



145 N. Main St. • PO Box 158
Lenora, KS 67645
785.567.4281 (Office)
877.625.7872 (Toll Free)

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Filed Date: 06/28/2024
State Corporation Commission
of Kansas

June 21, 2024

Lynn M Retz, Secretary
Kansas Corporation Commission
1500 SW Arrowhead Rd
Topeka, KS 66604

RE: Docket No. 24-GIMT-612-GIT
Rural Telephone Service Company, Inc. dba Nex-Tech

Dear Ms. Retz:

Attached please find for filing in Docket No. 24-GIMT-612-GIT the 254(e) certifications required by the Commission to be filed in this docket by June 28, 2024.

In this filing, Attachments 3 and 4 have been marked as confidential; this information is confidential commercial information and, as such, its disclosure to any person other than the company, the Commission, and Staff is prohibited by K.S.A. 66-1220a. The Commission has not issued a protective order in this docket.

As always, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Cordially yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Rhonda S. Goddard'.

Rhonda S. Goddard
Chief Financial Officer

Attachments

THE STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF KANSAS

Before Commissioners: Andrew J. French, Chairperson
Dwight D. Keen, Commissioner
Annie Kuether, Commissioner

In the Matter of Certification of Compliance)
with Section 254(e) of the Federal)
Telecommunications Act of 1996 and) Docket No. 24-GIMT-612-GIT
Certification of Appropriate Use of Kansas)
Universal Service Fund Support.)

SECTION 254(e) CERTIFICATION
FEDERAL HIGH-COST UNIVERSAL SERVICE SUPPORT
FCC Docket Reference: CC Docket No. 96-45
and KANSAS UNIVERSAL SERVICE FUND SUPPORT
(Please type or print legibly)
(Circle all Federal and Kansas Support Received)

1. My title is Chief Financial Officer of Rural Telephone Service Co., Inc. dba Nex-Tech. In this capacity, I am in a position of authority to direct how federal high-cost Universal Service Fund (USF), including Legacy or Frozen high-cost Loop support (HCL/FHCS), Safety Valve support (SVS), Connect America Cost Model (CACM) support, Connect America Fund (CAF I/CAF II) support, Alternative Connect America Cost Model (A-CAM/ACAM II) support, Rural Broadband Experiment support (RBE), Rural Digital Opportunity Fund (RDOF) support, and/or Kansas Universal Service Fund (KUSF) support received will be used and by this certification I am binding Rural Telephone Service Co., Inc. dba Nex-Tech to the statements made in this certification.

2. Rural Telephone Service Co., Inc. dba Nex-Tech was named as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier (ETC) by the Kansas Corporation Commission (KCC) for federal support purposes in Docket No. 098-GIMT-241-GIT by order dated December 5, 1997, and KUSF support purposes in Docket No. 098-GIMT-241-GIT by order dated December 5, 1997.

3. By this affidavit, I certify that all federal high-cost USF, including HCL, FHCS, SVS, CAF I/CAF II, A-CAM/ACAM II, RBE, RDOF, and/or KUSF received by Rural Telephone Service Co., Inc. dba

**Docket No. 24-GIMT-612-GIT
Attachment 1**

Nex-Tech was used in the proceeding calendar year 2023 and will be used in the new calendar year 2025 only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended, consistent with Section 254(e) of the Federal Telecommunications Act, and/or Kansas statutes and KCC requirements.

I certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the state of Kansas that the foregoing is true and correct.

(Pursuant to Kan. Stat. Ann. 53-601.)



Rhonda S. Goddard

Executed on June 27, 2024

Email address: rgoddard@nex-tech.com

**Incumbent ETC Investment and Expenses
Kansas Test for USF Certification**

Company Name: RURAL TELEPHONE SERVICE COMPANY (NEX-TECH)

