



DEPARTMENT OF  
**COMMERCE**  
COMMUNITY AND  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Sarah Palin, Governor  
Emil Notti, Commissioner  
Anthony A. Price, Chairman

Regulatory Commission of Alaska

March 28, 2008

Marlene H. Dortch  
Office of the Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW, Room TW – A306  
Washington, DC 20554

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

RE: Alaska Supplemental Certification of Universal Service Support Pursuant to 47 C.F.R Section 54.313(d)(6).

Dear Ms. Dortch and Ms. Majcher:

The Regulatory Commission of Alaska (Alaska Commission) hereby supplements its 2008 annual certification to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and Universal Service Administration Company (USAC)<sup>1</sup> on behalf of ASTAC-W.<sup>2</sup>

On January 31, 2008, the Alaska Commission granted ASTAC-W's application to be designated an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier (ETC) in the State of Alaska's Arctic Slope Telephone Association Cooperative, Inc. (ASTAC) study area<sup>3</sup> pursuant to 47 U.S.C. Section 214(e)(2).<sup>4</sup> ASTAC-W's ETC designation for the ASTAC study area became effective after the annual certification deadline of October 1, 2007.<sup>5</sup>

As such, ASTAC-W requested that the Alaska Commission file this certification letter with the FCC and USAC pursuant to 47 C.F.R. 54.314(d)(6).<sup>6</sup> That provision provides an opportunity for newly designated

<sup>1</sup> See **Attachment A**. *Alaska Certification of Support for Rural High-Cost Carriers Pursuant to 47 C.F.R. Sections 54.313-314, CC Docket Nos. 96-45 and 00-256*, filed via First Class U. S. Mail to the FCC and USAC on September 27, 2007; and electronically to the FCC on September 27, 2007 (ECFS confirmation 2007928983963/Docket 00-256 and 2007928350406/Docket 96-45).

<sup>2</sup> ASTAC Wireless, LLC. is a wholly owned subsidiary of Arctic Slope Telephone Cooperative, Inc. (ASTAC) and has been providing wireless telephone service in the ASTAC study area since that time.

<sup>3</sup> National Exchange Carrier Association Codes 613001 and 611449.

<sup>4</sup> U-07-59(4), *Order Confirming Approval of Petition, Designating Eligible Telecommunications Carrier Status and Closing Docket* (January 31, 2008) in docket U-07-59, *In the Matter of the Request by Arctic Slope Telephone Association Cooperative, Inc. for Designation of ASTAC Wireless LLC as a Carrier Eligible to Receive Universal Service Support Under the Telecommunications Act of 1996 Throughout the Study Area Served by Arctic Slope Telephone Association Cooperative, Inc.* (May 22, 2007).

<sup>5</sup> 47 C.F.R. Sections 54.313(d) and 54.314(d).

<sup>6</sup> *Motion for Certification of ASTAC Wireless LLC's Use of Federal High-Cost Universal Service Support in the ASTAC Study Area for Calendar Year 2008 and Motion for Expedited Consideration of Motion for Certification of ASTAC Wireless LLC's Use of Federal High-Cost Universal Service Support in the ASTAC Study Area for Calendar*

ETCs to receive high-cost support although, the October 1 certification deadline of 47 C.F.R. 54.314(d) has past. In part, the provision holds that if certification is received by the FCC "within 60 days of the effective date of the carrier's designation as an eligible telecommunications carrier" then a carrier such as ASTAC-W may be eligible for funding as of its ETC effective date.<sup>7</sup>

To that end, ASTAC-W has certified to the Alaska Commission that all federal high-cost universal service support received by it in 2008 for the ASTAC study area will be used pursuant to 47 U.S.C. Section 254(e).<sup>8</sup> Accordingly, the Alaska Commission certifies that to the best of its knowledge, all federal high cost support that may be provided in 2008 to ASTAC-W for the ASTAC study area will be used only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended, consistent with section 254(e) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended.

