

September 27, 2023

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission Office of the Secretary
9050 Junction Drive
Annapolis Junction, MD 20701

USAC
Vice President, High Cost Division
700 12th Street, NW, Suite 900
Washington, DC 20005

Re: CC Docket No. 96-45/WC Docket No. 14-58, Annual State Certification of Support for Eligible
Telecommunications Carriers Pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 54.314

Dear Sir or Madam:

Pursuant to the requirements of 47 C.F.R. § 54.314, the Montana Public Service Commission hereby certifies to the Federal Communications Commission (“FCC”) and the Universal Service Administrative Company (“USAC”) that the telecommunications carriers included in this letter are eligible to receive federal high-cost support for the program years cited.

The Montana Public Service Commission certifies for the carriers listed in Attachment A all federal high-cost support provided to carriers within Montana was used in the preceding calendar year (2022) and will be used in the coming calendar year (2024) only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended.

In addition to the carriers listed in Attachment A, Viasat Carrier Services (SAC 489017) and Starlink Services, LLC (SAC Pending) also requested and met the requirements for ETC recertification in Montana, but were not available as an option to be recertified electronically on the USAC website. The Montana Public Service Commission also approves these two carriers for ETC designation to receive federal support in 2024, pending any other requirements/additional measures the FCC deems fit.

Sincerely,

Mike Dalton
Rate Analyst
Montana Public Service Commission
406-444-6185

ATTACHMENT A

54.314(a) State-Certification

Filing Year:

Re: CC Docket No. 96-45/WC Docket No. 14-58, Annual State Certification of support for Eligible Telecommunications Carriers Pursuant to 47 C.F.R. & 54.314

Pursuant to the requirements of 47 C.F.R § 54.314, the **Montana Public Service Commission** hereby certifies to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) that the eligible telecommunications carriers (ETCs) listed below are eligible to receive federal high-cost support for the program years cited.

The **Montana Public Service Commission** certifies that for the carriers listed all federal high-cost support provided to such carriers within **MONTANA** was used in the preceding calendar year (**2022**) and will be used in the coming calendar year (**2024**) only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended.¹

ETCs CERTIFIED BY Montana Public Service Commission

CARRIER	SAC
NORTHERN TEL COOP	482248
MID-RIVERS TEL COOP	482246
Sagebrush Cellular, Inc.	488006
SAGEBRUSH CELLULAR, INC.	489006
MID-RIVERS TEL. COOP.	489001
Sagebrush Cellular, Inc.	488003
CENTRAL MONTANA	483310
Sagebrush Cellular, Inc.	488004
RONAN TEL CO	482252
INTERBEL TEL COOP	482242
NEMONT TEL COOP-MT	482247
LINCOLN TEL CO INC	482244
PROJECT TEL CO	482250
RANGE TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE, INC.	489007
QWEST CORP-MT	485104
Blackfoot Communications, Inc.	489018
HOT SPRINGS TEL CO	482241
Gallatin Wireless Internet, LLC	489016
Sagebrush Cellular, Inc.	488012
TRIANGLE TEL COOP	482257

¹ 47 C.F.R. § 54.314(a) ("Certification. States that desire eligible telecommunications carriers to receive support pursuant to the high-cost program must file an annual certification with the Administrator and the Commission stating that all federal high-cost support provided to such carriers within that State was used in the preceding calendar year and will be used in the upcoming calendar year only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended. High-cost support shall only be provided to the extent that the State has filed the requisite certification pursuant to this section.")

ATTACHMENT A

ETCs CERTIFIED BY Montana Public Service Commission

CARRIER	SAC
Sagebrush Cellular, Inc.	488008
CITIZENS-FRONTIER-MT	484322
CENTURYTEL-MONTANA	482249
TRIANGLE COMMUNICATION SYSTEM, INC.	489008
Commnet Wireless, LLC	488013
Commnet Wireless, LLC dba Commnet Four Corners, LLC	489014
BLACKFOOT TEL - CFT	483308
RANGE TEL COOP-MT	482251
Viasat	489017
BLACKFOOT TEL - BTC	482235
Sagebrush Cellular, Inc.	488007
INTERBEL TEL COOP	489002
Sagebrush Cellular, Inc.	488005
Sagebrush Cellular, Inc. - CL	489010
Triangle Communication System, Inc.	488014
Sagebrush Cellular, Inc.	488011
3-RIVERS TEL COOP	482255
SOUTHERN MONTANA TEL	482254
3 RIVERS TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE, INC.	489003

Signed,

Signature of Certifying State Commission Representative: Certified On-Line

Name of Certifying State Commission Representative: Mike Dalton

Title or Position of Certifying State Commission Representative: Rate Analyst

Telephone Number of Certifying State Commission Representative: 4064446185 Ext

Email Address of Certifying State Commission Representative: mdalton2@mt.gov

Date: 09/25/2023