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**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS & CABLE**

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BARBARA ANTHONY
UNDERSECRETARY OF
CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND
BUSINESS REGULATION

GEOFFREY G. WHY
COMMISSIONER

December 13, 2013

Marlene H. Dortch
Office of the Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554
Filed via ECFS

Karen Majcher
Vice President, High Cost and Low Income Division
Universal Service Administrative Company
2000 L Street NW, Suite 200
Washington, DC 20036
Filed via email (hccerts@usac.org, hcfilings@hcli.universalservice.org)

**Re: CC Docket No. 96-45/WC Docket No. 10-90, Annual State Certification of Support
for Eligible Telecommunications Carriers Pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 54.314**

Dear Ms. Dortch and Ms. Majcher,

Pursuant to the requirements of 47 C.F.R § 54.314, the Massachusetts Department of Telecommunications and Cable (MDTC) hereby certifies to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) that the eligible telecommunications carriers (ETCs) named in this letter are eligible to receive federal high-cost support for the program years cited.

The MDTC certifies that for the carriers listed all federal high-cost support provided to such carriers within Massachusetts was used in the preceding calendar year (**2012**) and will be used in the coming calendar year (**2014**) only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended:

Richmond Telephone Company (study area code 110037)
Granby Telephone Company d/b/a OTT Communications (study area code 110036)
Taconic Telephone Corp. d/b/a FairPoint Communications (study area code 150084)¹
Verizon Massachusetts (study area code 115112)

¹ Taconic's study area is based in New York but extends into Massachusetts.

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Karen Majcher
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The MDTC bases its certification on these ETCs' FCC Form 481 filings and supplements, provided to the MDTC upon request, together with the ETCs' sworn affidavits.² The MDTC attaches copies of the ETCs' supplemental filing cover letters and affidavits for reference.

Should the FCC or USAC require any additional information concerning this matter, please contact me or Kerri DeYoung Phillips, Counsel, Competition Division, at (617) 368-1141 or Kerri.DeYoung@state.ma.us.

Respectfully submitted,

Geoffrey G. Why, Commissioner

By: /s/ Karlen Reed
Karlen Reed
Director, Competition Division
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KJR/kdp
Attachments

cc: Robert Binder, USAC (*by email*)
Catherine Palcic, USAC (*by email*)
Jonathan Lechter, FCC (*by email*)
Alex Minard, FCC (*by email*)
Richard Drake, Richmond Telephone Company (*by email*)
Eileen Bodamer, Consultant to Richmond Telephone (*by email*)
Beth Westman, Taconic Telephone/FairPoint (*by email*)
Alex Moore, Verizon (*by email*)
Lisa Thorne, Verizon (*by email*)
Trina Bragdon, Granby Telephone/OTT (*by email*)

² See, e.g., *In re: Connect America Fund*, WC Docket No. 10-90, Order, DA 13-1348 (rel. Jun. 10, 2013), at 6 (anticipating states' reliance on ETCs' FCC Form 481 filings as a basis for states' certifications). See also MDTC Notice to All Massachusetts ETCs Receiving Federal Universal Service Fund Support (Sept. 26, 2013), available at: <http://www.mass.gov/ocabr/government/oca-agencies/dtc-lp/dtc-form-481-notice-to-etcs.pdf> (last viewed Dec. 11, 2013).