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July 22, 2016

T.R.A. BOCKET ROOM

Mr. David Foster Chief, Telecommunications Division Tennessee Regulatory Authority 502 Deaderick Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Nashville, TN 37243

Re: T

TRA Docket No: 16-00072 Section 254(e) Certification of Loretto Telephone Company, Inc. To Receive USF Disbursements

in Calendar Year 2017 SAC Number 290570

Dear Mr. Foster:

Attached hereto is the Certification Letter of Desda Hutchins, certifying that Loretto Telephone Company, Inc. (the "Company") (SAC 290570) is in compliance with the requirements of Section 254 (e) and the requirements established by the Commission in *In the Matter of Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service*, CC Docket Nos. 96-45 and 00-256, 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 (FCC 01-157) (released May 23, 2001) ("Order") and codified at 47 C.F.R. § 54.314. Furthermore, all federal high-cost support, including high cost loop support, local switching support, high-cost support received pursuant to the purchase of exchanges, high-cost model support, and hold harmless support, will be used only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended, consistent with 47 U.S.C. § 254(e) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996.

The Company received \$1,216,606 in Universal Service Funds for the 2015 fiscal year,

High Cost Loop \$ 15,585 Local Switching Support \$ 0 Interstate Common Line Support \$ 709,112 Connect America Fund \$ 491,909

The Company allocated \$1,392,372 to provisioning and maintenance and \$87,952 to upgrading of facilities and services for which the support was intended, consistent with 47 U.S.C. § 254(e) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996.

In addition to this original, I am submitting thirteen copies of this letter, pursuant to TRA Rule 1220-1-1-.03, in addition to a date "stamp and return" copy (and accompanying postage prepaid, self-addressed envelope) that I ask you to please use for this purpose. All correspondence and inquiries concerning this filing should be addressed to the undersigned.

Sincerely,

Desda Hutchins

Chief Financial Officer

Desda Hutchins

Encl

July 22, 2016

Mr. David Foster Chief, Telecommunications Division Tennessee Regulatory Authority 502 Deaderick St, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Nashville, TN 37243

Re: TRA Docket No. 16-00072

Section 254(e) Certification of Loretto Telephone Company, Inc. To Receive USF Disbursements

in Calendar Year 2017 SAC Number: 290570

Dear Mr. Foster:

I, Desda Hutchins, Chief Financial Officer of Loretto Telephone Company, Inc. (the "Company") do hereby certify under penalty of perjury that the following is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief:

- 1. I am the Chief Financial Officer of the Company;
- 2. The Company is a "rural telephone company" as defined in 47 U.S.C. §153(37), subject to the jurisdiction of the Tennessee Regulatory Authority;
- 3. The Company is eligible for disbursements from the federal Universal Service Fund ("USF") as prescribed by the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC"); and
- 4. The Company will utilize its USF disbursements for high cost support (including any high cost loop support, local switching support, high cost support received pursuant to the purchase of exchanges, high cost model support, and hold harmless support) received in 2016 only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended, consistent with Section 254(e) of the Communications Act of 1996, as amended.

Sincerely yours,

Desda Hutchins

Chief Financial Officer

Desda Hutchini