

§20:10:32:54(2) includes additional information detailing progress made toward meeting 2022 service quality improvement plan targets, providing an explanation regarding any network improvement targets that were not met.

3. The Company also provides the Commission with a "two-year service quality improvement plan" as required by ARSD §20:10:32:54(1) including planned expenditures for calendar years 2024 and 2025 relating to the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which universal service support is intended. (See attached Confidential Exhibit B).

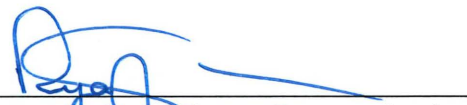
4. The Company is using federal high cost universal service support amounts thus far received in 2023 to meet the objectives identified in previously filed service quality improvement plans and will continue to do so with respect to universal service amounts received in 2024. This use of federal universal service support will enable the Company to: (A) 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 (B) upgrade its telecommunications facilities and equipment as necessary to meet evolving service requirements, including those related to broadband services, and maintain high quality service. The use of federal high cost universal service support for these purposes is clearly consistent with the federal universal service provisions.

5. Also attached is Confidential Exhibit C, a document containing the certifications required under the provisions of ARSD §§ 20:10:32:54(6) and 20:10:32:54(7). Lastly, attached Exhibit D is the Affidavit of the Company's General Manager submitted to support the Company's request for certification.

6. Based on all the foregoing information, including all information provided within Confidential Exhibits A, B, and C and Exhibit D (all attached hereto), the Company requests that this Commission issue an appropriate certification to the FCC and USAC indicating that the Company is in compliance with 47 U.S.C. § 254(e) and should receive all federal high cost universal service support determined for distribution to the Company in 2024. In order to ensure that this certification is issued to the FCC prior to October 1, 2023, the Company would further ask the Commission to expedite this process, to the extent needed to meet such deadline.

Dated this 27th day of June, 2023.

Respectfully submitted,
CUTLER LAW FIRM, LLP



Attorney for Midstate Communications, Inc.
Ryan J. Taylor
Cutler Law Firm, LLP
140 N. Phillips Ave., 4th Floor
Sioux Falls, SD 57104
Telephone: (605) 335-4950
Facsimile: (605) 335-4961