

Received & inspected

OCT 30 2013

REDACTED – FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION

FCC Mail Room

October 25, 2013

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary
445 12th St, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

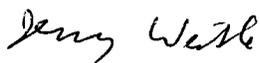
RE: WC Docket No. 10-90, WC Docket No. 11-42
FCC Form 481 – Carrier Annual Reporting
Ellerbe Telephone Company

Dear Secretary:

This FCC Form 481- Carrier Annual Reporting is being submitted on behalf of Ellerbe Telephone Company in accordance with FCC Rules 54.313 and 54.422. There are two copies of a Redacted – For Public Inspection version. In addition there is one copy with financial information marked as confidential information in accordance with a November 16, 2013 Protective Order, DA12-1857. A Redacted – For Public Inspection version is also being filed via ECFS.

If there are any questions, I can be reached at 704.699.9451.

Sincerely,



Jerry Weikle
Consultant to Ellerbe Telephone Company

Attachments

cc: Charles Tyler, Telecommunications Access Policy Division (Two Confidential Copies)

No. of Copies rec'd 0+1
List ABCDE

FCC Form 481 – Carrier Annual Reporting Data Collection Form	FCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3080-1086/OMB Control No. 3080-1085 July 2013
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<010> Study Area Code	230478	Received & Inspected
<015> Study Area Name	ELLERBE TEL CO	OCT 9 0 2013
<020> Program Year	2014	FCC Mail Room
<030> Contact Name: Person USAC should contact with questions about this data	Jerry Weikle	
<035> Contact Telephone Number: Number of the person identified in data line <030>	704 782 7738	
<039> Contact Email Address: Email of the person identified in data line <030>	jweikle@windstream.net	

ANNUAL REPORTING FOR ALL CARRIERS	54.913 Completion Required	54.422 Completion Required
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			(check box when complete)	
<100> Service Quality Improvement Reporting	<i>(complete attached worksheet)</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<200> Outage Reporting (voice)	<i>(complete attached worksheet)</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<210>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <-- check box if no outages to report			
<300> Unfulfilled Service Requests (voice)	0		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<310> Detail on Attempts (voice)	<i>(attach descriptive document)</i>			
<320> Unfulfilled Service Requests (broadband)				
<330> Detail on Attempts (broadband)	<i>(attach descriptive document)</i>			
<400> Number of Complaints per 1,000 customers (voice)			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<410> Fixed	0.0			
<420> Mobile				
<430> Number of Complaints per 1,000 customers (broadband)				
<440> Fixed				
<450> Mobile				
<500> Service Quality Standards & Consumer Protection Rules Compliance	<i>(check to indicate certification)</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<510>	230478NC510 <i>(attached descriptive document)</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<600> Functionality in Emergency Situations	<i>(check to indicate certification)</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<610>	230478NC610 <i>(attached descriptive document)</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<700> Company Price Offerings (voice)	<i>(complete attached worksheet)</i>			
<710> Company Price Offerings (broadband)	<i>(complete attached worksheet)</i>			
<800> Operating Companies and Affiliates	<i>(complete attached worksheet)</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<900> Tribal Land Offerings (Y/N)?	○ ● <i>(if yes, complete attached worksheet)</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<1000> Voice Services Rate Comparability	<i>(check to indicate certification)</i>			
<1010>	<i>(attach descriptive document)</i>			
<1100> Terrestrial Backhaul (Y/N)?	● ○ <i>(if not, check to indicate certification)</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<1110>	<i>(complete attached worksheet)</i>			
<1200> Terms and Condition for Lifeline Customers	<i>(complete attached worksheet)</i>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Price Cap Carriers, Proceed to Price Cap Additional Documentation Worksheet

Including Rate-of-Return Carriers affiliated with Price Cap Local Exchange Carriers

<2000>	<i>(check to indicate certification)</i>			
<2005>	<i>(complete attached worksheet)</i>			

Rate of Return Carriers, Proceed to ROR Additional Documentation Worksheet

<3000>	<i>(check to indicate certification)</i>			
<3005>	<i>(complete attached worksheet)</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

(100) Service Quality Improvement Reporting Data Collection Form	FCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 July 2013
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<010>	Study Area Code	230478
<015>	Study Area Name	ELLERBE TEL CO
<020>	Program Year	2014
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Jerry Weikle
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	704 782 7738
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	jweikle@windstream.net

<110>	Has your company received its ETC certification from the FCC?	(yes / no) <input type="radio"/> <input checked="" type="radio"/>
<111>	If your answer to Line <110> is yes, do you have an existing §54.202(a) "5 year plan" filed with the FCC?	(yes / no) <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>

If your answer to Line <111> is yes, then you are required to file a progress report, on line <112> delineating the status of your company's existing § 54.202(a) "5 year plan" on file with the FCC, as it relates to your provision of voice telephony service.

<112> Attach Five-Year Service Quality Improvement Plan or, in subsequent years, your annual progress report filed pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 54.313(a)(1). If your company is a CETC which only receives frozen support, your progress report is only required to address voice telephony service.

Name of Attached Document (.pdf)

Please check these boxes below to confirm that the attached PDF, on line 112, contains a progress report on its five-year service quality improvement plan pursuant to § 54.202(a). The information shall be submitted at the wire center level or census block as appropriate.

