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January 6, 2010

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**VIA FEDERAL EXPRESS**

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
Office of the Secretary  
9300 East Hampton Drive  
Capitol Heights, MD 20743

**Re: WC Docket No. 09-197  
Eligible Telecommunications Carrier Certification and 2009 Annual Report  
of RCC Minnesota, Inc. for the State of Alabama  
Supplemental Filing**

Dear Ms. Dortch:

RCC Minnesota, Inc. ("RCC") hereby submits the original and four (4) copies of the following supplemental information to the annual report required by Commission Rule 47 C.F.R. § 54.209:

- PUBLIC VERSION OF ELIGIBLE TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIER CERTIFICATION AND 2009 ANNUAL REPORT OF RCC MINNESOTA, INC. FOR THE STATE OF ALABAMA – SUPPLEMENTAL FILING
  - Public Version of Supplement to Confidential Exhibit A – Progress Report on 2008 Service Improvement Plan previously filed with the Commission with revised map
- (separate marked envelope) CONFIDENTIAL VERSION OF ELIGIBLE TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIER CERTIFICATION AND 2009 ANNUAL REPORT OF RCC MINNESOTA, INC. FOR THE STATE OF ALABAMA – SUPPLEMENTAL FILING
  - Supplement to Confidential Exhibit A – Progress Report on 2008 Service Improvement Plan previously filed with the Commission with revised map
- REQUEST FOR CONFIDENTIAL TREATMENT OF EXHIBITS TO ELIGIBLE TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIER CERTIFICATION AND 2009 ANNUAL REPORT OF RCC MINNESOTA, INC. FOR THE STATE OF ALABAMA – SUPPLEMENTAL FILING

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary  
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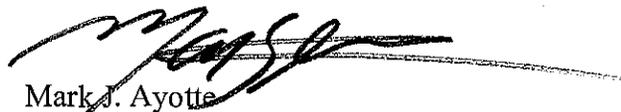
Alltel's Request for Confidential Treatment pursuant to 47 C.F.R. §§ 0.457(d) and 0.459 is made with respect to the Supplements to Confidential Exhibit A Appendix A-1 and Appendix A-2. These confidential materials are enclosed in a separate, marked envelope.

This filing is submitted for the study area listed below:

State	Spin	Study Area Code	Study Area Name
AL	143008900	289002	RCC Minnesota, Inc.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

Respectfully submitted,



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Matthew A. Slaven  
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cc: Universal Service Administrative Company  
(via email – [hccerts@usac.org](mailto:hccerts@usac.org)) (public version only)  
Nicholas Degani – FCC  
(via email – [nicholas.degani@fcc.gov](mailto:nicholas.degani@fcc.gov)) (confidential version only)  
RCC Minnesota, Inc.



For the reasons stated herein, RCC Minnesota, Inc. (“RCC” or the “Company”) hereby requests that the Supplements to **Confidential Exhibit A** (Progress Report on 2008 Service Improvement Plan previously filed with the Commission) to the attached Supplemental Filing – Eligible Telecommunications Carrier Certification and 2009 Annual Report of RCC Minnesota, Inc. for the State of Alabama, be treated as confidential and not routinely available for public inspection pursuant to 47 C.F.R. §§ 0.457(d) and 0.459. Redacted copies of **Confidential Exhibit A Appendix A-1** and **Appendix A-2** are being filed separately today for inclusion in the public record.

The Supplements to **Confidential Exhibit A** contain information that qualifies as “commercial or financial information” that “would customarily be guarded from competitors,” regardless of whether or not such materials are protected from disclosure by a privilege. *See* 47 C.F.R. § 0.457(d); *see also Critical Mass Energy Project v. NRC*, 975 F.2d 871, 879 (D.C. Cir. 1992) (“[W]e conclude that financial or commercial information provided to the Government on a voluntary basis is ‘confidential’ for the purpose of Exemption 4 if it is the kind that would customarily not be released to the public by the person from whom it was obtained.”).

The confidential information contained in the Supplement to **Confidential Exhibit A Appendix A-2** relates to the details for an unfulfilled service improvement project by RCC for its designated area in Alabama. The information is provided in response to the Wireline Competition Bureau’s request for a more detailed description and explanation of the project. Similarly, the Bureau has requested that RCC provide more detailed signal coverage maps showing smaller geographic areas, labeled wire centers and the locations of projects completed in 2008 and projected for later years in the service improvement plan. The Supplement to **Confidential Exhibit A Appendix A-1** includes a signal coverage map that illustrate, among

other things, the location of historical and projected infrastructure improvements in the designated area.

The Supplements to **Confidential Exhibit A** contain sensitive information that if disclosed could place RCC at a competitive disadvantage, including specific information regarding capital expenditures and future construction projections that warrant protection under 47 C.F.R. § 0.459. RCC would be placed at a significant disadvantage if this information were revealed to competing service providers, who stand to benefit competitively from any knowledge of the redacted commercial and financial information included in these materials. If the redacted commercial and financial information were disclosed to competitors of RCC, they could use such information to compete against RCC or take other action that would place the Company at a substantial competitive disadvantage. In addition, RCC's future ability to negotiate with vendors could be prejudiced by the disclosure of this information. The redacted material is not and has not previously been made available to the public, and RCC has taken internal precautions to ensure that such information is not disclosed to the public.

The Commission has previously determined that information relating to a Service Improvement Plan is "Confidential" and has granted a Protective Order to allow access and to protect against the dissemination of such "Confidential" information.<sup>1</sup> The Commission routinely grants Protective Orders to protect the confidentiality of such information.<sup>2</sup> Since the

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<sup>1</sup> See *In the Matter of High-Cost Universal Service Support, Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service, Alltel Communications, Inc. et al. Petitions for Designation as Eligible Telecommunications Carriers, RCC Minnesota, Inc. and RCC Atlantic, Inc. New Hampshire ETC Designation Amendment*, WC Docket 05-337, CC Docket 96-45, Order, FCC 08-122 (rel. May 1, 2008); *In the Matter of Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service, RCC Holdings, Inc. Petition for Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier*, CC Docket 96-45, Order, DA 02-3181 (rel. Nov. 27, 2002).