REDACTED

DATA YEAR: 2023

	LINE	REGULATED AMOUNT
WORKING LOOPS		
1. Total Loops	(060)	[REDACTED]
2. Category 1.3 Loops	(070)	[REDACTED]
3. Consumer Broadband-only Loops	(090)	[REDACTED]
 INVESTMENT** Remove all BLS only investments		
1. Plant Accounts		
a. Acct 2001 - Telephone Plant in Service	(160)	[REDACTED]
2. Selected Plant Accounts		
a. Acct 2210 - Central Office Switching	(230)	[REDACTED]
b. Acct 2220 - Operator System Equipment	(235)	[REDACTED]
c. Acct 2230 - Central Office Transmission	(240)	[REDACTED]
d. Total Central Office Equip	(245)	[REDACTED]
e. Circuit Equip Cat 4.13	(250)	[REDACTED]
f. Acct 2410 - Cable & Wire Facilities Total	(255)	[REDACTED]
AMORTIZABLE TANGIBLE ASSETS		
Acct. 2680 - Tangible Assets	(800)	[REDACTED]
Acct. 2680 (2230) - Central Office Transmission	(805)	[REDACTED]
Acct. 2680 (2230) - Cat. 4.13 Central Office Transmission	(810)	[REDACTED]
Acct. 2680 (2410) Cable & Wire Facilities	(815)	[REDACTED]
Acct. 2680 (2410) - Cable & Wire Facilities - Cat 1	(820)	[REDACTED]
Acct. 6560 (2680) Dep & Amort	(830)	[REDACTED]
PART 36 - COST STUDY DATA		
1. Acct. 2410 - Cost Study Avg C&WF	(700)	[REDACTED]
2. Cost Study Avg C&WF Cat 1	(710)	[REDACTED]
3. C&WF CAT 1 Factor		[REDACTED]
4. COE CAT 4.13 Factor		[REDACTED]
5. Switching Factor		[REDACTED]

**Incumbent ETC Investment and Expenses
Kansas Test for USF Certification**

Company Name: RURAL TELEPHONE SERVICE COMPANY (NEX-TECH)

REDACTED

DATA YEAR: 2023

For the Following Lines, Use Gross Additions for Plant and Annual Amounts for Expenses for the Test Year

INVESTMENT, EXPENSE AND TAXES**

Remove all BLS only amounts

	LINE	REGULATED AMOUNT
1. Selected Plant Accounts		
a. Acct 2230 - Central Office Transmission	(240)	
b. Total Central Office Equip	(245)	
c. Acct 2410 - Cable & Wire Facilities Total	(255)	
2. Expenses - Plant Specific Exp		
a. Acct 6110 - Network Support Total	(335)	
b. Acct 6110 - Network Support Benefits	(340)	
c. Acct 6110 - Network Support Rents	(345)	
d. Acct 6120 - General Support Total	(350)	
e. Acct 6120 - General Support Benefits	(355)	
f. Acct 6120 - General Support Rents	(360)	
g. Acct 6210 - Central Office Switching Total	(365)	
h. Acct 6210 - Central Office Switching Benefits	(370)	
i. Acct 6210 - Central Office Switching Rents	(375)	
j. Acct 6220 - Operator Systems Total	(380)	
k. Acct 6220 - Operator Systems Benefits	(385)	
l. Acct 6220 - Operator Systems Rents	(390)	
m. Acct 6230 - Central Office Transmission Total	(395)	
n. Acct 6230 - Central Office Transmission Benefits	(400)	
o. Acct 6230 - Central Office Transmission Rents	(405)	
p. Total - Central Office (Acct. 6210 - 6230)	(410)	
q. Acct 6410 - Cable & Wire Facilities	(430)	
r. Acct 6410 - Cable & Wire Facilities Benefits	(435)	
s. Acct 6410 - Cable & Wire Facilities Rents	(440)	
t. Total Plant Specific Expense (Accts. 6110 - 6410)	(445)	
3. Expenses - Plant Non Specific Exp		
a. Acct 6530 - Network Operations	(450)	
b. Acct 6530 - Network Operations Benefits	(455)	
4. Depreciation & Amortization Exp		
a. Acct 6560 (#2210) - Central Office Switching	(510)	
b. Acct 6560 (#2220) - Operator Systems	(515)	
c. Acct 6560 (#2230) - Central Office Transmission	(520)	
d. Acct 6560 (#2210-2230) - Total	(525)	
e. Acct 6560 (#2410) - Cable & Wire Facilities	(530)	
5. Corporate Operating Expenses		
a. Acct 6710 - Executive & Planning	(535)	
b. Acct 6710 - Executive & Planning Benefits	(540)	
c. Acct 6720 - General Admin	(550)	
d. Acct 6720 - General Admin Benefits	(555)	
e.Total Corporate Operating Expense (line 535+550)	(565)	
6. Other Expenses and Revenues		
a. Benefits Portion	(600)	
b. Rents Portion	(610)	
Total Expenses (Excluding Depreciation)		
7. Operating Taxes		
a. Acct 7200	(650)	

