

Fort Randall Telephone Company(DBA: Mt Rushmore Telephone Company)

Description of Tribal Engagement

For Form 481 Line 920 thru Line 929

Fort Randall Telephone Company had submitted an email on December 11, 2012 and followed up with a telephone call that same day, as a result of an email request by the Oglala Sioux Tribe for information concerning our telephone service to parts of the Pine Ridge Reservation dated September 16, 2012. During our conversation, the Utilities Commission indicated they would be in contact with us regarding any potential meeting once they have had an opportunity to review the information we provided. As of October 9, 2013, the Tribal Authority had not yet responded to the information we originally provided nor have they requested dates to allow for the scheduling of an “engagement” meeting.

In accord with provision in the FCC’s USF and ICC Transformation Order, paragraphs 636 and 637, and 47 CFR 54.313(a)(9), at the meeting with the Tribal Authority, Fort Randall Telephone Company will, with tribal input, develop a needs assessment to assist with future service deployments on Tribal lands. In particular, Fort Randall Telephone 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 Fort Randall Telephone Company will with assistance with the Tribal Authority will attempt to identify additional steps that can be taken to make essential communications services deployed on Tribal lands both feasible and sustainable. Fort Randall Telephone Company and Tribal authority will also discuss and explore ways in which they can coordinate or partner 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 meeting, the Fort Randall Telephone 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, Fort Randall Telephone Company will come to any such meeting prepared to discuss and engage the Tribal Authority on any relevant and applicable Tribal business and licensing requirements.

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Fort Randall Telephone Company had hand delivered on December 11, 2012 with a request to the Yankton Sioux Tribal Authority in Marty, South Dakota for a meeting to discuss the services we presently have in parts of treaty lands around the communities of Marty and Greenwood, South Dakota. The Yankton Sioux Tribal Authority was not sure who would be contacting us, but they would be in contact with us regarding any potential meeting. Although we have had several informal meeting to discuss project both completed and planned on these lands, as of October 9, 2013, the Yankton Sioux Tribal Authority had not yet responded to our request to meet nor have they requested dates to allow for the scheduling of an “engagement” meeting.

In accord with provision in the FCC’s USF and ICC Transformation Order, paragraphs 636 and 637, and 47 CFR 54.313(a)(9), at the meeting with the Yankton Sioux Tribal Authority, Fort Randall Telephone Company will, with tribal input, develop a needs assessment to assist with future service deployments on Tribal lands. In particular, Fort Randall Telephone 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 Fort Randall Telephone Company will with assistance with the Yankton Sioux Tribal Authority will attempt to identify additional steps that can be taken to make essential communications services deployed on Tribal lands both feasible and sustainable. Fort Randall Telephone Company and Yankton Sioux Tribal Authority will also discuss and explore ways in which they can coordinate or partner 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 meeting, the Fort Randall Telephone 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, Fort Randall Telephone Company will come to any such meeting prepared to discuss and engage the Yankton Sioux Tribal Authority on any relevant and applicable Tribal business and licensing requirements.