<sup>2</sup> See *In the Matter of Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service Petition of Cingular Wireless, LLC for Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier in the State of Georgia*, CC Docket No. 96-45, Order, DA 07-3627, ¶¶ 1-3 (rel. Aug. 15, 2007); *In the Matter of Federal-State Joint Board on*

information in the Supplements to **Confidential Exhibit A** consist of a detailed report and signal coverage map relating to RCC's previously filed Service Improvement Plan, they should be afforded "Confidential" status.

Respectfully submitted,

January 6, 2010

  
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ATTORNEYS FOR RCC MINNESOTA, INC.

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*Universal Service NEP Cellcorp, Inc. Application for Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, CC Docket No. 96-45, Order, DA 07-3628, ¶ 2 (rel. Aug. 15, 2007); In the Matter of Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service Petition of Centennial USVI Operations Corp. Petition for Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier in the United States Virgin Islands, CC Docket No. 96-45, Order, DA 07-3979, ¶ 2 (rel. Sept. 20, 2007).*

**PUBLIC VERSION  
CONFIDENTIAL VERSION FILED UNDER SEPARATE COVER**

**Before the  
Federal Communications Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20554**

**In the Matter of** )  
 ) **WC Docket No. 09-197**  
**Federal-State Joint Board on** )  
**Universal Service** )

**ELIGIBLE TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIER CERTIFICATION  
AND 2009 ANNUAL REPORT OF  
RCC MINNESOTA, INC. FOR THE STATE OF ALABAMA**

**SUPPLEMENTAL FILING**

**Background**

47 C.F.R. § 54.209(a) requires a common carrier designated by the Commission as an ETC pursuant to Section 214(e)(6) of the Act to annually report certain information no later than October 1 of each calendar year. In satisfaction of the Commission's annual reporting requirement, RCC Minnesota, Inc. ("RCC") submitted its Annual Report on September 28, 2009 for the period January 1, 2008 through December 31, 2008 (the "Annual Report"). On December 1, 2009, RCC received a request from the Wireline Competition Bureau ("WCB") seeking additional information relating to its Annual Report. RCC respectfully submits this Supplemental Filing in response to the WCB's December 1, 2009 request for additional information.

The information contained in this filing represents commercial and financial trade secrets regarding RCC's network build-out plans and other matters that are highly sensitive due to the competitive nature of the commercial wireless industry. Accordingly, contemporaneous with this filing, RCC is making a filing to request that the Commission

**PUBLIC VERSION**  
**CONFIDENTIAL VERSION FILED UNDER SEPARATE COVER**

treat this data as confidential and withhold it from public inspection, pursuant to Sections 0.457(d)(1) and 0.459 of the rules.

Progress Report on Service Improvement Plan

47 C.F.R. § 54.209(a)(1) requires an ETC to file a progress report on its Service Improvement Plan. 47 C.F.R. § 54.209(a)(1) specifically requires:

A progress report on its five-year service quality improvement plan, including maps detailing its progress towards meeting its plan targets, an explanation of how much universal service support was received and how it was used to improve signal quality, coverage, or capacity, and an explanation regarding any network improvement targets that have not been fulfilled. The information shall be submitted at the wire center level.

RCC submitted a progress report on its Service Improvement Plan for the period January 1, 2008 through December 31, 2008 as Confidential Exhibit A to the Annual Report. RCC's progress report included details of the Company's progress toward meeting its plan targets in 2008, an explanation of how much universal service support was received in 2008 and how it was used to improve signal quality, coverage or capacity in 2008, an explanation regarding network improvement targets that were not met, and a coverage map. On December 1, 2009 the WCB requested additional details relating to the one unfulfilled service improvement project summarized in Confidential Appendix A-2. The attached Supplement to Confidential Appendix A-2 provides an explanation of the unfulfilled service improvement project.

RCC's progress report also included a map detailing the Company's progress toward meeting its plan targets. The map submitted by RCC as part of Confidential Appendix A-1 identified (a) the ETC designated wire centers; and (b) signal coverage at the end of calendar year 2008 (including signal coverage enhancements from projects completed in 2008). The WCB requested that RCC provide the following: (a) signal

coverage maps focused on a smaller geographic area; (b) the depiction and labeling of ETC designated wire centers; (c) the identification of projects completed in 2008; and (d) the identification of projected projects included in RCC's five year Service Improvement Plan. Attached to this Supplemental Filing are revised maps as Supplement to Confidential Appendix A-1. Supplement to Confidential Appendix A-1 also reflects the enhanced coverage that resulted from the integration of the RCC and Verizon Wireless networks.

Respectfully submitted,

RCC Minnesota, Inc.

By

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark R. Smith", written over a horizontal line.

Mark R. Smith  
Assistant Secretary

Confidential Exhibits Attached

**PUBLIC VERSION  
CONFIDENTIAL VERSION FILED UNDER SEPARATE COVER**

RCC Minnesota, Inc.  
SAC 289002

**Supplement to Confidential Appendix A-1**

**THIS EXHIBIT IS WITHHELD FROM THE PUBLIC COPY  
AS THE FILER HAD REQUESTED CONFIDENTIAL TREATMENT**

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CONFIDENTIAL VERSION FILED UNDER SEPARATE COVER**

RCC Minnesota, Inc.  
SAC 289002

**Supplement to Confidential Appendix A-2**

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