



STATE OF MAINE
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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September 21, 2015

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
Portals II
445 12th Street, SW
Suite TW-A325
Washington, DC 20554

Karen Majcher
Vice President of High Cost and Low
Income Division
Universal Service Administrative Company
2000 L. Street, NW – Suite 200
Washington, DC 20036

Re: Docket Nos. 10-90 and 96-45, USF Certification as required by 47 C.F.R.
§§ 54.313 and 54.314, for the year 2015
Maine Rural Telephone Carriers (list of carriers below)

Dear Ms. Dortch and Ms. Majcher:

On May 10, 2001, the FCC adopted a modified mechanism to provide high-cost support to rural carriers. *In the Matter of Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service*, 14th Report and Order and 21st Order on Reconsideration, CC Docket No. 96-45 (FCC 01-157) (rel. May 10, 2001) (Rural USF Order). That Order requires states to certify that the rural carrier(s) in their jurisdiction will use the federal support in compliance with section 254(e) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996. This certification letter is being submitted to satisfy that requirement.

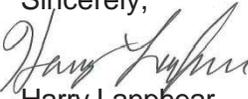
On August 26, 2015, September 1, 2015, and September 9, 2015, we requested that any interested person comment as to whether the rural telephone companies named herein were in compliance with Section 254.

In accordance with the requirements of that Order and 47 C.R.R. §54.314, the Maine Public Utilities Commission certifies that the rural carriers only used support during the preceding calendar year (2014) and will only use support in the coming calendar year (2016) for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which support is intended. The MPUC's certification of compliance is based on the representations made by rural LECs in Maine dockets:

MPUC Docket	Rural Telephone Carrier
2015-00273	COBBOSSEECONTEE TELEPHONE COMPANY
2015-00276	ISLAND TELEPHONE CO.
2015-00274	HAMPDEN TELEPHONE COMPANY
2015-00265	STANDISH TELEPHONE COMPANY
2015-00264	SIDNEY TELEPHONE COMPANY
2015-00275	HARTLAND & ST. ALBANS TELEPHONE COMPANY
2015-00277	SOMERSET TELEPHONE COMPANY
2015-00246	SACO RIVER TELEPHONE, LLC

2015-00279	WEST PENOBSCOT TELEPHONE COMPANY
2015-00249	OXFORD WEST TELEPHONE COMPANY
2015-00242	LINCOLNVILLE NETWORKS
2015-00243	TIDEWATER TELECOM, INC.
2015-00244	MID MAINE TELECOM, LLC
2015-00245	PINE TREE TELEPHONE, LLC
2015-00250	OXFORD TELEPHONE COMPANY
2015-00251	UNION RIVER TELEPHONE COMPANY
2015-00253	UNITEL, INC.
2015-00278	WARREN TELEPHONE COMPANY
2015-00260	CHINA TELEPHONE COMPANY
2015-00261	COMMUNITY SERVICE TELEPHONE COMPANY
2015-00262	MAINE TELEPHONE COMPANY
2015-00263	NORTHLAND TELEPHONE COMPANY OF MAINE

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Michael Johnson at michael.r.johnson@maine.gov or at (207) 287-1572.

Sincerely,

Harry Lanphear
Administrative Director