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July 24, 2007

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Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Office of the Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: USF Certification – FCC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Ms. Dortch,

Enclosed for filing in FCC Docket No. 96-45 is an Essential Telecommunications Carrier Certification and Exhibit A certifying that all universal service support will only be used by the undersigned carrier for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended.

The undersigned carrier has also filed this Essential Telecommunications Carrier Certification and the attached Exhibit A with the North Dakota Public Service Commission, and it is anticipated that the North Dakota Public Service Commission will also certify by October 1, 2007 that the undersigned carrier will only use said universal service support for its intended purpose. However, because of the importance of this issue, and the fast-approaching certification deadline of October 1, 2007, the undersigned carrier is also providing certification directly to the Federal Communications Commission to ensure that the undersigned carrier continues to receive the universal service support for which it is eligible.

Signed,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S. Lysne", is written over a horizontal line.

Steven D. Lysne
CEO/General Manager

Date: 7/24/07

SRT Communications, Inc.

North Dakota

383303

Enclosure

ANNUAL REPORT TO THE NORTH DAKOTA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

ESSENTIAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIER CERTIFICATION

The undersigned, on behalf of the telecommunications company named below (the Company), does hereby state and certify, as follows:

1. The Company will provide service on a timely basis to requesting customers within the Company's designated service area where the Company's network already passes the potential customer's premises, and

2. The Company will provide service, within a reasonable period of time, if the potential customer is within the Company's designated service area but outside the Company's existing network coverage, if service can be provided at a reasonable cost by:

- a. Modifying or replacing the requesting customer's equipment;
- b. Deploying a roof-mounted antenna or other equipment;
- c. Adjusting the nearest cell tower;
- d. Adjusting network or customer facilities;
- e. Reselling services from another carrier's facilities to provide service;
or
- f. Employing, leasing, or constructing an additional cell site, cell extender, repeater, or other similar equipment.

3. The Company is able to remain functional in emergency situations and has a reasonable amount of back-up power to ensure functionality without an external power source, is able to reroute traffic around damaged facilities, and is capable of managing traffic spikes resulting from emergency situations.

4. The Company is satisfying and will satisfy applicable consumer protection and service quality standards. (If wireless service is involved, the Company has and will comply with the Cellular Telecommunications and Internet Association's Consumer Code for wireless service. If a wireless service complies with another standard, that is explained herein.)

5. If the Company is a non-incumbent local exchange carrier, it will offer a local usage plan comparable to the one offered by the incumbent local exchange carrier in the designated service area.

6. The Company acknowledges that the North Dakota Public Service Commission (the Commission) may require it to provide equal access to long distance carriers in the event that no other eligible telecommunications carrier is providing equal access within the proposed designated service area. (If wireless carriage is involved, the Company acknowledges that the Federal Communications Commission may require the Company to provide equal access to long distance carriers in the event no other eligible telecommunications carrier is providing equal access within the designated service area.)

7. The Company has met and will meet the requirements of eligible telecommunications carrier advertising. This includes:

- a. A full description of available services in the Company's official telephone directory, including the process to be used by customers to qualify for lifeline and link-up service.
- b. Advertising of the availability of universal service in media of general circulation in the Company's designated service area. Availability may be advertised in newspapers, company newsletters, company or civic internet sites, bill stuffers, direct mailings, or other means intended to convey availability throughout the designated service area.

Exhibit A Information

The following information is provided in Exhibit A attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference:

1. A description of the amount of high-cost universal service support received by the Company in the prior calendar year and a description of how that support was used for the provision, maintenance, or upgrading of the Company's facilities and services. (An explanation of any changes from reports previously provided to the Commission is also included.)

2. An estimate of the amount of federal high-cost universal service support the Company anticipates receiving in the following calendar year (the calendar year following this report) and a description of how that support is projected to be used for the provision, maintenance, or upgrading of the Company's facilities and services pursuant to Section 254 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996.

3. Exhibit A also contains, for the prior calendar year and the subsequent calendar year (the calendar year following this report), identification of specific construction or upgrade projects; a description of how service will be improved by each project; the start date and completion date for each improvement; the amount of investment for cash improvement; the specific geographic area where each improvement was made or will be made; and the estimated population that will be served by each improvement. (For an

incumbent local exchange carrier (ILEC), this information is submitted at the study area level. For another eligible carrier, this information is submitted at the study area level of the ILEC. If a study area level or designated service area includes geographic areas in more than one state, the information is also submitted at the North Dakota level.)