Company Name: RURAL TELEPHONE SERVICE COMPANY (NEX-TECH)	
	REDACTED
	DATA YEAR: 2023
Test for use of FUSF & KUSF	
CAPITAL:	
1. Category 1 C&WF	[REDACTED]
2. Category 4.13 COE and Switching	[REDACTED]
MAINTENANCE:	
3. CWF - MAINT. EXP.	[REDACTED]
4. COE - MAINT. SW	[REDACTED]
5. COE - MAINT-OP SYSTEM	[REDACTED]
6. COE - MAINT. - TRANS.	[REDACTED]
7. CWF - NETWORK SUPPORT	[REDACTED]
8. COE - NETWORK SUPPORT	[REDACTED]
9. CWF GENERAL SUPPORT	[REDACTED]
10. COE GENERAL SUPPORT	[REDACTED]
20. CWF NETWORK OPERATION	[REDACTED]
21. COE NETWORK OPERATION	[REDACTED]
22. CWF EXEC. & PLANNING	[REDACTED]
23. COE EXEC. & PLANNING	[REDACTED]
24. CWF GENERAL ADMIN.	[REDACTED]
25. COE GENERAL ADMIN.	[REDACTED]
26. CWF OPERATING TAXES	[REDACTED]
27. COE OPERATING TAXES	[REDACTED]
28. CWF BENEFITS - TTL OPER EXP	[REDACTED]
29. COE BENEFITS - TTL OPER EXP	[REDACTED]
30. CWF RENTS - TTL OPER EXP	[REDACTED]
31. COE RENTS - TTL OPER EXP	[REDACTED]

**Incumbent ETC Investment and Expenses
Kansas Test for USF Certification**

23-GIMT-644-GIT
Attachment 2a

Company Name: RURAL TELEPHONE SERVICE COMPANY (NEX-TECH)	
REDACTED	
DATA YEAR: 2023	
A. Total Cash Expenditures Associated with USF	[REDACTED]
B. Certified Federal USF Receipts:	
B1. High Cost Loop / Frozen High Cost Support (HCL/FHCS)	\$ -
B2. Safety Valve Support for acquired Exch. (SVS)	-
B3. Alternative Connect America Model (ACAM/ACAM II)	10,938,499 *
B4. Connect America Fund, Phase I, II (CAF I/CAF II)	-
B5. Rural Digital Opportunity Fund, Phase I (RDOF I)	-
B6. Rural Broadband Experiment (RBE)	-
B7. Total Federal USF Receipts	\$ 10,938,499
C. Gross KUSF Receipts (do not deduct KUSF assessments paid)	\$2,327,899
D. Total FUSF and KUSF Receipts	\$ 13,266,398
E. Do Expenditures Exceed FUSF Receipts?	No
Amount Expenditures Exceed Certified FUSF (negative number means FUSF exceeds Expenditures)	[REDACTED] [A - B8]
F. Do Expenditures Exceed FUSF & KUSF Receipts?	No
Amount Expenditures Exceed Certified FUSF & KUSF (negative number means FUSF & KUSF exceeds Expenditures)	[REDACTED] [A - D]
Please provide the following information:	
	Contact: Rhonda S. Goddard
	Title: Chief Financial Officer
	Phone No.: (785) 567-5105
	E-Mail: rgoddard@nex-tech.com

*Note: The Alternative Connect America Model (ACAM) replaces both intrastate loop (USF-HCLS) and interstate related USF components (USF-ICLS/CAF BLS). The ACAM reported includes the full amount (inter and intrastate) received by the company in 2023 per KCC guidelines.

Annual ETC Certification of Requirements Imposed by the
Commission in Docket Number 06-GIMT-446-GIT

1. Did your company experience any outage in the prior calendar year, as that term is defined in 47 C.F.R. § 4.5, of at least 30 minutes in duration for each service area in which an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier is designated for any facilities it owns, operates, leases, or otherwise utilizes that potentially affect: (i) at least 10% of the end users served in a designated service area; or (ii) a 911 specialty facility as defined in 47 C.F.R. § 4.5(e)? **(Yes/No)** . **IF YES, PLEASE COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING:**

Date and time of Onset of the Outage	Description of the Outage and its Resolution	Particular services affected	Geographic Areas Affected	Steps Taken to Prevent a Similar Situation in the Future	Number of Customers Affected
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; width: fit-content; margin: auto;"> <p>No Outages that meet the parameters.</p> </div>					

(If necessary, please provide additional pages.)

2. Please provide the number of requests for service from potential customers within the recipient's service areas that were unfulfilled during the prior calendar year. If applicable, please explain how your company attempted to provide service to those potential customers.

NONE

3. Please provide the number of complaints per 1,000 connections (fixed or mobile) in the prior calendar year.

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4. A wireline ETC must certify that it is in compliance with the Commission's quality of service standards and a wireless ETC must certify that it is in compliance with the CTIA Code. Please complete the following, as applicable to your company:

QUALITY OF SERVICE WIRELINE ANNUAL CERTIFICATION

KCC Docket Reference: 06-GIMT-446-GIT

(Please type or print legibly)

1. My title is Chief Financial Officer of the Rural Telephone Service Company, Inc. dba Nex-Tech. In this capacity, I am in a position of authority to certify whether the Cooperative is complying with required quality of service standards. I am binding Chief Financial Officer of Rural Telephone Service Company, Inc. dba Nex-Tech (Cooperative) to the statements made in this certification.

