

**FCC CC Docket No. 96-45  
Section 254(e), 47 C.F.R. § 54.314**

**Certification of  
Ben Lomand Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc.**

**AFFIDAVIT**

I, Trevor R. Bonnsetter, CEO of Ben Lomand Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc. do hereby certify under penalties of perjury that:

1. My name is Trevor R. Bonnsetter. I am employed by Ben Lomand Rural Telephone Cooperative in the position of CEO. In this position, I am personally familiar with the Federal Universal Service support received by the Cooperative and how the Cooperative uses these funds.
2. Ben Lomand Rural Telephone Cooperative (TN-Study Area 290553) as designated as an (ETC) eligible telecommunications carrier by the Federal Communications Commission.
3. The Company is a “rural telephone company” as defined in 47 U.S.C. §153(37);
4. Ben Lomand Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc. estimates receiving approximately \$3.5 million in Federal Universal Service high-cost support during January 1, 2013 to December 31, 2013 time period. All Federal high-cost Universal Service support provided to the Cooperative was used in the preceding calendar year and will be used in the coming calendar year only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended, as designated by the Federal Communications Commission consistent with Section 254 (e) of the Federal Telecommunications Act. These funds will be used to provide the supported service – voice telephony service as outlined in 47CFR 54.101 (a), which are available to any customer in the Cooperative’s service area. This supported service includes: voice grade access to the public switched network; minutes of use for local service provided at no additional charge; access to emergency services provided by local government or other public safety organizations, such as 911 and enhanced 911, to the extent the local government in the Cooperative’s service area has implemented 911 or enhanced 911 systems.
5. Ben Lomand Rural Telephone Cooperative follows Federal Communications Commission Part 32 accounting requirements for regulated local exchange carriers and Part 36 separations provisions used to determine high cost support amounts. As a regulated utility, Ben Lomand Rural Telephone Cooperative’s accounting and separations procedures are subject to periodic National Exchange Carrier Association and Tennessee Regulatory Authority reviews.
6. While continuing to receive amounts of Federal Universal Service support as described and using this support for the purpose as described, Ben Lomand Rural Telephone Cooperative does not anticipate increasing local rates nor withdrawing any services; therefore, the comparability of rates and service between the rural areas served by Ben

Lomand Rural Telephone Cooperative will not be changed because of any action on part of Ben Lomand Rural Telephone Cooperative.

The matters addressed above are within my personal knowledge and are true and correct.

Signature:  Date: October 18, 2013  
Print Name: Trevor R. Bonnstetter

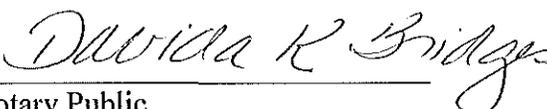
Title: CEO

State of Kentucky, County of Graves

BEFORE ME, the undersigned Notary in and for the State of Kentucky, on this day personally appeared Trevor R. Bonnstetter, known to me to be the Declarant, who, being duly sworn, executed the foregoing instrument.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 25th day of July, 2012.

My Commission expires 04-14-14.

  
Notary Public

(seal)