

State of Florida



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Public Service Commission
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COMMISSION CLERK
-M-E-M-O-R-A-N-D-U-M-

DATE: June 22, 2009
TO: Ann Cole, Commission Clerk - PSC, Office of Commission Clerk
FROM: James S. Polk, Regulatory Analyst, Division of Regulatory Compliance
RE: Docket No. 090168-TL - State certification of rural telecommunications carriers pursuant to 47 C.F.R. 54.314, High Cost Universal Service.

Please file the attached Affidavit from Windstream Communication in the above docket file. Thank you for your assistance in this matter. If you have any questions, please give me a call at 413-6510.

cc: Division of Regulatory Compliance (Casey)
Office of General Counsel (Teitzman)

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE
06210 JUN 22 8
FPSC-COMMISSION CLERK



FAX

Date: 6/22/09

Number of Pages Including Cover Sheet: 4

To: Jim Polk

Phone: _____

Fax No 850-413-6511

cc: _____

From Betty Willis

Phone: (501) 748-5692

Fax No.: (501) 748-7996

REMARKS: Urgent For your review Reply ASAP Please Comment

Per your request

**IF YOU HAVE PROBLEMS RECEIVING THIS FAX, PLEASE CONTACT:
JEAN WOOD AT (501) 748-5354.**

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AFFIDAVIT

BEFORE ME, the undersigned authority appeared Michael D. Rhoda who deposed and said:

1. My name is Michael D. Rhoda. I am Windstream Florida, Inc.'s, ("Windstream" or the "Company") Senior Vice President, Governmental Affairs. I am an officer of the Company and am authorized to give this affidavit on behalf of the Company. This affidavit is being given to support the Florida Public Service Commission's certification as contemplated in 47 C.F.R. §54.314.

2. Windstream hereby certifies that it will only use the federal high-cost support it receives during 2010 for the provision, maintenance and upgrading of facilities and service for which such support is intended.

3. Windstream hereby certifies that it has submitted via annual NECA filings, expenditures in support of its universal service filing and refers to these filings in lieu of providing formal network plans. USF disbursements received by the Company and other rural incumbent local exchange companies are divided into four categories: Interstate Common Line Support ("ICLS"), Local Switching Support ("LSS"); High Cost Loop Support ("HCLS"); and Safety Net Additive Support ("SNAS"). The FCC in conjunction with the Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service has created each of these mechanisms, except ICLS. This means that representatives from State Commissions have also been involved in the development of these mechanisms through their representation in the Joint Board process.

ICLS is a universal service mechanism which is based on the embedded, interstate loop costs of rate-of-return companies and allows these companies to recover from the fund the difference between their interstate common line costs and the subscriber line charge ("SLC") revenues collected from their customers. ICLS provides support to rate-of-return ILECs for investments and expenses already incurred. The ICLS calculation uses the interstate cost studies submitted and certified by the companies and received by NECA.

LSS rules established by the FCC use the embedded costs of the rural ILECs associated with switching investments, depreciation, maintenance, expenses, taxes and an FCC prescribed rate of return. Therefore, LSS provides support to rural ILECs for investments and expenses already incurred. This amount is used to offset the rural ILECs' interstate switching revenue requirement. Therefore, the difference between the interstate switching revenue requirement again as set forth in the company's annual interstate cost study, and LSS is used to calculate the local switching rate charged to interexchange carriers.

Rural ILECs are eligible for HCLS based upon their embedded, unseparated loop costs. These costs are calculated using a set of complex algorithms approved by the FCC, the inputs for which

are scrutinized by NECA. Therefore, HCLS provides support to rural ILECs for investments and expenses already incurred.

Pursuant to FCC Orders, SNAS is support above the HCL cap for carriers that make significant investments in rural infrastructure. To receive SNAS, a rural carrier must show that growth in telecommunications plant in service (TPIS) per line is at least 14 percent greater than the study area's TPIS in the prior year. Therefore, SNAS is providing support to rural ILECs for investments and expenses already incurred. Carriers seeking to qualify for safety net additive support must provide written notice to USAC that a study area meets the 14 percent TPIS trigger.

All of these programs are administered through USAC, a private, not-for-profit corporation. USAC assists NECA in data collection necessary for the remittance of universal service funds. What this means is that each company submits, no less frequently than annually, detailed information requested by NECA in the USF data collection process necessary for the remittance of universal service funds.

Rural ILECs must attest to the information submitted. Further, NECA and its auditors must attest to the validity and integrity of NECA's process. In other words, the ILEC cost studies and responses to data collection requests are subject to audit. The information provided in response to all of the universal service fund mechanisms utilizes FCC accounts for regulated costs and must be in compliance with FCC rules in Parts 32, 36, 54 and 64.

All cost studies submitted by rural ILECs and all USF funding received by rural ILECs must be based upon financial statements. In addition, NECA performs focus reviews of cost studies as well as the USF filings for the cost companies involved in the NECA process. In addition, an officer of the rural ILEC must certify the accuracy and validity of the filed information.

HCLS data used in the HCLS calculations by NECA must also be filed with the FCC in October of each year. This data contains the regulated financial inputs into the algorithm as well as the number of loops that will receive universal service support.

Windstream is eligible for and receives ICLS.

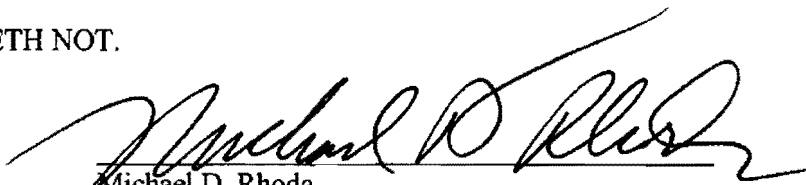
4. Windstream hereby certifies that it follows appropriate procedures for network outage reporting in accordance with the Federal Outage Reporting Order and State Outage Reporting Requirements. For the period between March 1, 2008 and March 1, 2009, Windstream had 4 FCC reportable outages. Windstream had 5 PSC reportable outages.

5. Windstream hereby certifies that it did fulfill all requests for service from potential customers.

6. Windstream hereby certifies that for the period from March 1, 2008 through March 1, 2009 5 FCC complaints and 37 state PSC complaints were received.

7. Windstream hereby certifies that it is able to function in emergency situations, offers a tariffed local usage plan and provides equal access to long distance carriers.

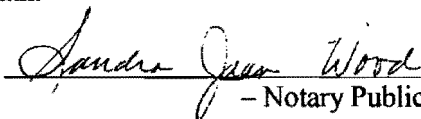
FURTHER AFFIANT SAYETH NOT.

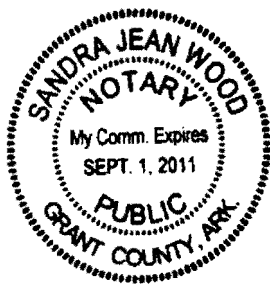


Michael D. Rhoda
Senior Vice President, Governmental Affairs

STATE OF ARKANSAS
COUNTY OF PULASKI

Acknowledged before me this 22nd day of June 2009, by Michael D. Rhoda, as Senior Vice President, Governmental Affairs of Windstream Florida, Inc. who is personally known to me or produced identification and who did take an oath.



- Notary Public

Personally Known _____ ✓
Produced Identification _____
Type of Identification Produced _____