<113> Maps detailing progress towards meeting plan targets		<input type="checkbox"/>
<114> Report how much universal service (USF) support was received		<input type="checkbox"/>
<115> How (USF) was used to improve service quality		<input type="checkbox"/>
<116> How (USF) was used to improve service coverage		<input type="checkbox"/>
<117> How (USF) was used to improve service capacity		<input type="checkbox"/>
<118> Provide an explanation of network improvement targets not met in the prior calendar year.		<input type="checkbox"/>

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(900) Tribal Lands Reporting Data Collection Form	FCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 July 2013
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<010>	Study Area Code	230478
<015>	Study Area Name	ELLERBE TEL CO
<020>	Program Year	2014
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Jerry Weikle
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	704 782 7738
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	jweikle@windstream.net

<910> Tribal Land(s) on which ETC Serves

<920> Tribal Government Engagement Obligation

 Name of Attached Document (.pdf)

If your company serves Tribal lands, please select (Yes, No, NA) for each these boxes to confirm the status described on the attached PDF, on line 920, demonstrates coordination with the Tribal government pursuant to § 54.313(a)(9) includes:

- <921> Needs assessment and deployment planning with a focus on Tribal community anchor institutions;
- <922> Feasibility and sustainability planning;
- <923> Marketing services in a culturally sensitive manner;
- <924> Compliance with Rights of way processes
- <925> Compliance with Land Use permitting requirements
- <926> Compliance with Facilities Siting rules
- <927> Compliance with Environmental Review processes
- <928> Compliance with Cultural Preservation review processes
- <929> Compliance with Tribal Business and Licensing requirements.

Select (Yes, No, NA)

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(1100) No Terrestrial Backhaul Reporting Data Collection Form	FCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 July 2013
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<010>	Study Area Code	230478
<015>	Study Area Name	ELLERBE TEL CO
<020>	Program Year	2014
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Jerry Weikle
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	704 782 7738
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	jweikle@windstream.net

<1120> Please check this box to confirm no terrestrial backhaul options exist within the supported area pursuant to § 54.313(G)

<1130> Please check this box to confirm the reporting carrier offers broadband service of at least 1 Mbps downstream and 256 kbps upstream within the supported area pursuant to § 54.313(G)

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(1200) Terms and Condition for Lifeline Customers Lifeline Data Collection Form	FCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 July 2013
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<010>	Study Area Code	230478
<015>	Study Area Name	ELLERBE TEL CO
<020>	Program Year	2014
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Jerry Weikle
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	704 782 7738
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	jweikle@windstream.net

<1210> Terms & Conditions of Voice Telephony Lifeline Plans 230478NC1210

Name of attached document (.pdf)

<1220> Link to Public Website HTTP _____

"Please check these boxes below to confirm that the attached PDF, on line 1210, or the website listed, on line 1220, contains the required information pursuant to § 54.422(a)(2) annual reporting for ETCs receiving low-income support, carriers must annually report:

- <1221> Information describing the terms and conditions of any voice telephony service plans offered to Lifeline subscribers,
- <1222> Details on the number of minutes provided as part of the plan,
- <1223> Additional charges for toll calls, and rates for each such plan.

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(2000) Price Cap Carrier Additional Documentation
Data Collection Form
Including Rate-of-Return Carriers affiliated with Price Cap Local Exchange Carriers

FCC Form 481
 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
 July 2013

<010>	Study Area Code	230478
<015>	Study Area Name	ELLERBE TEL CO
<020>	Program Year	2014
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Jerry Weikle
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	704 782 7738
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	jweikle@windstream.net

CHECK the boxes below to note compliance as a recipient of Incremental Connect America Phase I support, frozen High Cost support, High Cost support to offset access charge reductions, and Connect America Phase II support as set forth in 47 CFR § 54.313(b),(c),(d),(e) the information reported on this form and in the documents attached below is accurate.

Incremental Connect America Phase I reporting

- <2010> 2nd Year Certification (47 CFR § 54.313(b)(1))
- <2011> 3rd Year Certification (47 CFR § 54.313(b)(2))

Price Cap Carrier Receiving Frozen Support Certification (47 CFR § 54.312(a))

- <2012> 2013 Frozen Support Certification
- <2013> 2014 Frozen Support Certification
- <2014> 2015 Frozen Support Certification
- <2015> 2016 and future Frozen Support Certification

Price Cap Carrier Connect America ICC Support (47 CFR § 54.313(d))

- <2016> Certification Support Used to Build Broadband

Connect America Phase II Reporting (47 CFR § 54.313(e))

- <2017> 3rd year Broadband Service Certification
- <2018> 5th year Broadband Service Certification
- <2019> Interim Progress Certification
- <2020> Please check the box to confirm that the attached PDF, on line 2021, contains the required information pursuant to § 54.313 (e)(3)(ii), as a recipient of CAF Phase II support shall provide the number, names, and addresses of community anchor institutions to which began providing access to broadband service in the preceding calendar year.

<2021> Interim Progress Community Anchor Institutions Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information _____

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[3000] Rate Of Return Carrier Additional Documentation
Data Collection Form
 FCC Form 481
 OMB Control No. 3060-0985/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
 July 2013

<010> Study Area Code	230478
<015> Study Area Name	ELLERBE TEL CO
<020> Program Year	2014
<030> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Jerry Weikle
<035> Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	704 782 7738
<039> Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	jweikle@windstream.net

CHECK the boxes below to note compliance on its five year service quality plan (pursuant to 47 CFR § 54.202(a)) and, for privately held carriers, ensuring compliance with the financial reporting requirements set forth in 47 CFR § 54.313(f)(2). I further certify that the information reported on this form and in the documents attached below is accurate.

