

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA**

IN THE MATTER OF THE REQUEST OF RCC)	ORDER GRANTING
MINNESOTA, INC. DBA VERIZON WIRELESS)	CERTIFICATION
FOR CERTIFICATION REGARDING ITS USE OF)	
FEDERAL UNIVERSAL SERVICE SUPPORT)	TC12-072

On May 30, 2012, the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a filing from RCC Minnesota, Inc. dba Verizon Wireless (Company) regarding its request for certification regarding its use of federal universal service support. The purpose of this filing was to provide information to verify the Company used all federal universal service support previously received in a manner consistent with the federal universal service provisions of 47 U.S.C. § 254. Pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 54.314(a), in order for an eligible telecommunications carrier (ETC) to receive support pursuant to the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC's) high-cost program, a state must file an annual certification with the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) and the FCC stating that all federal high-cost support provided to the ETC "was used in the preceding calendar year and will be used in the coming calendar year only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended." Certification must be filed with USAC and the FCC by October 1st of each year. The Company stated that it is not requesting certification for 2013 as it does not anticipate receiving federal high cost universal support after 2012. As a result, information was not filed regarding the "coming calendar year."

On May 31, 2012, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of June 15, 2012, to interested individuals and entities. No parties sought intervention.

At its regularly scheduled meeting of September 11, 2012, the Commission considered this matter. The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapter 49-31 and 47 U.S.C. § 254. Commission staff recommended certification and a waiver of ARSD 20:10:32:43.02 which requires submission of a two-year service improvement plan. The Commission unanimously voted to waive the requirements of ARSD 20:10:32:43.02 and to approve the Company's request for certification that past support was used for its intended purposes. The Commission did not make a finding as to whether future support will be used for its intended purposes, as the Company will not receive support beginning in 2013. The Commission finds that all federal high-cost support provided to the Company was used in the preceding calendar year only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended.

It is therefore

ORDERED, that the Commission waives the requirements of ARSD 20:10:32:43.02. It is further

ORDERED, that all federal high-cost support provided to the Company was used in the preceding calendar year only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and

services for which the support is intended. It is further

ORDERED, that the Commission approves the Company's request for certification that past support was used for its intended purposes.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 24th day of September, 2012.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE	
The undersigned hereby certifies that this document has been served today upon all parties of record in this docket, as listed on the docket service list, electronically.	
By:	<u>[Signature]</u>
Date:	<u>Sept. 24, 2012</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)	

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

[Signature: Chris Nelson]

CHRIS NELSON, Chairman

[Signature: Kristie Fiegen]

KRISTIE FIEGEN, Commissioner

[Signature: Gary Hanson]

GARY HANSON, Commissioner