entitled "RCC Minnesota, Inc." and is to be filed in Docket TC06-100. The other is entitled "WALLC" and is to be filed in Docket TC06-101.

You will note the documents refer to exhibits. These exhibits were provided with either the initial filing by the companies, or in a supplement filing that was made on August 16, 2006. It is not our intent to refile the exhibits that were marked "Confidential." To avoid confusion, where citations to an exhibit have been made, I have noted when the exhibit was originally filed with the Commission.

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The responses to these questions are not being deemed confidential, but the original exhibits were confidential and were filed as confidential with the Commission. RCC Minnesota and WALLC wish to maintain the confidentiality of those exhibits.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Talbot J. Wiczorek', written over a horizontal line.

Talbot J. Wiczorek

TJW:klw  
Enclosures

c: Steve Otto w/ enclosures  
Elizabeth Koehler w/ enclosures

## RESPONSES PROVIDED TO STAFF ON AUGUST 16, 2006

**WIRELESS ALLIANCE L.L.C. (WALLC)**

1. Please provide an estimated Service Improvement Plan for Calendar Year 2008.

**See attached file (2006-2007-2008 SIP WALLC).** CONFIDENTIAL DOCUMENTS FILED WITH THE COMMISSION AS EITHER PART OF THE ORIGINAL FILING OR AS PART OF THE SUPPLEMENTAL FILING MADE ON 8/16/06

2. Please provide an explanation of any service improvements not fulfilled in 2006 that were projected to take place in last year's certification filing. See Exhibit B and response to question 3 in last year's filing.

**See attached file (YTD 2006 WALLC Ex. B).** Please keep in mind that we are only partially through the 2006 year and additional changes may occur prior to the end of the year. EXHIBIT PROVIDED TO THE COMMISSION AS A CONFIDENTIAL DOCUMENT TO THE SUPPLEMENTAL FILING MADE ON 8/16/06

3. Were the cell sites for the Lyons and Baltic areas built? If no, explain why.

At the time of last years filing, WALLC was awaiting FCC concurrence in the Lyons and Baltic areas (among others). This concurrence was granted on November 14, 2005 and WALLC received its first USF support in January 2006. In WALLC's February 27, 2006 filing with the Commission, we reported our intent to construct a new site in the Lyons area in calendar year 2006. We are currently working on lease agreements for the Lyons site. Building permits and the site equipment has been received and we are estimating a 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2006 completion date.

Also, as we explained in RCC's February 27, 2006 filing with the Commission, the Sisseton (RCC) site replaces the Baltic ETC site commitment for WALLC. The proposal to construct a Lyons and Baltic site were made based on a request for joint certification. However, RCC and WALLC were granted separate designations by the Commission. Because of this, the amount of support received in the WALLC market did not support the construction of two sites, thus one of the WALLC site commitments was replaced by the Sisseton site in the RCC market as the support in the RCC market supported additional build out.

WALLC is currently projecting construction of a new site in the Baltic area in 2008.

4. Please identify any 2006 service improvements that took place that were not on the 2006 projected list.

As reported in this year 2006 Service Improvement Plan, WALLC expects to:

- Construct a new site in the Lyons area
- Deploy Phase II E911 deployment.

These were not reported on our 2006 plan submitted in 2005.

5. Please provide the project start date and completion date of each improvement on Exhibit B in the present filing.

Included in response to item # 1.

6. Please explain why no new cell sites are projected for 2007.

The level of USF support received by WALLC is not substantial enough to provide for additional cell site builds in 2007. In fact, the operating expense for the Lyons site (to be constructed in 2006) exceeds the level of USF support WALLC expects to receive in 2007. WALLC's current plans for 2007 include the switch rehome which is described in # 7.

7. Please explain "switch rehome" on Service Improvement Plan - Calendar Year 2007.

As explained in last years filing, WALLC currently leases a switching facility. WALLC plans to move from a leased switch facility to an RCC owned facility. This move should reduce our network operating expenses going forward while allowing greater flexibility

**and control over upgrades and improvements affecting our networks operations and reliability.**