Progress Report on 5 Year Plan

<p>(3010) Milestone Certification (47 CFR § 54.313(f)(1)(i)) Please check this box to confirm that the attached PDF, on line 3012, contains the required information pursuant to § 54.313 (f)(1)(ii), as a recipient of CAF Phase II support shall provide the number, names, and addresses of community anchor institutions to which began providing access to broadband service in the preceding calendar year.</p>	<p>Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information</p> <p>_____</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>(3012) Community Anchor Institutions (47 CFR § 54.313(f)(1)(ii)) (3013) Is your company a Privately Held ROR Carrier (47 CFR § 54.313(f)(2)) (3014) If yes, does your company file the RUS annual report Please check these boxes to confirm that the attached PDF, on line 3017, contains the required information pursuant to § 54.313(f)(2) compliance requires: (3015) Electronic copy of their annual RUS reports (Operating Report for Telecommunications Borrowers) (3016) PDF of Balance Sheet, Income Statement and Statement of Cash Flows (3017) If the response is yes on line 3014, attach your company's RUS annual report and all required documentation (3018) If the response is no on line 3014, Is your company audited? If the response is yes on line 3018, please check the boxes below to confirm your submission, on line 3026 pursuant to § 54.313(f)(2), contains: (3019) Either a copy of their audited financial statement; or (2) a financial report in a format comparable to RUS Operating Report for Telecommunications (3020) PDF of Balance Sheet, Income Statement and Statement of Cash Flows (3021) Management letter issued by the independent certified public accountant that performed the company's financial audit. If the response is no on line 3018, please check the boxes below to confirm your submission, on line 3026 pursuant to § 54.313(f)(2), contains: (3022) Copy of their financial statement which has been subject to review by an independent certified public accountant; or 2) a financial report in a format comparable to RUS Operating Report for Telecommunications Borrowers, (3023) Underlying information subjected to a review by an independent certified public accountant (3024) Underlying information subjected to an officer certification. (3025) PDF of Balance Sheet, Income Statement and Statement of Cash Flows (3026) Attach the worksheet listing required information</p>	<p>Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information</p> <p>_____</p> <p>230478NC3017</p> <p>Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information</p> <p>_____</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (Yes/No) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (Yes/No)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> (Yes/No)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p>

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Certification - Reporting Carrier Data Collection Form	FCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3050-0086/OMB Control No. 3040-0019 May 2013
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<010> Study Area Code	230478
<015> Study Area Name	ELLERBE TEL CO
<020> Program Year	2014
<030> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Jerry Weikle
<035> Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	704 782 7738
<039> Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	jweikle@windstream.net

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE REPORTING CARRIER, IF THE REPORTING CARRIER IS FILING ANNUAL REPORTING ON ITS OWN BEHALF:

Certification of Officer as to the Accuracy of the Data Reported for the Annual Reporting for CAF or LI Recipients	
I certify that I am an officer of the reporting carrier; my responsibilities include ensuring the accuracy of the annual reporting requirements for universal service support recipients; and, to the best of my knowledge, the information reported on this form and in any attachments is accurate.	
Name of Reporting Carrier:	ELLERBE TEL CO
Signature of Authorized Officer:	CERTIFIED ONLINE Date 10/14/2013
Printed name of Authorized Officer:	dan bennett
Title or position of Authorized Officer:	president
Telephone number of Authorized Officer:	910-652-2221
Study Area Code of Reporting Carrier:	230478 Filing Due Date for this form: 10/15/2013
Persons willfully making false statements on this form can be punished by fine or forfeiture under the Communications Act of 1934, 47 U.S.C. §§ 502, 503(b), or fine or imprisonment under Title 18 of the United States Code, 18 U.S.C. § 1001.	

Certification - Agent / Carrier Data Collection Form	FCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3050-0082/EAR Control No. 3045-0012 July 2013
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<010> Study Area Code	230478
<015> Study Area Name	ELLERBB TEL CO
<020> Program Year	2014
<030> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Jerry Weikle
<035> Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	704 782 7738
<039> Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	jweikle@windstream.net

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE REPORTING CARRIER, IF AN AGENT IS FILING ANNUAL REPORTS ON THE CARRIER'S BEHALF:

Certification of Officer to Authorize an Agent to File Annual Reports for CAF or LI Recipients on Behalf of Reporting Carrier	
I certify that (Name of Agent) _____ is authorized to submit the information reported on behalf of the reporting carrier. I also certify that I am an officer of the reporting carrier; my responsibilities include ensuring the accuracy of the annual data reporting requirements provided to the authorized agent; and, to the best of my knowledge, the reports and data provided to the authorized agent is accurate.	
Name of Authorized Agent: _____	
Name of Reporting Carrier: _____	
Signature of Authorized Officer: _____	Date: _____
Printed name of Authorized Officer: _____	
Title or position of Authorized Officer: _____	
Telephone number of Authorized Officer: _____	
Study Area Code of Reporting Carrier: _____	Filing Due Date for this form: _____
Persons willfully making false statements on this form can be punished by fine or forfeiture under the Communications Act of 1934, 47 U.S.C. §§ 502, 503(b), or fine or imprisonment under Title 18 of the United States Code, 18 U.S.C. § 1001.	

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE AUTHORIZED AGENT:

Certification of Agent Authorized to File Annual Reports for CAF or LI Recipients on Behalf of Reporting Carrier	
I, as agent for the reporting carrier, certify that I am authorized to submit the annual reports for universal service support recipients on behalf of the reporting carrier; I have provided the data reported herein based on data provided by the reporting carrier; and, to the best of my knowledge, the information reported herein is accurate.	
Name of Reporting Carrier: _____	
Name of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent: _____	
Signature of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent: _____	Date: _____
Printed name of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent: _____	
Title or position of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent: _____	
Telephone number of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent: _____	
Study Area Code of Reporting Carrier: _____	Filing Due Date for this form: _____
Persons willfully making false statements on this form can be punished by fine or forfeiture under the Communications Act of 1934, 47 U.S.C. §§ 502, 503(b), or fine or imprisonment under Title 18 of the United States Code, 18 U.S.C. § 1001.	

