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May 26, 2009

Ms. Patricia Van Gerpen
SD Public Utilities Commission
500 E Capitol Ave
Pierre SD 57501

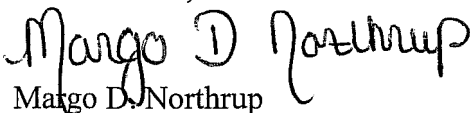
RE: In the Matter of the Request of Valley Telecommunications Cooperative
Association, Inc. for Certification Regarding Its Use of Federal Universal Service
Support

Dear Patty:

Attached for electronic filing, please find Valley Telecommunications Cooperative Association, Inc.'s ("Valley") Annual ETC Certification Filing with Confidential Exhibits A & B and Exhibit C and Valley's Lifeline/Link Up Annual Report, in the above entitled matter.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

Sincerely yours,
RITER, ROGERS, WATTIER, &
NORTHTRUP, LLP

By: 
Margo D. Northrup

MDN/ed
Enclosure
cc: Client

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provided on Confidential Exhibit B hereto as part of the Company's current Two-Year Plan. Consistent with federal universal service principles, the Company will use federal universal service amounts received in 2010 to offset a portion of these 2010 expenditures. This use of federal universal service support will enable the Company to: (1) maintain rates for its local exchange services that are affordable and reasonably comparable to rates being charged for the same services in urban areas; and (2) to upgrade its telecommunications facilities and equipment as necessary to meet evolving service requirements and maintain high quality service. The use of federal universal service support for these purposes is clearly consistent with the federal universal service provisions.

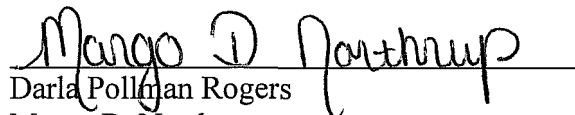
3. In addition to the information included in Confidential Exhibits A and B, the following information is provided to meet the Commission's "Certification requirements" set forth in § 20:10:32:54:

- During calendar year 2008, the Company experienced the following service outages affecting at least 10 percent of its end user customers, for a period lasting longer than 30 minutes: None.
- The Company was able to provide service to all potential customers that requested service during 2008, and as of December 31, 2008, the Company had no unfulfilled requests for service
- During 2008, the Company's customer service department received an estimated zero complaints from consumers. No complaints were received by the Company more formally as written complaints or as complaints that needed to be resolved with the involvement of other Company representatives outside of the customer service department.
- Also attached as "Exhibit C" is a document containing other certifications, including those required under the provisions of ARSD §§ 20:10:32:54(6), 20:10:32:54(7), 20:10:32:54(8) and 20:10:32:54(9).

4. Based on all of the foregoing information, including the information provided on Confidential Exhibits A, B and Exhibit C, the Company requests that this Commission issue an appropriate certification to the FCC and USAC indicating that Valley Telecommunications Cooperative Association, Inc. 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 2010. In order to ensure that this certification is issued to the FCC prior to October 1, 2009, the Company would further ask the Commission to expedite the process that is initiated based on this filing.

Dated this 26 day of May 2009.

Respectfully submitted,


Darla Pollman Rogers

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