GUNDERSON, PALMER, GOODSELL & NELSON, LLP

J. CRISMAN PALMER G. VERNE GOODSELL JAMES S. NELSON DANIEL E. ASHMORE TERENCE R. QUINN DONALD P. KNUDSEN PATRICK G. GOETZINGER TALBOT J. WIECZOREK MARK J. CONNOT JENNIFER K. TRUCANO MARTY J. JACKLEY

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

ASSURANT BUILDING 440 MT. RUSHMORE ROAD POST OFFICE BOX 8045 RAPID CITY, SOUTH DAKOTA 57709-8045

TELEPHONE (605) 342-1078 • FAX (605) 342-0480 www.gundersonpalmer.com

ATTORNEYS LICENSED TO PRACTICE IN SOUTH DAKOTA, NORTH DAKOTA, NEBRASKA COLORADO, MONTANA, WYOMING & MINNESOTA

May 16, 2007

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

> RE: RCC Minnesota, Inc. Request for Certification As an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier ("ETC") GPGN File No. 7401.040099

Dear Ms. Van Gerpen:

On behalf of RCC Minnesota, Inc., enclosed you will find the letter requesting state certification of RCC Minnesota, Inc. for federal universal service support, and the Request for Certification executed by David Del Zoppo showing that all support received will be used "only for the provision, maintenance and upgrading of facilities and services for which such support is intended." I would request that the above matter be filed and RCC Minnesota, Inc. be certified.

Please note that various exhibits attached to the Request have been labeled "*Confidential and Proprietary*." The information contained in the exhibits is confidential under A.R.S.D. 20:10:1:39(4) and (5). Because of this, RCC requests confidential treatment of Exhibits A and B, pursuant to A.R.S.D. 20:10:01:41 and that the material be held confidential for ten years and then destroyed. This information is confidential as the information is internal and proprietary, can be used adversely by competitors, and the development and financial planning constitutes trade secrets as recognized by law. If there are any inquiries as to the confidential treatment, I may be contacted at the above address.

If you need any additional information on the Request or attachments, please let me know.

Sincerely.

Talbot J. Wieczorek

DAVID E. LUST THOMAS E. SIMMONS TERRI LEE WILLIAMS PAMELA SNYDER-VARNS SARA FRANKENSTEIN AMY K. SCHULDT JASON M. SMILEY SHANE C. PENFIELD

WYNN A. GUNDERSON Of Counsel

BEFORE THE SOUTH DAKOTA

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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IN THE MATTER OF THE REQUEST OF RCC MINNESOTA, INC. FOR CERTIFICATION REGARDING USE OF FEDERAL UNIVERSAL SERVICE SUPPORT

REQUEST FOR CERTIFICATION

STATE OF MINNESOTA COUNTY OF DOUGLAS

I, David Del Zoppo, being of lawful age and duly sworn, on my oath, state that I am the Senior Vice President, Finance and Accounting, and an officer of Rural Cellular Corporation and each of its affiliates, including RCC Minnesota, Inc. ("Company") and that I am authorized to execute this Affidavit on behalf of the Company, and the facts set forth in this Affidavit are true to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.

1. Pursuant to A.R.S.D. 20:10:32:52 and A.R.S.D. 20:10:32:54, this Affidavit is to act as an Annual Certification filing and Affidavit in Support of the Certification requirements.

2. The South Dakota Public Utilities Commission designated RCC as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier in certain non-rural telephone company exchanges and certain rural telephone company study areas in Application No. TC03-193 dated June 6, 2005. Pursuant to the designation order, Finding of Fact number 71 subparts (1), (2), and (3), RCC Minnesota and Wireless Alliance, L.L.C. filed the required compliance documents on July 30, 2005.

3. The Federal Universal Service support funds received by RCC, to the extent any are applied for and received, will be used only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities for which the support is intended, as designated by the Federal Communications Commission consistent with Section 254(e) of the Federal Telecommunications Act. These funds will be used to provide the following supported services as designated in 47 C.F.R. § 54.101 which are available throughout RCC' designated service area.

- (a) voice grade access to the public switched network;
- (b) local usage;
- (c) dual tone multi frequency signaling, or its functional equivalent;
- (d) single party service, or its functional equivalent;
- (e) access to emergency services, including 911 and enhanced 911 service;
- (f) access to operator services;
- (g) access to interexchange service;
- (h) access to directory assistance;
- (i) toll blocking for qualifying low-income customers; and
- (j) toll control for qualifying low-income customers.