Attachments

Ellerbe Telephone
 Service Quality Standards and Consumer Protection Rules Compliance Explanation
 Line 510

Service Quality

Ellerbe Telephone Company is regulated by the North Carolina Utilities Commission (NCUC). The NCUC has service quality rules in effect that Ellerbe must comply with and the rules are found in NCUC Chapter 9, Rule R9-8. Here is a link to Chapter 9 rules located on the NCUC website:
<http://www.ncuc.net/ncrules/Chapter09.pdf>

Rule R9-8 requires that certain service objectives be met and that company results be reported to the NCUC on a quarterly basis within 45 days after the end of each quarter. Ellerbe has set up procedures and processes to remain in compliance with the Rule R9-8 objectives. This includes maintaining procedures and processes to record monthly results, tabulate them, and report them to the NCUC.

During the calendar year 2012, Ellerbe met all required NCUC service quality objectives. The NCUC objectives are listed below:

Rule R9-8. Service objectives for regulated local exchange telephone companies and competing local providers (CLPs).

(a) Service Objectives. Each regulated local exchange telephone company and CLP shall perform and provide service in accordance with the following uniform service objectives:

<i>Measure No.</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Objective</i>
1	Intraoffice completion rate	99% or more
2	Interoffice completion rate	98% or more
3	EAS transmission loss	95% or more between 2 and 10 dB
4	EAS trunk noise	95% or more 30 dBrc or less
5	Operator "0" answertime	90% or more of calls answered within 10 seconds or ASA of 6 seconds
6	Directory assistance answertime	85% or more of calls answered within 10 seconds or ASA of 6 seconds
7	Business office answertime	ASA of 30 seconds
8	Repair service answertime	ASA of 30 seconds
9	Initial customer trouble reports	4.75 or less per 100 total access lines
10	Repeat reports	1.0 report or less per 100 total access lines

11	Out-of-service troubles cleared within 24 Hours	95% or more
12	Regular service orders completed within 5 working days	90% or more
13	New service installation appointments not met for Company reasons	5% or less
14	New service held orders not completed within 30 days	0.1% or less of total access lines

Consumer Protection

Ellerbe Telephone Company is committed to maintain the privacy of customer information. In addition to protecting personal information the company is obligated to protect information on how customers use their services. Ellerbe Telephone Company follows all requirements the FCC has mandated concerning Customer Proprietary Network Information (CPNI). As required, Ellerbe files annual CPNI compliance certifications with the FCC by March 1 each year.

Ellerbe Telephone Company also has an Identity Theft Prevention Program in place to comply with Red Flag Identity Theft prevention rules. This program ensures that no information pertaining to our customers is compromised and that information from new customers is accurate and does not represent a stolen identity.

Ellerbe Telephone
Functionality in Emergency Situations
Line 610

Backup/Emergency Power

Ellerbe Telephone's main Central Office has both battery backup and permanent mounted generator backup. When commercial power fails, batteries carry all central office equipment until the generator comes on within one minute of power failure. If the generator fails to come on, batteries can carry the central office for 12-16 hours.

One remote switch has both battery backup and permanent mounted generator backup. When commercial power fails, batteries carry all central office equipment until the generator comes on within one minute of power failure. If the generator fails to come on, batteries can carry the equipment for 16-18 hours.

Both generators at the main Central Office and the remote switch are propane powered and can run for 5-7 days on their fuel supply.

All small remote switches have battery backup that can carry the equipment for 6-10 hours in the event of commercial power failure. They also have ports where a portable generator will be connected to supply power to the remote. These portable generators are gasoline powered and can run for 4-6 hours on their fuel supply. During the event of an emergency, these portable generators are resupplied with fuel on a regular basis.

Network Facilities

Ellerbe is located in the Wilmington, NC LATA and connects to an AT&T Central Office in Rockingham, NC to connect to the Laurinburg, NC tandem. Ellerbe has redundant fiber facilities that connect to the Rockingham office that are on different geographic routes. During times of an emergency or damage to facilities, traffic is rerouted over redundant facilities as needed.

Priority Line Assignments

Ellerbe's Central Office switch is a Genband DMS-10. This switch is configured with a certain number "priority" line assignments in each line assignment group. Ellerbe assigns local municipal, fire, EMS, and rescue telephone numbers to these priority line assignment positions. Should the switch get in an overload status because of a traffic spike, it automatically prioritizes these positions to remain in service before non-priority line assignments.

Ellerbe Telephone
Lifeline Terms and Conditions
Line 1210

As a state regulated wireline carrier, Ellerbe Telephone offers Lifeline service in accordance with FCC rules and terms and conditions in its tariff. The terms and conditions of the tariff are included starting on the next page of this file.

Minutes of Use

Each Lifeline customer has unlimited local usage and is able to make local calls at no additional charge. Each Lifeline customer is also able to receive unlimited local and long distance calls at no additional charge.

Toll Charges

Each Lifeline customer is able to receive toll blocking to avoid incurring unexpected toll charges. In the event the customer would like to make toll calls then the customer is able to choose which long distance company they would like to use and then choose which rate plan is best for them.

