THE STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF KANSAS

Before Commissioners:

Shari Feist Albrecht, Chair Jay Scott Emler Pat Apple

In the Matter of the Audit of Ionex) Communications, Inc. the Kansas Universal) Service Fund (KUSF) Administrator Pursuant to) Docket No. 18-ICIT-041-KSF K.S.A.2016 Supp. 66-2010(b) for KUSF) Operating Year 20, Fiscal Year March 2016 -) February 2017)

ORDER ASSESSING COSTS

The above-captioned matter comes before the State Corporation Commission of the State of Kansas (Commission) for consideration and determination. Having examined its files and records and being fully advised in the premises, the Commission finds and concludes as follows:

1. K.S.A. 66-1502 authorizes the Commission to assess the expenses of an investigation, opened on its own motion, against public utilities if the expenses reasonably attributable to such investigation exceed the sum of \$100. The Commission will utilize members of its Staff in this investigation, and as deemed appropriate by the Commission, employ special assistants and consultants to investigate all matters connected with this proceeding. The Commission finds that the expenses reasonably attributable to this investigation will exceed \$100. The Commission concludes that the costs of this proceeding should be assessed to Ionex Communications, Inc. This order constitutes notice of the assessment of costs and the assessment will begin three days after the date this order is mailed. Ionex Communications, Inc. is given notice that they may request a hearing as to the necessity of the investigation or the assessment of costs, in accordance with the provisions of the Kansas Administrative Procedure Act.

IT IS, THEREFORE, BY THE COMMISSION ORDERED THAT:

A. Ionex Communications, Inc. is assessed the costs of this investigation.

B. The parties have fifteen days, plus three days if service of this order is by mail, from the date this order was served in which to petition the Commission for reconsideration of any issue or issues decided herein. K.S.A. 66-118b; K.S.A. 2010 Supp. 77-529(a)(1).

C. The Commission retains jurisdiction over the subject matter and parties for the purpose of entering such further orders as it may deem necessary.

BY THE COMMISSION IT IS SO ORDERED.

Albrecht, Chair; Emler, Commissioner; Apple, Commissioner

JAN 2 4 2018 Dated:

non M. Res

Lynn M. Retz Secretary to the Commission

Order Mailed Date

JAN 24 2018

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

18-ICIT-041-KSF

I, the undersigned, certify that the true copy of the attached Order has been served to the following parties by means of

first class mail/hand delivered on JAN 2 4 2018

SHARYL FOWLER, MANAGER, REGULATORY ADMINISTRATION IONEX COMMUNICATIONS, INC. 115 GATEWAY DR MACON, GA 31210 Fax: 816-300-3247 sharyl.fowler@birch.com

NICOLE STEPHENS, KUSF ADMINISTRATOR MANAGER GVNW CONSULTING, INC. 2930 MONTVALE DRIVE, STE. B SPRINGFIELD, IL 62704 Fax: 719-594-5803 nstephens@gvnw.com OTTO NEWTON, LITIGATION COUNSEL KANSAS CORPORATION COMMISSION 1500 SW ARROWHEAD ROAD TOPEKA, KS 66604 Fax: 785-271-3167 o.newton@kcc.ks.gov ***Hand Delivered***

DAVID G. WINTER, SENIOR CONSULTANT GVNW CONSULTING, INC. 2270 LA MONTANA WAY, Ste 200 COLORADO SPRINGS, CO 80918 Fax: 719-594-5803 dwinter@gvnw.com

/S/ DeeAnn Shupe DeeAnn Shupe

Order Mailed Dr

JAN 24 2018