

September 21, 2005

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch
Office of the Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445-112 12th Street, SW
Room TW-A306
Washington, DC 20554

Ms. Karen M. Majcher
Universal Service Administrative Company
2000 L. Street, NW
Suite 200
Washington, DC 20037

Re: **CC Docket 96-45**, USF Certification as Required by 47 C.F.R. § 54.316

Dear Ms. Dortch and Ms. Majcher:

Pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 54.316(b) the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission certifies it has reviewed the comparability of residential rates in rural areas of the state served by non-rural incumbent local exchange carriers to urban rates nationwide, and certifies to the Commission and the Administrator the rates are reasonably comparable for purposes of section 254(b)(3) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Bob Shirley at bshirley@wutc.wa.gov or at (360) 664-1283.

Sincerely,

CAROLE J. WASHBURN
Executive Secretary