GENERAL SUBSCRIBER SERVICES TARIFF

ELLERBE
TELEPHONE COMPANY

SECTION 3
FIFTH REVISED PAGE 10
CANCELING FOURTH REVISED PAGE 10

ISSUED: October 11, 2013
EFFECTIVE DATE: October 11, 2013

S3. BASIC LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

S3.11 LIFELINE

S3.11.1 DESCRIPTION OF SERVICE

a. The Lifeline Program is designed to increase the availability of telecommunication services to low income subscribers by providing a credit to monthly recurring local service to qualifying residential subscribers. Basic terms and conditions are in compliance with the FCC's rules found in CFR § 54.410. Customers must be certified by the appropriate state agency that they participate in one of the following programs: Medicaid; Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), formerly known as food stamps; Supplemental Security Income (SSI); Federal Public Housing Assistance (Section 8); Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP); National School Lunch Program's free lunch program; Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF); or, be able to provide proof of household income which is at or below 135% of the annual Federal Poverty Guidelines for all States. Such certification must be provided to the Company. Specific terms and conditions are as prescribed by the North Carolina Utilities Commission and are set forth in this Tariff.

(C)
|
(C)

b. Lifeline is supported by federal and state universal support mechanisms.

c. Federal baseline support of \$9.25 is available to each Lifeline Service and is passed through to the subscriber. An additional \$3.50 credit is provided by the state. The total Lifeline credit available to an eligible customer in North Carolina is \$12.75. The amount of credit will not exceed the charge for local service, which includes access line, touch tone service, the Subscriber line charge and local usage.

(C)
|
(C)

S3.11.2 REGULATIONS

a. General

(1)

(2) One low income credit is available per household and is applicable to the primary residential connection only. The name subscriber must be a current recipient of the low income assistance programs as identified in Section 3.11.2b following.

(3) A lifeline customer may subscribe to any local service offering available to other residential customers

GENERAL SUBSCRIBER SERVICES TARIFF

ELLERBE
TELEPHONE COMPANY

SECTION 3
SECOND REVISED PAGE 11
CANCELING FIRST REVISED PAGE 11

ISSUED: October 11, 2013
BY: President

EFFECTIVE: October 11, 2013

S3. BASIC LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

S3.11 LIFELINE (Continued)

3.11.2 REGULATIONS (Continued)

a. General (Continued)

- (4) Customized Code Restriction Option 2 as specified in Section 13.18.1e., and the Billed Number Screening as specified in Section 13.19 of this tariff, will be offered at no charge to the lifeline subscribers to establish toll blocking.
- (5) The deposit requirement is not applicable to a Lifeline customer who subscribes to toll blocking. If a Lifeline customer removes toll blocking prior to establishing an acceptable credit history, a deposit may be required.
- (6) A Lifeline subscriber's local service will not be disconnected for non-payment of regulated toll charges. Local service may be denied for non-payment of local calls in accordance with Section 2 of this Tariff. Access to toll service may be denied for non-payment of regulated tolls. In such cases Customized Code Restriction Option 2 and Billed Number Screening will be applied to the Lifeline Subscribers service at no charge. A lifeline subscriber's request for reconnection of local service will not be denied if the service was previously denied for non-payment of toll charges as long as all outstanding local charges are paid.
- (7) Partial payments made by customers will be applied first to local service charges, then to toll charges.
- (8) The presubscribed Interexchange Carrier Charge (PICC) will not be billed to Lifeline customers who subscribe to Customized Code Restriction Option 2 for toll blocking and who do not presubscribe to a long distance carrier.

b. Eligibility

- (1) To be eligible for a Lifeline credit, a customer must be a current recipient of any one of the following low income assistance programs.
 - (a) Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
 - (b) Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

(C)
(C)

GENERAL SUBSCRIBER SERVICES TARIFF

ELLERBE
TELEPHONE COMPANY

SECTION 3
SECOND REVISED PAGE 12
CANCELING FIRST REVISED PAGE 12

ISSUED: October 11, 2013
BY: President

EFFECTIVE: October 11, 2013

S3. BASIC LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

S3.11 LIFELINE (Continued)

(T)

3.11.2 REGULATIONS (Continued)

b. Eligibility (Continued)

- (c) Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- (d) Medicaid
- (e) Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
- (f) Federal Public Housing Assistance (Section 8)
- (g) National School Lunch Program's free lunch program; or
- (i) Provide proof of household income which is at or below 135% of the annual Federal Poverty Guidelines.

(C)

(C)

- (2) A standard application form will be available only from the agency administering the qualifying program and not from the Company. All applications are subject to verification with the state agency responsible for administration of the qualifying program.

c. Certification

- (1) Proof of eligibility in any of the qualifying programs should be provided to the Company at the time of application of service. The Lifeline credit will not be established until proof of eligibility has been received by the company. If the customer requests installation prior to the Company's receipt of proof of eligibility, the requested service will be provided without the Lifeline credit. When eligibility documentation is provided subsequent to installation, the Lifeline credit will be provided on a going forward basis.
- (2) The Company will audit its records every 12 months working in conjunction with the appropriate state or federal agencies, for the purpose of determining continuing eligibility. Information obtained during such audit will be treated as confidential information to the extent required under State and Federal laws. The use or disclosure of information concerning enrollees will be limited to purposes directly connected with the administration of the Lifeline plan.
- (3) When a customer is determined to be ineligible as a result of an audit, the Company will send the customer a written notice of ineligibility. If the customer cannot provide eligibility documentation, the Lifeline credit will be discontinued.

(C)

GENERAL SUBSCRIBER SERVICES TARIFF

ELLERBE
TELEPHONE COMPANY

SECTION 3
SIXTH REVISED PAGE 13
CANCELING FIFTH REVISED PAGE 13

ISSUED: October 11, 2013
EFFECTIVE DATE: October 11, 2013

S3. BASIC LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

S3.11 LIFELINE (Continued)

3.11.3 RATES AND CHARGES

a.General

- (1) Lifeline is provided as a monthly credit and the eligible residential subscriber's access line bill for local service.
- (2) Service Charges in section 4 are applicable for installing or changing Lifeline service.
- (3)
- (4) The secondary service Order Charge in section 4 is not applicable when existing service is converted intact to Lifeline.

b.The total Lifeline Credit consist of one federal plus one state credit.