Our certification does not preclude us from reviewing in further detail how ASTAC-W has employed its federal universal service funds and ordering that use of funds comply with our directives or policies.

Sincerely,

REGULATORY COMMISSION OF ALASKA



Anthony A. Price  
Chairman

cc: Joseph M. Moran, ASTAC Wireless, LLC

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*Year 2008 Pursuant to 3 AAC 48.091(g), filed March 5, 2008. In response, on March 18, 2008 the Alaska Commission opened Docket U-08-030, In the Matter of the Request Filed by ASTAC Wireless, LLC for Certification of the Company's Use of Federal Universal Service Support for Calendar Year 2008 in the Arctic Slope Telephone Association Cooperative, Inc. Study Area.*

<sup>7</sup> 47 CFR 54.314(d)(6).

<sup>8</sup> See **Attachment B. U-07-083 Data Response and Affidavit**, filed by Remi Sun on behalf of ASTAC-W, dated March 17, 2008.

## Attachment A



DEPARTMENT OF  
**COMMERCE**  
COMMUNITY AND  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
Regulatory Commission of Alaska

*Sarah Palin, Governor*  
*Emil Notti, Commissioner*  
*Anthony A. Price, Chairman*

September 27, 2007

Marlene H. Dortch  
Office of the Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW, Room TW - A306  
Washington, DC 20554

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

RE: Alaska Certification of Support for Rural High-Cost Carriers Pursuant to 47 C.F.R.  
Sections 54.313-314, CC Docket Nos. 96-45 and 00-256

**To the Filing Representatives:**

The Regulatory Commission of Alaska (Alaska Commission) hereby certifies that to the best of its knowledge based on certifications filed by the utilities involved, all federal high cost support provided to regulated rural carriers in this state will be used only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended, consistent with section 254(e) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended. This includes High Cost Loop support and Local Switching Support, and high cost support received pursuant to the purchase of exchanges. No companies in Alaska receive High Cost Model support.

Below is a list of regulated rural carriers certified as Eligible Telecommunications Carriers (ETC's) by the Alaska Commission pursuant to sections 54.314 of the FCC's rules (47 C.F.R. § 54.314), which require states to establish an annual certification process for rural carriers receiving federal high cost support. As requested by the Universal Service Administrative Company, listed beside each carrier is its assigned study area code, if known.

ETCs subject to annual certification under 47 C.F.R. 54.314(a)	Service Area Description NECA Code	ETC Type	
		ILEC	Rural
ACS of Alaska, Inc.	Greatland - 613022 Juneau - 613012	ILEC	Rural
ACS of Fairbanks, Inc.	Fairbanks - 613008	ILEC	Rural
ACS of the Northland, Inc.	Glacier State - 613010 Sitka - 613020	ILEC	Rural
Adak Eagle Enterprises d/b/a Adak Telephone Utility	610989	ILEC	Rural
Alaska Telephone Company	613017 (all exchanges served, including previous GTE exchanges)	ILEC	Rural
Bettles Telephone, Inc.	613002	ILEC	Rural
Bush-Tell, Inc.	613004	ILEC	Rural
Copper Valley Telephone Cooperative, Inc.	613006	ILEC	Rural
GCI Communication Corp.	Fairbanks - 613008 Juneau - 613012 Greatland - 613022 MTA - 613015 Ketchikan - 603013	CLEC	Rural
Interior Telephone Company, Inc.	613011 (all exchanges served, including previous GTE areas of Seward/Moose Pass)	ILEC	Rural
Matanuska Telephone Association, Inc.	613015	ILEC	Rural
Mukluk Telephone Company, Inc.	613016 (all exchanges served, including previous GTE exchange of Nome)	ILEC	Rural
North Country Telephone, Inc.	613028	ILEC	Rural
OTZ Telephone Cooperative, Inc.	613019	ILEC	Rural
Summit Telephone and Telegraph Company of Alaska, Inc.	613028	ILEC	Rural
United Utilities, Inc.	613023, UUI certificated service area	ILEC	Rural
United-KUC, Inc.	613023, United-KUC certificated service area	ILEC	Rural
Yukon Telephone Company	613025	ILEC	Rural

