

ETC ANNUAL REPORT PER WAC 480-123-070 AND WAC 480-123-080
Contains Certifications Required by WAC 480-123-060 and 070
July 1, 2020

Westgate Communications LLC ("WeavTel" or the "Company") hereby submits the following reports in accordance with WAC 480-123-070 and WAC 480-123-080.

1. Report 1: Report on use of funds: WAC 480-123-070(1)(a):

The Company used support from the federal high-cost fund in 2019 as follows:

The funds from the Universal Service Communication 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 2019, Westgate used Federal High Cost Funds to continue to operate the company and supply services as required by Federal Regulations. Westgate increased its plant, efficiencies and subscriber line counts. Specifically, the Company invested and closed to buildings and land in service a total of \$96,043 to assist with the installation, maintenance and record keeping associated with voice and data customers. Westgate also added \$8,310 of Transmission Central Office Equipment to increase backhaul capacity and number of customers that can be served.

In addition, the Company started or continued with several construction projects during 2019. General support asset, circuit equipment and cable and wire facilities investments totaling \$12,547 were made to increase coverage and provide enhanced connectivity for voice and broadband customers in the Stehekin and Holden Village service areas.

The funds received from the Universal Service Communications Program can be viewed as contributing to the Company's ability to perform these projects, including, without limitation, the repayment of loan funds.

For 2019, the Company's gross capital expenditures were \$116,899. The Company's 2019 operating expenses were \$586,649. Recent major projects are referenced above.

Per the direction of Commission Staff, the NECA -1 report will be provided as soon as it is available and no later than August 1, 2020.

2. Report 2: WAC 480-123-070(1)(b): The Company reports that the investments and expenses report under Report 1, above, benefited the customers as follows:

The customers served by the Company benefited from the use of high-cost fund support by continuing to receive high quality telecommunications services. The Company improved and expanded its existing customer service area by investing in its network in 2019. These investments combined with the current construction projects will allow WeavTel to improve and expand service in its service area including provisioning broadband service in a larger area and at high speeds.

Through the expenditure of these funds, the Company was able to continue to provide services at a level the Company believes meets the intent set forth in 47 U.S.C § 254 of providing quality telecommunications services to customers in the service area for which the Company is designated as an ETC.¹ The Company has continued to make investments over the past several years which allow it to provide quality telecommunications services to its customers in its designated ETC service area. Those expenditures and investments, including those reflected in Report 1 above; generally, benefit all customers receiving the federal high-cost fund supported services from the Company within its designated ETC service area. The Company has expanded its network over the past several years so that it provides access to broadband services throughout most of the Company's designated ETC service area. The Company offers services that are comparable to services offered in urban areas at rates that are comparable to rates for such services in urban areas.

3. Report 3: Local Services Outage Report: WAC 480-123-070(2):

None. Outages are listed on the report labeled (210) Reportable Voice Service Outages on FCC Form 481. WeavTel reported zero local service outages during 2019.

4. Report 4: Report on Failure to Provide Service: WAC 480-123-070(3):

None. WeavTel had no unfulfilled service requests and no unfulfilled broadband requests as identified on lines 300 and 320 of FCC Form 481.

5. Report 5: Report on Complaints per 1000 Connections: WAC 480-123-070(4):

None. The Company had no voice or broadband complaints as identified on lines 410 and 440 of FCC Form 481.

¹ The term "ETC" is used in the same sense as the term is used in Chapter 480-123 WAC.

6. Report 6: Annual Plan: WAC 480-123-080(1):

As they are known to the Company at the date of this Report, the planned investment and expenses related to Washington State for the period January 1, 2020, through December 31, 2020, are projected to be \$116,000 for gross capital expenditures and \$586,000 for operating expenses. Major projects include constructing towers, adding additional subscriber transmission equipment to improve and expand voice and broadband service, buried cable installations and additional support equipment (other work equipment, general purpose computers).

The Company expects that levels of expenses will remain relatively the same as those it experienced in calendar year 2019, subject to the effects of inflation, other commonly experienced changes in cost of labor and materials, and increased depreciation on new investment placed in service. The Company has added one part time employ to help with the influx of new customers Report 7: Plan of Investments and Expenditures: WAC 480-123-080(2):

As they are known to the Company at the date of this Report, the planned investment related to Washington state for the period January 1, 2020, through December 31, 2020, will be higher than the same as those it experienced in calendar year 2019, while anticipated operating expenses will be similar to those incurred during 2019, subject to the effects of inflation, other commonly experienced changes in cost of labor and materials, and increased depreciation on new investment placed in service below.

As outlined in Report 6 above, the Company intends to add \$116,000 to the telecommunications plant in 2020 to expand and improve its network infrastructure for existing and anticipated new customers. These upgrades will provide customers with voice and higher speed broadband data offering in the Company's service area.

The Company does not anticipate making adjustments to existing staffing levels for the relevant period. Major projects are referenced in Report 6, above. The company expects investment and expenses to be consistent with the prior year. WeavTel expects that the continued receipt of federal high-cost support will allow the Company to continue to provide the supported services at rates that are comparable to the rates for such services in urban areas. All customers in the Company's designated ETC service area will benefit from the expected level of support by continuing to have available to them services that are comparable to the telecommunications services offered in urban areas at rates that are comparable to the rates for such services in urban areas.