(1) Federal Credit	<u>Monthly Credit</u>
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(b) ALL PROGRAMS	\$9.25
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(C)

(2) State Credit

(a)All programs, one per Lifeline service	\$3.50
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(C)

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0572-0031. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 4 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information.

USDA-RUS OPERATING REPORT FOR TELECOMMUNICATIONS BORROWERS	This data will be used by RUS to review your financial situation. Your response is required by 7 U.S.C. 901 et seq. and, subject to federal laws and regulations regarding confidential information, will be treated as confidential. BORROWER NAME Ellerbe Telephone Company (Prepared with Audited Data)
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INSTRUCTIONS -Submit report to RUS within 30 days after close of the period. For detailed instructions, see RUS Bulletin 1744-2. Report in whole dollars only.	PERIOD ENDING December, 2012	BORROWER DESIGNATION NC0539
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CERTIFICATION

We hereby certify that the entries in this report are in accordance with the accounts and other records of the system and reflect the status of the system to the best of our knowledge and belief.

ALL INSURANCE REQUIRED BY 7 CFR PART 1788, CHAPTER XVII, RUS, WAS IN FORCE DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD AND RENEWALS HAVE BEEN OBTAINED FOR ALL POLICIES.

DURING THE PERIOD COVERED BY THIS REPORT PURSUANT TO PART 1788 OF 7CFR CHAPTER XVII
 (Check one of the following)

All of the obligations under the RUS loan documents have been fulfilled in all material respects.

There has been a default in the fulfillment of the obligations under the RUS loan documents. Said default(s) is/are specifically described in the Telecom Operating Report:

_____ Jeffrey Long _____ 5/9/2013 _____
 DATE

PART A. BALANCE SHEET					
ASSETS	BALANCE PRIOR YEAR	BALANCE END OF PERIOD	LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY	BALANCE PRIOR YEAR	BALANCE END OF PERIOD
CURRENT ASSETS			CURRENT LIABILITIES		
1. Cash and Equivalents			25. Accounts Payable		
2. Cash-RUS Construction Fund			26. Notes Payable		
3. Affiliates:			27. Advance Billings and Payments		
a. Telecom, Accounts Receivable			28. Customer Deposits		
b. Other Accounts Receivable			29. Current Mat. L/T Debt		
c. Notes Receivable			30. Current Mat. L/T Debt-Rur. Dev.		
4. Non-Affiliates:			31. Current Mat.-Capital Leases		
a. Telecom, Accounts Receivable			32. Income Taxes Accrued		
b. Other Accounts Receivable			33. Other Taxes Accrued		
c. Notes Receivable			34. Other Current Liabilities		
5. Interest and Dividends Receivable			35. Total Current Liabilities (25 thru 34)		
6. Material-Regulated			LONG-TERM DEBT		
7. Material-Nonregulated			36. Funded Debt-RUS Notes		
8. Prepayments			37. Funded Debt-RTB Notes		
9. Other Current Assets			38. Funded Debt-FFB Notes		
10. Total Current Assets (1 Thru 9)			39. Funded Debt-Other		
NONCURRENT ASSETS			40. Funded Debt-Rural Develop. Loan		
11. Investment in Affiliated Companies			41. Premium (Discount) on L/T Debt		
a. Rural Development			42. Recquired Debt		
b. Nonrural Development			43. Obligations Under Capital Lease		
12. Other Investments			44. Adv. From Affiliated Companies		
a. Rural Development			45. Other Long-Term Debt		
b. Nonrural Development			46. Total Long-Term Debt (36 thru 45)		
13. Nonregulated Investments			OTHER LIAB. & DEF. CREDITS		
14. Other Noncurrent Assets			47. Other Long-Term Liabilities		
15. Deferred Charges			48. Other Deferred Credits		
16. Jurisdictional Differences			49. Other Jurisdictional Differences		
17. Total Noncurrent Assets (11 thru 16)			50. Total Other Liabilities and Deferred Credits (47 thru 49)		
PLANT, PROPERTY, AND EQUIPMENT			EQUITY		
18. Telecom, Plant-in-Service			51. Cap. Stock Outstand. & Subscribed		
19. Property Held for Future Use			52. Additional Paid-in-Capital		
20. Plant Under Construction			53. Treasury Stock		
21. Plant Adj., Nonop. Plant & Goodwill			54. Membership and Cap. Certificates		
22. Less Accumulated Depreciation			55. Other Capital		
23. Net Plant (18 thru 21 less 22)			56. Patronage Capital Credits		
24. TOTAL ASSETS (10+17+23)			57. Retained Earnings or Margins		
			58. Total Equity (51 thru 57)		
			59. TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY (35+46+50+58)		