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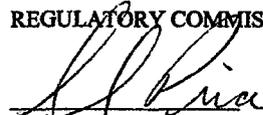
Our certification does not cover non-regulated wireline service areas and each carrier is responsible for self-certifying its compliance with Section 54.314(b) for such areas.

Our certification does not cover wireless carriers. These companies should be filing individual certifications with the FCC concerning the use of funds by a non-regulated entity.

Our certification does not preclude us from reviewing in further detail how any carrier has employed its federal universal service funds and ordering that use of funds comply with our directives or policies. Our decision does not bind us in future or pending rate cases and we reserve the right to conclude that a company should employ its universal service funding differently than it does today or in the future in light of more recent data or a more detailed review.

Sincerely,

REGULATORY COMMISSION OF ALASKA



Anthony A. Price  
Chairman

## Attachment B

### U-07-83(1) Data Response and Affidavit

Data to be provided by economically regulated Eligible Telecommunications Carriers receiving loop or switch federal universal service support.

Company Name: ASTAC Wireless, LLC Date: 3/4/08  
Contact Name: Remi Sun  
Contact Phone Number: (907) 564-2680

DATA IS TO BE PROVIDED BY SEPARATE FORM FOR EACH STUDY AREA SERVED.  
COMPANIES THAT HAVE PURCHASED GTE EXCHANGES SHOULD FILE SEPARATE FORMS  
FOR THEIR NON-GTE AND GTE AREAS.

STUDY AREA: ASTAC/GTE, 611449

Line	Data	USOA* Title	USOA* Acct. No.	Amount Received For 2006 & 2007
1		Federal Local Loop Support:		0
2		Federal Local Switching Support:		0
3		State Local Switching Support		0
4		Total Federal and State Loop and Switching Support		0

\*For companies not required to follow the Uniformed System of Accounts (USOA), please indicate your account title and number.

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5. Explain how your company employed universal service funds received in the last twelve months.

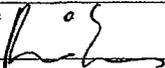
6. Explain how your company plans to employ universal service funds to be received in 2008. For example, indicate how the funds will benefit your company's expansion plans, facilities deployment, or rates charge.

ASTAC Wireless LLC will use USF support received in 2008 only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended pursuant to 47 USC 252(e) and 47 CFR 54.7. ASTAC Wireless will use the support, in part, to support network expansion in accordance with the Network Improvement Plan submitted in Docket U-07-59. Accordingly, ASTAC Wireless will utilize all federal universal service support received in the State of Alaska during the 2008 calendar year to, among other things, offer and advertise the services and functionalities supported by federal universal service support, maintain and upgrade the company's facilities and services, expand coverage, improve service quality and capacity, and enhance emergency operations.

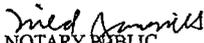
7. Affidavit:

As an authorized corporate officer of ASTAC Wireless LLC (Utility Name), the holder of Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity No. n/a, issued by the Regulatory Commission of Alaska, I declare under penalty of unsworn falsification that I have examined this form and to the best of my knowledge and belief it is true, correct, and complete.

I hereby affirm familiarity with and understanding of the requirements of the Communications Act of 1934 as Amended by The Telecommunications Act of 1996 with respect to the receipt of Universal Service Funds and affirm that such funds received in 2007 will be used only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended pursuant to 47 U.S.C. 254(e).

Signature 	Type or Print Name Remi Sun	Date 3/14/08
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Subscribed and Sworn to before me this 4TH day of March, A.D. 2008

  
NOTARY PUBLIC

3-17-2011  
Commission Expires



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