4. The Company was certified as an ETC on June 6, 2005. The initial certification was for Qwest wire centers and certain RLEC service areas. For all other RLEC wire centers where the company sought certification, certification did not occur until November 14, 2005. Any Universal Service Support received in 2006 has been directed to expand service and expand coverage areas. The expansion of coverage areas and capacities and use of the funds are detailed as set forth in the 2006 Service Improvement Plan update and 2007/2008/2009 Service Improvement Plan attached as Exhibits A and B.

5. The power outages suffered by the Company during the Fiscal Year 2006 are listed and detailed in Exhibit C attached hereto, entitled ETC Outages 2006.

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6. Attached as Exhibit D, entitled Requests for Services, is a true and correct copy of the number of requests for service from potential customers within the service area that were not fulfilled during 2006.

7. The number of complaints received during that time during the previous calendar year where the Company was an ETC and resolution of those complaints is set forth is attached in Exhibit E.

8. The Company hereby certifies to the Public Utility Commission of South Dakota, pursuant to the requirements of Administrative Rule 20:10:32:43.03, that it has the ability to remain functional in emergency situations including reasonable back-up power supplies, the ability to reroute traffic, and the ability to manage traffic spikes.

9. The Company hereby certifies to the Public Utility Commission of South Dakota, pursuant to the requirements of ARSD 20:10:32:43.04 and A.R.S.D. 20:10:32:54(5), that it complies with service quality and consumer protection standards in the CTIA Consumer Code for Wireless Carriers.

10. The Company hereby certifies to the Public Utility Commission of South Dakota, pursuant to the requirements of A.R.S.D. 20:10:32:43:06 and A.R.S.D. 20:10:32:54(8), that the FCC, pursuant to 47 U.S.C. 332(c)(8), may require it to provide equal access to long distance carriers within one of its Designated Areas in the event that no other ETC is providing equal access.

11. The Company hereby certifies to the Public Utility Commission of South Dakota, pursuant to the requirements of ARSD 20:10:32:54(7), that it offers rate plans with substantial local calling areas with varying levels of local usage, including plans with unlimited usage. Each rate plan includes, at a minimum, all of the supported services required by FCC Rule

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54.101(a)(1)-(9) comparable to the service offerings of the incumbent LECs. Consistent with FCC Rule 54.202(a)(4), the amount of local usage available in RCC's generally available rate plans is comparable to that offered by the incumbent LECs in the Designated Areas.

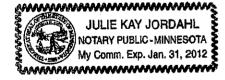
12. Pursuant to A.R.S.D. 20:10:32:53, attached hereto as Exhibit F is an Affidavit certifying any information required under A.R.S.D. 20:10:32:43.01 to 20:10:32:43.06.

13. Pursuant to A.R.S.D. 20:10:32:55, the Company, in calendar year 2006, notified its customers and potential customers of lifeline and link-up opportunities. Attached as Exhibit G, is a listing of the activities by the Company to notify its customers and potential customers of lifeline and link-up opportunities.

DATED this $M_{\Lambda I}$, 2007.

RCC Minnesota, Inc. (Company) By: (Name) Its: (Title)

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this $\underline{14}$ day of \underline{May} , 2007.



Notary public in and for the State of Minnesota My Commission Expires: Jan. 31, 3012

EXHIBITS RCC Request for Certification

- Exhibit A. 2006 SIP Update CONFIDENTIAL 2007 SIP Update - CONFIDENTIAL 2008 SIP Update - CONFIDENTIAL 2009 SIP Update - CONFIDENTIAL
- Exhibit B. 2007/2008/2009 SIP Wire Center Detail CONFIDENTIAL 2007 Coverage Map (RCC ETC) CONFIDENTIAL
- Exhibit C. 2006 Outages
- Exhibit D. 2006 Requests for Services
- Exhibit E. 2006 Consumer Complaints Report
- Exhibit F. Affidavit In Support of Requirements for Previously Designated ETC pursuant to A.R.S.D. 20:10:32:53
- Exhibit G. 2006 Lifeline and Link up Advertising/Outreach Efforts

MW Rover 2006 (Unicel lets you stay connected for less!)

SD Lifeline Poster (Stay Connected for Less!)

SD Billing Message