



DEPARTMENT OF  
**COMMERCE**  
COMMUNITY AND  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

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

Regulatory Commission of Alaska

May 8, 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 OTZ Telecommunications, Inc.<sup>2</sup>

On March 12, 2008, the Alaska Commission granted OTZ Telecom's application to be designated an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier (ETC) in the State of Alaska's OTZ Telephone Cooperative, Inc. (OTZ Cooperative) study area<sup>3</sup> pursuant to 47 U.S.C. Section 214(e)(2).<sup>4</sup> OTZ Telecom's ETC designation for the OTZ Cooperative study area became effective after the annual certification deadline of October 1, 2007.<sup>5</sup>

As such, OTZ Telecom 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

<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> OTZ Telecommunications, Inc. (OTZ Telecom).

<sup>3</sup> National Exchange Carrier Association Code 613019.

<sup>4</sup> U-07-115(2), *Order Designating Eligible Telecommunications Carrier Status, Subject to Conditions; Requiring Filings; And Establishing Obligations* (March 12, 2008) in docket U-07-115, *In the Matter of the Request Filed by OTZ Telecommunications, Inc. d/b/a OTZ Long Distance for Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier in the Study Area Served by OTZ Telephone Cooperative, Inc.* (September 14, 2007).

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

<sup>6</sup> *Motion for Certification of OTZ Telecommunications' Use of Federal High-Cost Universal Service Support in the Study Area Served by OTZ Telephone Cooperative Inc. for Calendar Year 2008 and Motion for Expedited Consideration*, filed April 8, 2008. In response, on March 18, 2008 the Alaska Commission opened Docket U-08-051, *In the Matter of the Request Filed by OTZ Telecommunications, Inc. d/b/a OTZ Long Distance for Certification of the company's Use of Federal Universal Service Support for Calendar Year 2008 in the OTZ Telephone cooperative Inc. Study Area*.

designated 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 OTZ Telecom may be eligible for funding as of its ETC effective date.<sup>7</sup>

To that end, OTZ Telecom has certified to the Alaska Commission that all federal high-cost universal service support received by it in 2008 for the OTZ Cooperative 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 OTZ Telecom for the OTZ Cooperative 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 OTZ Telecom 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: Heather H. Grahame, Dorsey & Whitney LLP

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

<sup>8</sup> See **Attachment B**, *U-07-083 Data Response and Affidavit*, filed by Doug Neal on behalf of OTZ Telecom, dated April 7, 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	
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.	613026	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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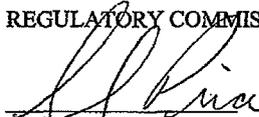
Our certification does not cover non-regulated wireline service areas and each carrier is responsible for self-certifying its compliance with Section 54.314(b) for such areas.

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(2) Data Response and Affidavit

Data to be provided by economically regulated eligible telecommunications carriers receiving loop or switch federal universal service support.

Company Name: OTZ Telecommunications, Inc.

Date: 4-7-08

Contact Name: Doug Neal

Contact Phone Number: 907-442-1000

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: OTZ Telephone Cooperative, Inc.

Line	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.

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

N/A

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.

OTZ Telecom will use the 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.

OTZ Telecom will use the universal service funds to be received in 2008 in the manner as set forth in the build-out plan it submitted in Docket U-07-115. OTZ Telecom will use the federal universal service support received in 2008 to offer and advertise the services supported by the federal universal service support, maintain and upgrade the company's facilities, expand coverage, and enhance emergency operations.

7. Affidavit:

As an authorized corporate officer of OTZ Telecommunications Group (Utility Name), the holder of Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity No. 511, 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 <i>Doug Ned</i>	Type or Print Name <i>Doug Ned</i>	Date <i>4-9-08</i>
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Subscribed and Sworn to before me this 7<sup>th</sup> day of April, A.D. 2008

*Elsie Ann Sieh*  
NOTARY PUBLIC

NOTARY PUBLIC  
Elsie Ann Sieh  
STATE OF ALASKA

*August 5, 2009*  
Commission Expires