4. Detailed information of any outage, as that term is defined in 47 C.F.R. § 4.5, of at least thirty (30) minutes in duration for each designated service area for any facilities the Company owns, operates, leases, or otherwise utilizes that potentially affect:

- a. At least ten percent (10%) of the end users served in a designated service area, or
- b. A 911 special facility, as defined in 47 C.F.R. § 4.5(e).

This report includes:

- a. The date and time of the onset of the outage,
- b. A brief description of the outage and its resolution,
- c. The particular services affected,
- d. The geographic areas affected by the outage,
- e. Steps taken to prevent a similar outage in the future, and
- f. The number of customers affected.

(If applicable, a copy of the FCC outage report that includes this information may be attached.)

5. The number of requests for service from potential customers within the designated service area that were unfilled during the past year. A detail of how the Company attempted to provide service to those potential customers is also included.

6. The number of complaints per thousand handsets or lines.

I hereby certify that the above information is true and correct and is submitted on behalf of the Company named below. The information is submitted in the year 2007.

SPT Communications, Inc.
Company

By: 
Its: CEO/6/7

EXHIBIT A

SRT COMMUNICATIONS, INC.

The amount of high-cost universal support the SRT Communications, Inc. received in the prior calendar year and the amount of high-cost universal support SRT Communications, Inc. anticipates receiving in the next calendar year (the following the date of this report) are listed below:

Year 2006 Federal Universal Service Receipts:

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| High Cost Loop Support | \$ 1,000,233 |
| Local Switching Support | \$ 1,000,368 |
| Interstate Common Line Support | \$ 2,883,642 |
| Safety Net Additive Support | \$ 0 |
| Safety Valve Loop Cost Adjustment | \$ <u>0</u> |
| TOTAL | \$ 4,884,243 |

Estimated Year 2008 Federal Universal Service Receipts:

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| High Cost Loop Support | \$ 1,000,000 |
| Local Switching Support | \$ 1,000,000 |
| Interstate Common Line Support | \$ 3,000,000 |
| Safety Net Additive Support | \$ 0 |
| Safety Valve Loop Cost Adjustment | \$ <u>0</u> |
| TOTAL | \$ 5,000,000 |

The changes, if any, from reports previously filed with the Commission are, as follows:
(For 2007, there are none. This is the first reporting year.)

Prior Year's Support (2006): The ways this support from the prior calendar year was used for the provision, maintenance and upgrading of SRT Communications, Inc.'s facilities and services are, as follows:

| | Actual 2006 |
|---|---------------------|
| Specific Operations Expenses | |
| Work support (Accts 6110-16) | \$ 30,947 |
| Central support (Accts 6120-24) | \$ 1,690,917 |
| Central office (Accts 6210-6232) | \$ 1,863,563 |
| Land and wire facilities (Accts 6410-41) | \$ 2,833,446 |
| Work operations (Accts 6530-35) | \$ 3,497,037 |
| Depreciation and amortization (Accts 6560-65) | \$ 7,152,045 |
| Other Operations Expenses | |
| Other services (Accts 6620-23) | \$ 2,245,710 |
| General Operations Expenses | |
| Executive and planning (Accts 6710-12) | \$ 1,004,486 |
| General and administrative (Accts 6720-28) | \$ 3,581,911 |
| Years Supported Expenses, Before Provision on Investment | \$23,900,062 |
| Provisions | |
| Depreciation (Acct 2210) | \$ 5,011,239 |
| Land and wire (Acct 2410) | \$ 7,322,739 |
| | \$12,333,978 |
| Years Supported Expenditures, Before Provision on Investment | \$36,234,040 |

SRT Communications, Inc. 2006 specific construction or upgrade projects are listed, as follows:

(All information is submitted at the study area level of the ILEC.)