Total Equity = _____ % of Total Assets

USDA-RUS OPERATING REPORT FOR TELECOMMUNICATIONS BORROWERS	BORROWER DESIGNATION NC0539
	PERIOD ENDING December, 2012

INSTRUCTIONS- See RUS Bulletin 1/44-2

PART B. STATEMENTS OF INCOME AND RETAINED EARNINGS OR MARGINS

ITEM	PRIOR YEAR	THIS YEAR
1. Local Network Services Revenues		
2. Network Access Services Revenues		
3. Long Distance Network Services Revenues		
4. Carrier Billing and Collection Revenues		
5. Miscellaneous Revenues		
6. Uncollectible Revenues		
7. Net Operating Revenues (1 thru 5 less 6)		
8. Plant Specific Operations Expense		
9. Plant Nonspecific Operations Expense (Excluding Depreciation & Amortization)		
10. Depreciation Expense		
11. Amortization Expense		
12. Customer Operations Expense		
13. Corporate Operations Expense		
14. Total Operating Expenses (8 thru 13)		
15. Operating Income or Margins (7 less 14)		
16. Other Operating Income and Expenses		
17. State and Local Taxes		
18. Federal Income Taxes		
19. Other Taxes		
20. Total Operating Taxes (17+18+19)		
21. Net Operating Income or Margins (15+16-20)		
22. Interest on Funded Debt		
23. Interest Expense - Capital Leases		
24. Other Interest Expense		
25. Allowance for Funds Used During Construction		
26. Total Fixed Charges (22+23+24-25)		
27. Nonoperating Net Income		
28. Extraordinary Items		
29. Jurisdictional Differences		
30. Nonregulated Net Income		
31. Total Net Income or Margins (21+27+28+29+30-26)		
32. Total Taxes Based on Income		
33. Retained Earnings or Margins Beginning-of-Year		
34. Miscellaneous Credits Year-to-Date		
35. Dividends Declared (Common)		
36. Dividends Declared (Preferred)		
37. Other Debits Year-to-Date		
38. Transfers to Patronage Capital		
39. Retained Earnings or Margins End-of-Period [(31+33+34) - (35+36+37+38)]		
40. Patronage Capital Beginning-of-Year		
41. Transfers to Patronage Capital		
42. Patronage Capital Credits Retired		
43. Patronage Capital End-of-Year (40+41-42)		
44. Annual Debt Service Payments		
45. Cash Ratio [(14+20-10-11) / 7]		
46. Operating Accrual Ratio [(14+20+26) / 7]		
47. TIER [(31+26) / 26]		
48. DSCR [(31+26+10+11) / 44]		

<p>USDA-RUS</p> <p>OPERATING REPORT FOR TELECOMMUNICATIONS BORROWERS</p> <p>INSTRUCTIONS - See RUS Bulletin 1744-2</p>	<p>BORROWER DESIGNATION NC0539</p> <p>PERIOD ENDED December, 2012</p>
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Part C. SUBSCRIBER (ACCESS LINE), ROUTE MILE, & HIGH SPEED DATA INFORMATION

EXCHANGE	1. RATES		2. SUBSCRIBERS (ACCESS LINES)			3. ROUTE MILES	
	B-1 (a)	R-1 (b)	BUSINESS (a)	RESIDENTIAL (b)	TOTAL (c)	TOTAL (including fiber) (a)	FIBER (b)
Ellerbe							
MobileWireless					0		
Route Mileage Outside Exchange Area						0.00	0.00
Total							
No. Exchanges							

<p>USDA-RUS</p> <p>OPERATING REPORT FOR TELECOMMUNICATIONS BORROWERS</p> <p><i>INSTRUCTIONS - See RUS Bulletin 1744-2</i></p>	<p>BORROWER DESIGNATION NC0539</p> <p>PERIOD ENDED December, 2012</p>
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Part C. SUBSCRIBER (ACCESS LINE), ROUTE MILE, & HIGH SPEED DATA INFORMATION

4. BROADBAND SERVICE

Details on Least Expensive Broadband Service								
EXCHANGE	No. Access Lines with BB available (a)	No Of Broadband Subscribers (b)	Number Of Subscribers (c)	Advertised Download Rate (Kbps) (d)	Advertised Upload Rate (Kbps) (e)	Price Per Month (f)	Standalone/Pckg (f)	Type Of Technology (g)
Ellerbe								
Total								

USDA-RUS OPERATING REPORT FOR TELECOMMUNICATIONS BORROWERS	BORROWER DESIGNATION NC0539 PERIOD ENDING December, 2012
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INSTRUCTIONS- See RUS Bulletin 1744-2

PART D. SYSTEM DATA

1. No. Plant Employees	2. No. Other Employees	3. Square Miles Served	4. Access Lines per Square Mile	5. Subscribers per Route Mile
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PART E. TOLL DATA

1. Study Area ID Code(s) a. _____ b. _____ c. _____ d. _____ e. _____ f. _____ g. _____ h. _____ i. _____ j. _____	2. Types of Toll Settlements (Check one) Interstate: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Average Schedule <input type="checkbox"/> Cost Basis Intrastate: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Average Schedule <input type="checkbox"/> Cost Basis
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PART F. FUNDS INVESTED IN PLANT DURING YEAR

1. RUS, RTB, & FFB Loan Funds Expended	
2. Other Long-Term Loan Funds Expended	
3. Funds Expended Under RUS Interim Approval	
4. Other Short-Term Loan Funds Expended	
5. General Funds Expended (Other than Interim)	
6. Salvaged Materials	
7. Contribution in Aid to Construction	
8. Gross Additions to Telecom. Plant (1 thru 7)	

PART G. INVESTMENTS IN AFFILIATED COMPANIES

INVESTMENTS	CURRENT YEAR DATA		CUMULATIVE DATA		
	Investment This Year <i>(b)</i>	Income/Loss This Year <i>(c)</i>	Cumulative Investment To Date <i>(d)</i>	Cumulative Income/Loss To Date <i>(e)</i>	Current Balance <i>(f)</i>
1. Investment in Affiliated Companies - Rural Development					
2. Investment in Affiliated Companies - Nonrural Development					

USDA-RUS OPERATING REPORT FOR TELECOMMUNICATIONS BORROWERS	BORROWER DESIGNATION NC0539 PERIOD ENDING December, 2012
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PART H. CURRENT DEPRECIATION RATES

Are corporation's depreciation rates approved by the regulatory authority with jurisdiction over the provision of telephone services? (Check one)

