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LINCOLN COUNTY RECORDER
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RUS DESIGNATION:
NEVADA 1101-A34

19032826

RESTATED MORTGAGE,
SECURITY AGREEMENT
AND
FINANCING STATEMENT

made by and among

LINCOLN COUNTY TELEPHONE SYSTEM, INC.
P.O. Box 150
Pioche, Nevada 89043.

as Mortgagor and Debtor,

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Rural Utilities Service
Washington, D.C. 20250-1500,

as Mortgagee and secured party

and

THE RURAL TELEPHONE BANK
c/o Rural Utilities Service
Washington, D.C. 20250-1500,

as Mortgagee and secured party.

**THIS INSTRUMENT GRANTS A SECURITY INTEREST IN A TRANSMITTING UTILITY.
THE DEBTOR AS MORTGAGOR IS A TRANSMITTING UTILITY.
THIS INSTRUMENT CONTAINS PROVISIONS THAT COVER REAL AND PERSONAL PROPERTY,
AFTER-ACQUIRED PROPERTY, FIXTURES, PROCEEDS, FUTURE ADVANCES AND FUTURE
OBLIGATIONS.
THIS INSTRUMENT WAS DRAFTED BY THE RURAL UTILITIES DIVISION, OFFICE OF
THE GENERAL COUNSEL, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20250-
1400.
MORTGAGOR'S ORGANIZATION NUMBER: C546-1951.**

No. 1

This instrument is filed for record by Chicago Title Company as an
Accommodation only. It has not been examined as to its execution
or as to its effect on the Title.

THIS RESTATED MORTGAGE, SECURITY AGREEMENT AND FINANCING STATEMENT (hereinafter this "Restated Mortgage,") dated as of February 3, 2006, is made by and between **LINCOLN COUNTY TELEPHONE SYSTEM, INC.** (hereinafter the "Mortgagor,") a corporation existing under the laws of the State of Nevada, as Mortgagor and Debtor, and **THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA** (hereinafter the "Government,") acting through the Administrator of the Rural Utilities Service ("RUS") as Mortgagee and secured party, and the **RURAL TELEPHONE BANK** (the "Bank,") a corporation existing under the laws of the United States of America, as Mortgagee and secured party (the Government and the Bank being sometimes collectively called the "Mortgagees.")

WHEREAS, the Mortgagor and the Mortgagees are parties to prior telephone loan contracts (the "Prior Telephone Loan Contracts;")

WHEREAS, the Mortgagor, for value received, has duly authorized, executed, and delivered to the Government, or has assumed the payment of, certain mortgage notes, all payable to the order of, or obligating the Mortgagor otherwise to, the Government (hereinafter the "Outstanding RUS Notes") identified in Schedule A hereto, which are now outstanding and held by the Government;

WHEREAS, the Mortgagor, for value received, has duly authorized, executed, and delivered to the Bank, or has assumed the payment of, certain mortgage notes identified in Schedule A hereto, all payable to the order of, or obligating the Mortgagor otherwise to, the Bank (hereinafter the "Outstanding Bank Notes,") which are now outstanding and held by the Bank;

WHEREAS, the Outstanding RUS Notes and the Outstanding Bank Notes (hereinafter collectively the "Outstanding Notes") are secured by the security instruments identified in Schedule A hereto (hereinafter the "Prior Mortgages") made by the Mortgagor to the Government or to the Government and Bank;

WHEREAS, the Mortgagor has determined at this time to either borrow funds or obtain a loan guarantee from the Government or the Bank pursuant to the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 (7 U.S.C. § 901 *et seq.*) (hereinafter the "Act") and the Loan Agreement identified in Schedule A, and accordingly the Mortgagor has duly authorized, executed, and delivered to the Government its mortgage note(s) identified in Schedule A (hereinafter the "Current RUS Note(s),") and/or has duly authorized, executed and delivered to the Bank its mortgage note(s) identified in Schedule A (hereinafter the "Current Bank Note(s);" the Current RUS Notes and the Current Bank Notes hereinafter collectively called the "Current Notes") which are to be secured by this Restated Mortgage of the property hereinafter described;

WHEREAS, it is contemplated that the Outstanding RUS Notes and the Current RUS Note(s) shall be secured by this Restated Mortgage, as may be additional funding and notes, and/or renewal and substitute notes (hereinafter collectively the "Additional RUS Notes,") which may from time to time be executed and delivered by the Mortgagor to the Government, or notes which otherwise obligate the Mortgagor to the Government, as hereinafter provided, (the Outstanding RUS Notes, Current RUS Note(s), and the Additional RUS Notes are hereinafter collectively called the "RUS Notes;")

WHEREAS, it is contemplated that the Outstanding Bank Notes and the Current Bank Note(s) shall be secured by this Restated Mortgage, as may be additional funding and notes, and/or renewal and substitute notes (hereinafter collectively the "Additional Bank Notes" and Additional RUS Notes and Additional Bank Notes being hereinafter collectively called the "Additional Notes,") which may from time to time be executed and delivered by the Mortgagor to the Bank as provided herein (the Outstanding Bank Notes, Current Bank Note(s) and the Additional Bank Notes are hereinafter collectively called the "Bank Notes;")