(If a study area or designated service area includes geographic areas in more than one state, the information is provided at the North Dakota level.)

| Construction or Upgrade Project Name | Start Date | Completion Date | Amount of Investment | Geographic Area of Improvement | Estimated Population Served by Improvement | Description of How Will Be Improved |
|--------------------------------------|------------|-----------------|----------------------|--------------------------------|--|--|
| Consumer Growth | Jan 06 | Dec 06 | \$ 3,898,732 | SRT Study Area | 75,000 | Maintains current expansion for growth, enhanced services |
| Expansion to the | Jan 06 | Dec 06 | \$ 1,075,681 | SRT Study Area | 75,000 | Enhanced telecommunications advanced services |
| Expansion | Jan 06 | Dec 06 | \$ 2,348,326 | SRT Study Area | 75,000 | Brings fiber customer presence in greater broadband availability |
| 2 Gig | Jan 06 | Dec 06 | \$ 3,873,773 | SRT Study Area | 75,000 | Greater bandwidth |
| Improvement | Apr 06 | Dec 06 | \$ 584,673 | SRT Study Area | 75,000 | Better equipment for fire department 911 call-outs |
| Exchange IP | Jan 06 | Oct 06 | \$ 383,449 | SRT Study Area | 75,000 | Will allow Volterra customers |
| Exchange | Sept 06 | Dec 06 | \$ 104,440 | SRT Study Area | 75,000 | Expands SRT and offers a calling scope |

| oshe ild | West | Jan 06 | Dec 06 | \$ 64,904 | SRT Study Area | 75,000 | Rebuild need fire at Metigos |
|-------------|------|--------|--------|--------------|----------------|--------|---------------------------------|
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| | | | | | | | |
| Actual 2006 | | | | \$12,333,978 | | | |

Following Year's Support (2008). The ways SRT Communications, Inc. anticipates it will use the following calendar for the provision, maintenance, or upgrading of SRT Communications, Inc.'s facilities and services are, as follows:

| | <u>Estimated</u> 2008 |
|--|--------------------------|
| Specific Operations Expenses | |
| Work support (Accts 6110-16) | \$ 32,000 |
| Central support (Accts 6120-24) | \$ 1,775,000 |
| Central office (Accts 6210-6232) | \$ 1,957,000 |
| Local and wire facilities (Accts 6410-41) | \$ 2,975,000 |
| Network operations (Accts 6530-35) | \$ 3,672,000 |
| Depreciation and amortization (Accts 6560-65) | \$ 7,510,000 |
| Customer Operations Expenses | |
| Customer services (Accts 6620-23) | \$ 2,358,000 |
| Corporate Operations Expenses | |
| Executive and planning (Accts 6710-12) | \$ 1,055,000 |
| General and administrative (Accts 6720-28) | \$ 3,761,000 |
| Years Supported Expenses, Before Depreciation on Investment | <u>\$25,095,000</u> |
| Investments | |
| Equipment (Acct 2210) | \$ 2,000,000 |
| Local and wire (Acct 2410) | \$10,000,000 |
| | \$12,000,000 |
| Supported Expenditures, Before Depreciation on Investment | <u>\$37,095,000</u> |

SRT Communications, Inc. 2008 estimated construction or upgrade projects are listed, as follows:

(All information is submitted at the study area level of the ILEC.)

(If a study area or designated service area includes geographic areas in more than one state, the information is provided at the North Dakota level.)

| Construction or Upgrade Project Name | Start Date | Completion Date | Amount of Investment | Geographic Area of Improvement | Estimated Population Served by Improvement | Description of How Service Will Be Improved |
|--------------------------------------|------------|-----------------|----------------------|--------------------------------|--|--|
| One Customer to the Premise | Jan 08 | Dec 08 | \$ 4,000,000 | SRT Area Study | 75,000 | Maintains CO expansion for customer needed for enhanced services |
| Expansion | Jan 08 | Dec 08 | \$ 4,000,000 | SRT Area Study | 75,000 | Enhanced technical advanced services |
| Expansion | Jan 08 | Dec 08 | \$ 2,000,000 | SRT Area Study | 75,000 | Brings fiber closer to premise resulting in faster broadband speed available |
| Local Transport | Jan 08 | Dec 08 | \$ 2,000,000 | SRT Area Study | 75,000 | Greater bandwidth |
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| Projected 2008 | | | \$12,000,000 | | | |

