

## Golden West Telecommunications Cooperative, Inc.

### Description of Tribal Engagement

Golden West Telecommunications Cooperative, Inc. (hereinafter “the Company”), study area 391659, provides services to a small area on the Cheyenne River Sioux Reservation and the majority of the Pine Ridge Reservation.

On November 7, 2012, by letter sent via certified mail to the Tribal Chairman, the Company requested a joint meeting with the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe to exchange information and discuss issues related to the deployment and provisioning of communications services on Tribal lands. The Company did not receive a response to the first letter; therefore, a follow up letter was sent via certified mail to the Tribal Chairman on December 7, 2012. No response was received from the follow up letter.

On November 14, 2012, the Company sent an email to the Oglala Sioux Tribal (OST) Utilities Commission for the Pine Ridge Reservation requesting a joint meeting to exchange information related to the telecommunications services provided by the Company on Tribal lands. The Company did not receive a response to the November 14, 2012 email. A follow up letter was sent via certified mail to the Director of the Office of Economic & Business Development on December 1, 2012 requesting a meeting to discuss the deployment and sustainability of telecommunications services on the Pine Ridge Reservation. A copy of this follow up letter was sent via email to the Oglala Sioux Tribal Utilities Commission. No response was received from the December 1, 2012 follow up letter. One last follow up letter was sent via certified mail to the Director of the Office of Economic & Business Development on December 7, 2012. No response was received from the December 7, 2012 follow up letter.

In accordance with provisions in the FCC’s USF and ICC Transformation Order, paragraphs 636 and 637, and 47 CFR 54.313(a)(9), Golden West Telecommunications Cooperative, Inc. will again attempt to organize a joint meeting with the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe in 2013 and has already begun discussions with the Oglala Sioux Tribe. The Company will, with tribal input, develop a needs assessment to assist with future service deployments on Tribal lands. In particular, the Company and the Tribal Authority discussions relating to needs and service deployment will be focused on community anchor institutions. The feasibility and sustainability of communications services on tribal lands will be discussed and the Company will, with assistance from the Tribal Authorities, attempt to identify additional steps that can be taken to make essential communications services deployed on Tribal lands both feasible and

sustainable. The Company and Tribal Authorities will also discuss and explore ways in which they can coordinate to ensure that services are marketed on tribal lands in a manner that will relate to the community and resonate with consumers, with the aim of increasing service adoption. At such meetings, the Company will also be prepared to discuss the relevant rights-of-way and other permitting and review processes, as well as any challenges associated with these processes. And finally, the Company will come to any such meetings prepared to discuss and engage the Tribal Authorities on any relevant and applicable Tribal business and licensing requirements.