

REPORT OF WESTGATE COMMUNICATIONS LLC UNDER THE  
WASHINGTON UNIVERSAL COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES PROGRAM  
IN COMPLIANCE WITH WAC 480-123-130

July 1, 2022

Docket No. UT-210598

File electronically

1. WAC 480-123-130(1)(a) - Access Lines Served [NECA 1.3 working loops]

	January 1, 2021	December 31, 2021
Residential	_____ 49 _____	_____ 52 _____
Business	_____ 35 _____	_____ 30 _____

WAC 480-123-130(1)(a) – Broadband Subscribers

	January 1, 2021	December 31, 2021
Voice - Data	_____ 12 _____	_____ 12 _____

2. WAC 480-123-130(1)(b) - Use of Support

The funds received by the Westgate Communications LLC (dba “WeavTel,” “Company”) from the universal communications services program in calendar year 2021 represent revenues that the Company formerly received through the Washington Exchange Carrier Association (WECA) pooling process and the reduction of support under the Federal Communications Commission’s (FCC’s) Connect America Fund Inter Carrier Compensation Fund (CAF ICC) program. As such, the funds from the universal communications services program contributed to defrayal of the ongoing operation and maintenance expenses of the Company. The funds from the universal communication services program are contributing to the Company's ongoing provision of high-quality basic telecommunications service to customers residing in the area the Company serves.

In January 2022, the Company received \$103,242 from the universal communications services program for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022.

During the fiscal ending June 30, 2022, the Company undertook and continued three major construction projects. The first project consisted of building two new KU Band satellite antennas of which one will be in Stehekin, Washington (“Stehekin”) and one in Holden Village, Washington (“Holden Village”). This project was completed to improve data capacity from 12/3 Mbps to 25/3 Mbps. Additionally, a new Long-Term Evolution (“LTE”) radio site has been engineered and designed and installation will be completed in mid-July 2022. WeavTel also worked to establish enhanced satellite backhaul for provisioning 25/3 Mbps broadband service. The Company presently leases transponder space from SES World Skies and they provision the required satellite components to provide backhaul services. WeavTel attempted to install an upgraded system to transport it higher speed broadband traffic and it initially failed. The Company subsequently hired an outside engineer to assist with this process and the engineer determined that several pieces of equipment were faulty. Because of Covid-19 related supply shortages it took several months for replacement parts to be shipped and it required multiple trips to Stehekin to install, test and complete the backhaul upgrade. The satellite backhaul project is now completed and being tested at beta sites.

In the second half of fiscal 2022, the Company also replaced air conditioning equipment in its central office, added IP networking equipment to assist with provisioning 25/3 Mbps broadband service, completed installation of a new earth station in Stehekin and started work on the Stehekin warehouse and shed that were damaged in a winter storm.

Because the Company did not borrow any funds for these projects, the funds received from the universal communications services program can be viewed as contributing to the Company's ability to perform the projects listed above, including, without limitation, the repayment of RUS loan funds.

In the second half of calendar year 2022, the Company plans to complete construction of a tower and related solar power plant on a bluff overlooking Stehekin. The project will also include the purchase and installation of customer premises Long-Term Evolution (“LTE”) equipment. WeavTel is also continuing work to meet its 25/3 Mbps FCC and WUTC broadband buildout obligations. Based on WeavTel’s initial efforts (e.g., installation, testing, monitoring) to provision 25/3 Mbps high speed broadband service to all required locations, the Company determined that because of the mountainous terrain, distance between mandated locations in the Stehekin Valley and topography, two additional LTE radio towers would be needed to meet its obligations. Therefore, the Company will be engineering and starting construction on two additional towers in the Upper Stehekin Valley. A 40-foot tower will be installed at the Stehekin central office, while an additional third tower will be located at the WeavTel headquarters property in Stehekin. Both towers will be installed and operational by the end of December 2022. Additionally, WeavTel is completing repairs and upgrades to a building and shed that collapsed during an extreme storm that dropped six feet of snow in 24 hours in late 2021. The Company will also continue to perform installations for new customers that meet the federally mandated 25/3 Mbps speed requirements for broadband service.

3. WAC 480-123-130(1)(c) – Broadband Buildout Deployment

As reported in the HUBB (High Cost Universal Broadband) for ACAM II Support, the Company’s “Total Buildout Target” is 232 FCC locations and as of December 31, 2021, the Company has reported no locations. Additionally, as specified in WUTC Docket UT-190437 and General Order R-598, WeavTel committed to serving an additional 70 locations (“Category Two Broadband Deployment Obligation”) with 25/3 Mbps broadband service. As of December 31, 2021, the Company was unable to provision any of these WUTC mandated locations with 25/3 Mbps broadband service. With the completion of the Company’s new earth station, tower buildouts in its Stehekin exchange and radio equipment being brought online, WeavTel anticipates that 93 and 28 locations, respectively, of the FCC and WUTC required locations will have access to 25/3 Mbps broadband speeds by January 1, 2023. WeavTel anticipates that all 232 FCC and 70 WUTC mandated locations will be served with 25/3 Mbps broadband speeds by December 31, 2023.

4. WAC 480-123-130(1)(d) - Unfilled Consumer Requests for New Basic Telecommunications Service\*

None

\* Service requests that are ongoing but still within normal processing times are not counted as unfulfilled.

5. WAC 480-123-130(1)(g) and (i) - FCC Form 477 and FCC Broadband Data Collection

The FCC Form 477 was previously filed on or about March 1, 2022, in accordance with Docket UTC-210002. The Company will file its Broadband Data Collection polygons/data points as required in UT-220275 no later than September 15, 2022.

6. WAC 480-123-130(1)(h) - Report on Operational Efficiencies/Business Plan Modifications

The Company continually reviews its operations to determine if efficiencies can be achieved. WeavTel has an existing plan in place to concentrate on improving broadband service while continuing to provide high-quality basic telecommunications service to the customers that are located within the Company’s service area. The funds received from the universal communications services program can be viewed as assisting in the Company's efforts to obtain operational efficiencies.

7. WAC 480-123-130(1)(j) and (k) - Other Information

N/A.

Certified Statement as required by WAC 480-123-130(1)(e) and WAC 480-123-130(1)(f):

I, Richard J. Weaver, am an officer of Westgate Communications LLC (d/b/a “WeavTel”, the “Company”), and upon personal knowledge and with responsibility therefore, hereby certify under penalty of perjury, that Westgate Communications LLC d/b/a “WeavTel” materially complied with Commission rules under Chapter 480-120 WAC that are applicable to the Company and its provision of service within the area for which the Company received universal communications services program support. In addition, I certify that the Company has committed to deploy broadband to at least those locations comprising the broadband deployment obligation established by the Commission per WAC 480-123-120(5).

Signed at 51 Varney Lane Stehekin, Washington this 9th day of November 2022.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Richard J. Weaver". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'R'.

---

Richard J Weaver  
General Manger