

Project # 24481

Donna L. Nelson
Chairman

Kenneth W. Anderson, Jr.
Commissioner

Rolando Pablos
Commissioner

Brian H. Lloyd
Executive Director



Rick Perry
Governor

Public Utility Commission of Texas

December 14, 2011

Marlene H. Dortch
Office of the Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W., Room TW-A306
Washington, D.C. 20554

Karen Majcher
Vice President, High Cost & Low Income Division
Universal Service Administrative Company
2000 L Street, N.W., Suite 200
Washington, D.C. 20036

**RE: State Certification of Federal High-Cost Support, CC Docket No. 96-45.
Late Filed Affidavit**

To the Filing Representatives:

Texas Hearing Services Corporation d/b/a Texas Hearing and Telephone ("Texas Hearing" or the "Company") has been certified by the Public Utility Commission of Texas (Texas PUC) in accordance with 47 C.F.R. §§ 54.313 and 54.314¹, which established an annual state certification process for those carriers that have received eligible telecommunications carrier (ETC) designation in Texas seeking high-cost support from the federal universal service fund. **Texas Hearing filed their affidavit late, that is, after the October 1, 2011 deadline for certification to receive federal universal service funds.** The Company has certified to the Texas PUC that all federal high-cost support² provided to them will be used only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended, consistent with § 254(e) of the Federal Telecommunications Act. Texas Hearing is providing service in non-rural wire centers and has been assigned study area code (SAC) 449062.

¹ See Federal Communications Commission's (FCC's) *Fourteenth Report and Order, Twenty Second Order on Reconsideration, and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking* in CC Docket No. 96-45, and *Report and Order* in CC Docket No. 00-256 (May 23, 2001).

² This includes high-cost loop support, local switching support, high-cost model support, hold harmless support, and high-cost support received pursuant to the purchase of exchanges.

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If there are any questions regarding this matter, please contact Liz Kayser at 512-936-7390 in our Competitive Markets Division.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Pam Whittington". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Pamela Whittington
Division Director
Competitive Markets Division