

BEFORE THE
SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| IN THE MATTER OF THE REQUEST OF) | |
| LONG LINES WIRELESS LLC FOR) | |
| CERTIFICATION REGARDING ITS USE) | ANNUAL ETC CERTIFICATION |
| OF FEDERAL UNIVERSAL SERVICE) | FILING |
| SUPPORT.) | |

Long Lines Wireless, LLC (the "Company"), by and through its attorney, makes this filing to seek certification from the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (the "Commission") as is required under 47 C.F.R. § 54.314 and to comply with the provisions of ARSD §§ 20:10:32:52 and 20:10:32:54 of the Commission's rules pertaining to eligible telecommunications carriers ("ETCs").

In accordance with 47 C.F.R. § 54.314, federal universal service support provided to carriers pursuant to 47 C.F.R. §§ 54.301, 54.305 and/or 54.307 and/or Part 36, Subpart F (high-cost loop support, local switching support, safety net additive support and safety valve support) will be made available only if the State Commission files the requisite annual certification with the FCC and USAC. The certification required specifically for rural carriers to receive federal universal service support for all four quarters during calendar year 2013 is currently due to be filed with the FCC and USAC on or before October 1, 2012. The certification may be presented to these entities in the form of a letter from the State Commission. The letter must identify which carriers in the State are eligible to receive federal support during the 12-month period and must certify that the carriers listed will only use the support for the provision, maintenance and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended.

As part of its annual request to the Commission for certification, the Company provides the following information:

1. The Company is a rural telephone company that has previously been designated by this Commission as an ETC. The Company provides local exchange telephone services, including all of the essential services that are included in the federal definition of universal service, to approximately 3,030 access lines within its established rural service area in South Dakota.

2. The provisions of ARSD § 20:10:32:54 addressing the annual "Certification requirements" set forth by this Commission indicate in part that the ETC must show "how much universal service support was received." Accordingly, the Company's 2011 federal universal service receipts are reflected on Exhibit A hereto (presented as part of the Company's "Progress Report"). This same Exhibit also shows total expenditures of the Company in 2011 related to the provision, maintenance and upgrading of the facilities and services that are supported by federal universal service funding. In addition, to the extent changes have occurred, to date, with respect to the Company's planned 2012 investments noted in last year's two-year plan, the changes are referenced in that Exhibit. Estimates of the expenditures to be made by the Company for calendar year 2013, related to the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services supported by federal universal service, are provided on 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 2013 to offset a portion of these 2013 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 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 2011, 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 2011, and as of December 31, 2011 the Company had no unfulfilled requests for service.
- During 2011, the Company's customer service department received an estimated 3,000 complaints from consumers. None of these 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 Exhibits A, B and C, the Company requests that this Commission issue an appropriate certification to the FCC and USAC indicating that Long Lines Wireless, LLC 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 2012. In order to ensure that this certification is issued to the FCC prior to October 1, 2012, the Company would further ask the Commission to expedite the process that is initiated based on this filing.

Dated this 30th day of May 2012.

Respectfully submitted,



Attorney for the Company

EXHIBIT C
Affidavit

STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA)
) ss.
COUNTY OF UNION)

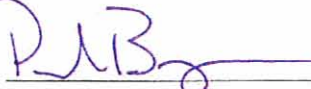
1. I am the General Manager of Long Lines Wireless, LLC and am authorized to give this affidavit on behalf of the Company. This affidavit is provided to support the Company's Request for Certification to the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission as contemplated in 47 C.F.R. § 54.314.

2. As an authorized representative of the Company, I hereby affirm familiarity with and an understanding of the requirements of the Federal Communications Act of 1934, as amended by the Telecommunications Act of 1996, with respect to the receipt of any federal universal service funds received as high-cost loop support, local switching support, safety net additive support and/or safety valve support.

3. During 2011, the Company received federal universal service support as shown on Exhibit A to this affidavit and had investment and expenses relating to the provision, maintenance and upgrading of facilities and services for which such support was intended as also shown on Exhibit A. During 2011, the Company used the federal universal service support it received only for the provision, maintenance and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support was intended consistent with 47 U.S.C. § 254(e).

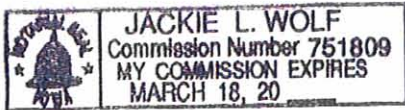
4. The Company certifies that it will use the federal universal service support it receives during 2013 only for the provision, maintenance and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended consistent with 47 U.S.C. § 254(e).

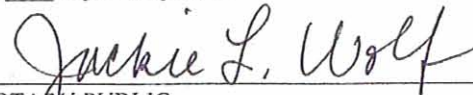
5. The Company certifies that it (i) is in compliance with applicable service quality standards and consumer protection rules; (ii) is able to function in emergency situations as set forth in § 20:10:32:43:03; (iii) provides a flat-rated local exchange service free of per minute charges; and (iv) provides equal access to long distance carriers.



Paul Bergmann

Subscribed and Sworn to before me this 30th day of May 2012.