2. By this affidavit, I certify that Rural Telephone Service Company, Inc. dba Nex-Tech (Cooperative) is in compliance with the Commission's quality of service standards as adopted in Docket No. 191,206-U.

I certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the state of Kansas that the foregoing is true and correct. (Pursuant to Kan. Stat. Ann. 53-601.)

Executed on June 27, 2024



Rhonda S. Goddard

5. Each ETC must certify that it will be able to function in an emergency as set forth in 47 C.F.R § 54.202(a)(2).


ABILITY TO FUNCTION IN AN EMERGENCY ANNUAL CERTIFICATION
KCC Docket Reference: 06-GIMT-446-GIT
(Please type or print legibly)

1. My title is Chief Financial Officer of Rural Telephone Service Company, Inc. dba Nex-Tech (Cooperative). In this capacity, I am in a position of authority to certify whether the Cooperative is able to function in an emergency. I am binding Chief Financial Officer of Rural Telephone Service Company, Inc. dba Nex-Tech (Cooperative). to the statements made in this certification.

2. By this affidavit, I certify that Rural Telephone Service Company, Inc. dba Nex-Tech (Cooperative) is capable of functioning in an emergency.

I certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the state of Kansas that the foregoing is true and correct. (Pursuant to Kan. Stat. Ann. 53-601.)

Executed on June 27, 2024



Rhonda S. Goddard

**24-GIMT-612-GIT
Attachment 5**

6. 47 U.S.C. § 214(e)(1)(B) requires every ETC to advertise its services (including Lifeline services) throughout the service area for which it has been designated “using media of general distribution.” **Please complete the following:**

Name of Media	Type of Media	Geographic Areas Reached	Dates Published
Nex-Tech Directory	Directory	Agra, Alton, Athol, Bogue, Bunker Hill, Burr Oak, Collyer, Courtland, Damar, Downs, Edmond, Esbon, Galatia, Gaylord, Gove, Grainfield, Hill City, Ionia, Jennings, Kensington, Lebanon, Lenora, Logan, Long Island, Morland, Natoma, Ogallah, Olmitz, Osborne, Palco, Park, Penokee, Portis, Prairie View, Quinter, Republic, Rexford, Russell, Selden, Victoria, WaKeeney, Webber, Woodston, Zurich	2023
Nex-Tech Company Website	Website	Agra, Alton, Athol, Bogue, Bunker Hill, Burr Oak, Collyer, Courtland, Damar, Downs, Edmond, Esbon, Galatia, Gaylord, Gove, Grainfield, Hill City, Ionia, Jennings, Kensington, Lebanon, Lenora, Logan, Long Island, Morland, Natoma, Ogallah, Olmitz, Osborne, Palco, Park, Penokee, Portis, Prairie View, Quinter, Republic, Rexford, Russell, Selden, Victoria, WaKeeney, Webber, Woodston, Zurich	2023
Bill Messages	Bill Messages	Agra, Alton, Athol, Bogue, Bunker Hill, Burr Oak, Collyer, Courtland, Damar, Downs, Edmond, Esbon, Galatia, Gaylord, Gove, Grainfield, Hill City, Ionia, Jennings, Kensington, Lebanon, Lenora, Logan, Long Island, Morland, Natoma, Ogallah, Olmitz, Osborne, Palco, Park, Penokee, Portis, Prairie View, Quinter, Republic, Rexford, Russell, Selden, Victoria, WaKeeney, Webber, Woodston, Zurich	

7. A competitive ETC must certify that it offers a local usage plan comparable to that of the incumbent LEC. Please provide a description of the local usage plan(s) that is comparable to that of the incumbent LEC and complete the certification.

Rural Telephone Service Company, Inc. dba Nex-Tech is not a competitive ETC.

COMPARABLE LOCAL USAGE PLAN ANNUAL CERTIFICATION
KCC Docket Reference: 06-GIMT-446-GIT
(Please type or print legibly)

1. My title is _____ of the _____
(Company/ Cooperative). In this capacity, I am in a position of authority to certify whether the
Company/ Cooperative offers a local usage plan comparable to that of the incumbent. I am binding
_____ (Company/Cooperative) to the statements made in this certification.

2. By this affidavit, I certify that _____ (Company/
Cooperative) offers a local usage plan comparable to that of the incumbent.

I certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the state of Kansas that the foregoing
is true and correct. (Pursuant to Kan. Stat. Ann. 53-601.) Executed on
_____ (date).

Signature

Printed/Typed Name