

September 12, 2022

Chris Parker, Director
Division of Public Utilities
Box 146751
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-6751

Re: **WC Docket No. 22-999-13**
Annual State Certification of Rural Carriers' Compliance Pursuant to 47 C.F.R. §54.314

Dear Chris:

Pursuant to the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC") mandate in its docket, In the Matter of Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service, CC Docket No. 96-45 and pursuant to section 47 C.F.R. §54.314 of the rules, the state commissions must file an annual certification with the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) and the FCC stating "that all federal high-cost support provided to eligible telecommunications carriers will be used only for the provision, maintenance and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended."

Accordingly, the following companies have previously been designated by this Commission as eligible telecommunications carriers:


- Emery – Emery Telephone dba Emery Telcom
 - Carbon – Carbon/Emery Telcom, Inc.
 - Hanksville – Hanksville Telcom, Inc.
 - EFM – E Fiber Moab, LLC (Study Area Code 509025)
 - EFSJ - E Fiber San Juan, LLC (Study Area Code 509027)
- } (combined Study Area Code 502278)

The companies are complying with the requirements of Section 254(e) and will continue to comply for the period January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023 (the certification period) to be eligible to receive federal USF. Emery, Carbon, and Hanksville have submitted FCC Form 481 verifying eligibility and compliance with Federal USF funding requirements. EFM and EFSJ began its first year of receiving federal support in 2022 and as such their first 481 filing requirement will be in July 2023.

Emery, Carbon, and Hanksville certify to the Commission that they used in the preceding calendar year and all the companies certify they will use in the coming calendar year all federal high-cost support provided to them only for the provision, maintenance and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended consistent with the principles of universal service 47 U.S.C. 254. This includes, but is not limited to, trying to meet the goal of the provision of services that are properly supported by the high-cost funds at rates that are reasonably comparable to rates charged for similar services in urban areas. Loss of any federal support would result in additional reliance on Utah Universal Service Funding. Especially critical is the first year inclusion of EFM and EFSJ in the certification to maintain its recent Commission awarded ETC status and associated Federal RDOF support which began in 2022.

We request the Commission issue a certification before October 1, 2022 to USAC and the FCC that our companies are eligible to receive Federal USF and are in compliance with the FCC order.

Sincerely,



Darren Woolsey, Chief Financial Officer