NOTARY PUBLIC

My Commission Expires: March 18th, 2013

EXHIBIT A
Progress Report
Long Lines Wireless, LLC

Year 2011 Federal Universal Service Receipts:

| | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|
| High Cost Loop Support | \$ 80,277 |
| Local Switching Support | \$ 16,956 |
| Safety Net Additive Support | \$ 129 |
| Safety Valve Loop Cost Adjustment | \$ <u>0</u> |
| TOTAL | \$ 97,362 |

Expenditures For Provision, Maintenance, and Upgrading Of Facilities and Services Supported By Federal Universal Service Funding:

| | <u>Actual</u> 2011 |
|--|-----------------------|
| Plant Specific Operations Expenses | |
| Network support (Accts 6110-16) | \$ 409,026 |
| General support (Accts 6120-24) | \$ 165,176 |
| Central office (Accts 6210-6232) | \$ 231,227 |
| Cable and wire facilities (Accts 6410-41) | \$ 533,571 |
| Network operations (Accts 6530-35) | \$ 90,836 |
| Depreciation and amortization (Accts 6560-65) | \$ 473,677 |
| Customer Operations Expenses | |
| Customer services (Accts 6620-23) | \$ 195,662 |
| Corporate Operations Expenses | |
| Executive and planning (Accts 6710-12) | \$ |
| General and administrative (Accts 6720-28) | \$ 214,299 |
| Total Years Supported Expenses, Before Return on Investment | \$ 2,313,474 |
| Additions | |
| Switching (Acct 2210) | \$ |
| Cable and wire (Acct 2410) | \$ 102,817 |
| Total | \$ 102,817 |
| Total Supported Expenditures, Before Return on Investment | \$ 2,416,291 |

[At the wire center level, describe the above-referenced capital additions made in 2011. If applicable, provide an explanation as to why actual capital additions in 2011 do not match the capital additions shown as planned for 2011 (included with the Company's 2010 filing). Explain any network improvement targets that were not fulfilled or any additions that took place in 2011 that had not been planned. And, finally identify any revisions to the 2012 capital plan as submitted with last year's filing.]

EXHIBIT B
Two-Year Plan
LONG LINES WIRELESS, LLC

During 2011, the company added radios and antennas to its existing towers in South Dakota located in Sioux Falls, Dakota Dunes, Vermillion, Yankton, Jefferson, Elk Point and Canton. The original cost estimate for these enhancements was estimated to be \$200,000 and ended up at \$102,817.

Estimated Year 2013 Federal Universal Service Receipts:

| | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|
| High Cost Loop Support | \$ 60,000 |
| Local Switching Support | \$ 15,000 |
| Safety Net Additive Support | \$ |
| Safety Valve Loop Cost Adjustment | \$ <u>0</u> |
| TOTAL | \$ 75,000 |

Expenditures For Provision, Maintenance, and Upgrading Of Facilities and Services Supported By Federal Universal Service Funding:

| | <u>Estimated</u> 2013 |
|--|--------------------------|
| Plant Specific Operations Expenses | |
| Network support (Accts 6110-16) | \$ 400,000 |
| General support (Accts 6120-24) | \$ 150,000 |
| Central office (Accts 6210-6232) | \$ 230,000 |
| Cable and wire facilities (Accts 6410-41) | \$ 500,000 |
| Network operations (Accts 6530-35) | \$ 90,000 |
| Depreciation and amortization (Accts 6560-65) | \$ 450,000 |
| Customer Operations Expenses | |
| Customer services (Accts 6620-23) | \$ 190,000 |
| Corporate Operations Expenses | |
| Executive and planning (Accts 6710-12) | \$ 0 |
| General and administrative (Accts 6720-28) | \$ 210,000 |
| Total Years Supported Expenses, Before Return on Investment | <u>\$ 2,220,000</u> |
| Additions | |
| Switching (Acct 2210) | \$ |
| Cable and wire (Acct 2410) | \$ 175,000 |
| Total | <u>\$ 175,000</u> |
| Total Supported Expenditures, Before Return on Investment | <u>\$ 2,395,000</u> |

Proposed Network Improvements:

The Company's 2013 estimated capital additions included with last year's filing are provided again for reference, together with capital additions planned for 2014.

Provide data for each wire center in the Company's service area where switching, exchange transmission equipment or cable and wire upgrades are planned.

| Wire Center | Estimated Population | Description of Capital Improvement | Start Date | End Date | Estimated Capital Expenditures Each Year | |
|-------------------|----------------------|------------------------------------|------------|----------|--|---------|
| | | | | | 2013 | 2014 |
| Existing SD sites | | High speed capacity | 4/1/13 | 10/31/14 | 125,000 | 125,000 |
| Existing SD sites | | Radio additions to add capacity | 4/1/13 | 10/31/14 | 50,000 | 50,000 |
| | | | | | \$ | \$ |
| | | | | | \$ | \$ |

For 2012, the company is estimating a capital additions plan of approximately \$125,000, which would be devoted to additional radios and other equipment for existing cell sites to increase capacity of the existing network and expand the capacity to process high speed data. A similar network capacity expansion is planned for 2012, with a greater emphasis on high speed data expansion.

Exhibit C is a separate file that lists the cell sites actually in operation as of 12/31/10 and the cost of each. Note that only one new site was placed in service during 2010.

Exhibit D is a separate file that includes a number of maps showing the locations of the cell towers constructed from 2006-2010.

| Wire Center |
|-------------|
| |
| |

**SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
LIFELINE/LINK UP ADVERTISING/OUTREACH
ANNUAL REPORT
JUNE 1, 2012**

Company: Long Lines Wireless
Address: 501 4th Street
Sergeant Bluff, IA 51054

Telephone number: 712-271-5570

Company contact: Brenda Blackman

Study Area Code: 399016

Lifeline/Link Up Advertising/Outreach Activities:

- Advertise in media of general distribution.* (See attached advertisement(s).)
- Letter to existing and new customers regarding the availability of Lifeline/Link Up.* (See attached letter.)
- Company's Lifeline/Link Up information in directory.
- Company's Lifeline/Link Up information available on Company website. ((www.longlines.com))
- Company's information posted on USAC website.
- Other (describe): _____
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*Required