YES NO

EQUIPMENT CATEGORY	DEPRECIATION RATE
1. Land and support assets - Motor Vehicles	
2. Land and support assets - Aircraft	
3. Land and support assets - Special purpose vehicles	
4. Land and support assets - Garage and other work equipment	
5. Land and support assets - Buildings	
6. Land and support assets - Furniture and Office equipment	
7. Land and support assets - General purpose computers	
8. Central Office Switching - Digital	
9. Central Office Switching - Analog & Electro-mechanical	
10. Central Office Switching - Operator Systems	
11. Central Office Transmission - Radio Systems	
12. Central Office Transmission - Circuit equipment	
13. Information origination/termination - Station apparatus	
14. Information origination/termination - Customer premises wiring	
15. Information origination/termination - Large private branch exchanges	
16. Information origination/termination - Public telephone terminal equipment	
17. Information origination/termination - Other terminal equipment	
18. Cable and wire facilities - Poles	
19. Cable and wire facilities - Aerial cable - Metal	
20. Cable and wire facilities - Aerial cable - Fiber	
21. Cable and wire facilities - Underground cable - Metal	
22. Cable and wire facilities - Underground cable - Fiber	
23. Cable and wire facilities - Buried cable - Metal	
24. Cable and wire facilities - Buried cable - Fiber	
25. Cable and wire facilities - Conduit systems	
26. Cable and wire facilities - Other	

USDA-RUS		BORROWER DESIGNATION	
OPERATING REPORT FOR TELECOMMUNICATIONS BORROWERS		NC0539	
		PERIOD ENDED December, 2012	
INSTRUCTIONS – See help in the online application.			
PART I – STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS			
1. Beginning Cash (Cash and Equivalents plus RUS Construction Fund)			
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
2. Net Income			
<i>Adjustments to Reconcile Net Income to Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities</i>			
3. Add: Depreciation			
4. Add: Amortization			
5. Other (Explain) Other Accrued Taxes			
<i>Changes in Operating Assets and Liabilities</i>			
6. Decrease/(Increase) in Accounts Receivable			
7. Decrease/(Increase) in Materials and Inventory			
8. Decrease/(Increase) in Prepayments and Deferred Charges			
9. Decrease/(Increase) in Other Current Assets			
10. Increase/(Decrease) in Accounts Payable			
11. Increase/(Decrease) in Advance Billings & Payments			
12. Increase/(Decrease) in Other Current Liabilities			
13. Net Cash Provided/(Used) by Operations			
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
14. Decrease/(Increase) in Notes Receivable			
15. Increase/(Decrease) in Notes Payable			
16. Increase/(Decrease) in Customer Deposits			
17. Net Increase/(Decrease) in Long Term Debt (Including Current Maturities)			
18. Increase/(Decrease) in Other Liabilities & Deferred Credits			
19. Increase/(Decrease) in Capital Stock, Paid-in Capital, Membership and Capital Certificates & Other Capital			
20. Less: Payment of Dividends			
21. Less: Patronage Capital Credits Retired			
22. Other (Explain)			
23. Net Cash Provided/(Used) by Financing Activities			
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
24. Net Capital Expenditures (Property, Plant & Equipment)			
25. Other Long-Term Investments			
26. Other Noncurrent Assets & Jurisdictional Differences			
27. Other (Explain) Cost of Retirements			
28. Net Cash Provided/(Used) by Investing Activities			
29. Net Increase/(Decrease) in Cash			
30. Ending Cash			

<p>USDA-RUS</p> <p>OPERATING REPORT FOR TELECOMMUNICATIONS BORROWERS</p>	<p>BORROWER DESIGNATION</p> <p>NC0539</p>
<p>INSTRUCTIONS - See RUS Bulletin 1744-2</p>	<p>PERIOD ENDED</p> <p>December, 2012</p>
<p>NOTES TO THE OPERATING REPORT FOR TELECOMMUNICATIONS BORROWERS</p>	

<p>USDA-RUS</p> <p>OPERATING REPORT FOR TELECOMMUNICATIONS BORROWERS</p>	<p>BORROWER DESIGNATION</p> <p>NC0539</p>
<p>INSTRUCTIONS - See RUS Bulletin 1744-2</p>	<p>PERIOD ENDED</p> <p>December, 2012</p>
<p>CERTIFICATION LOAN DEFAULT NOTES TO THE OPERATING REPORT FOR TELECOMMUNICATIONS BORROWERS</p>	

EDDIE CARRICK, CPA, PC
Certified Public Accountant

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Board of Directors of
Ellerbe Telephone Company and Subsidiary
Ellerbe, North Carolina

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheets of Ellerbe Telephone Company and Subsidiary, which comprise the consolidated balance sheets as of December 31, 2012 and 2011, and the related consolidated statements of stockholder's equity, income, comprehensive income, and cash flows for the years then ended and the related notes to the financial statements.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these consolidated financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of consolidated financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these consolidated financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the consolidated financial statements are free of material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the consolidated financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the consolidated financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the consolidated financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Opinion

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Ellerbe Telephone Company and Subsidiary as of December 31, 2012 and 2011 and the results of their operations and their cash flows for the years then ended, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

In accordance the *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued a report dated June 17, 2013 on our consideration of Ellerbe Telephone Company and Subsidiary's internal controls over financial reporting and our tests of compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* and should be read in conjunction with this report in considering the results of our audit.

Other-Matter

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the consolidated financial statements taken as a whole. The accompanying consolidated schedules on pages 22 through 24 are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the consolidated financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the information is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the financial statements as a whole.

Handwritten signature in cursive, appearing to read "E. C. CPA".

Lexington, NC

June 17, 2013