WHEREAS, the RUS Notes and the Bank Notes are hereinafter collectively called the "Notes;"

WHEREAS, the Mortgagor now owns or leases facilities (hereinafter the "Existing Facilities") identified in Schedule B;

WHEREAS, to the extent that any of the property described or referred to in this Restated Mortgage is governed by the provisions of the Uniform Commercial Code of any State (hereinafter the "UCC,") the parties hereto desire that this Restated Mortgage be regarded as a "security agreement" under the UCC; and

WHEREAS, all acts necessary to make this Restated Mortgage a valid and binding legal instrument for the security of the Notes and other obligations of the Mortgagor have been, in all respects, duly authorized.

NOW, THEREFORE, this Restated Mortgage

WITNESSETH:

That each of the instruments constituting the Prior Mortgages are hereby amended, supplemented, and consolidated to read in their entirety from and after the date of execution of this Restated Mortgage, as follows:

GRANTING CLAUSE

NOW, THEREFORE, THIS RESTATED MORTGAGE WITNESSETH: That to secure the payment of the principal, interest, and premium, if any, on the Outstanding Notes, the Current Notes, and all Notes issued hereunder according to their tenor and effect, and to secure the performance of all provisions therein, herein, in the Loan Agreement, and in Prior Telephone Loan Contracts, and in consideration of the covenants herein contained and other good and valuable consideration, the Mortgagor has mortgaged, pledged and granted a continuing security interest in, and by these presents does hereby grant, bargain, sell, alienate, remise, release, convey, assign, transfer, hypothecate, pledge, set over and confirm, pledge, and grant unto the Mortgagees, for the purposes herein expressed, a continuing security interest and lien in all property, assets, rights, privileges, licenses and franchises of the Mortgagor of every kind and description, real, personal or mixed, tangible and intangible, of the kind or nature specifically mentioned herein, or any other kind or nature now owned or hereafter acquired or arising by the Mortgagor (by purchase, consolidation, merger, donation, construction, erection or in any other way) wherever located, including without limitation all or in part the following (hereinafter the "Mortgaged Property:")

I

All right, title, and interest of the Mortgagor in and to the Existing Facilities, buildings, plants, works, improvements, structures, estates, grants, franchises, easements, rights, privileges and properties, whether real, personal, or mixed, tangible or intangible, of every kind or description, now or hereafter owned, leased, constructed, or acquired by the Mortgagor, wherever located, and in and to all extensions, improvements, and additions thereto, including but not limited to all buildings, plants, works, structures, towers, antennas, fixtures, apparatus, materials, supplies, machinery, tools, implements, poles, posts, crossarms, conduits, ducts, lines, wires, cables, whether underground, overhead, or otherwise, exchanges, switches, including, without limitation, host and remote switches, desks, testboards, frames, racks, motors, generators, batteries, and other items of central office equipment, pay stations, protectors, instruments, connections and appliances, office furniture, equipment, and any and all other property of every kind, nature, and description, used, useful, or acquired for use by the Mortgagor in connection therewith, and including, without limitation, the following property:

- (a) The Existing Facilities located in the Counties listed in Schedule B in the States identified in Schedule B;
- (b) The real estate described on Schedule B, and by this reference made a part hereof, as if fully set forth at length at this point;

- (c) If the real estate described in Schedule B is by reference to deeds, grantor(s), grantee, etc., then the description of each of the properties conveyed by and through such deeds is, by reference, made a part of Schedule B as though fully set forth at length herein; and
- (d) The real estate described in Schedule B shall also include all plants, works, structures, erections, reservoirs, dams, buildings, fixtures, towers, antennas, and improvements now or hereafter located on such real estate, and all tenements, hereditaments, and appurtenances now or hereafter belonging, or in any way appertaining, thereunto;

II

All right, title, and interest of the Mortgagor in, to, and under any and all grants, privileges, rights of way and easements now owned, held, leased, enjoyed or exercised, or which may hereafter be owned, held, leased, acquired, enjoyed or exercised, by the Mortgagor for the purposes of, or in connection with, the construction or operation by, or on behalf of, the Mortgagor of its properties, facilities, systems, or businesses, whether underground, overhead, or otherwise, wherever located;

III

All right, title, and interest of the Mortgagor in, to, and under any and all licenses and permits (including without limitation those granted by the FCC), franchises, ordinances, and privileges, whether heretofore or hereafter granted, issued, or executed, to it or to its assignors by the Government, or by any state, county, township, municipality, village, or other political subdivision thereof, or by any agency, board, commission, or department of any of the foregoing, authorizing the construction, acquisition, or operation of the Mortgagor's properties, facilities, systems, or businesses, insofar as the same may by law be assigned, granted, bargained, sold, conveyed, transferred, mortgaged, or pledged;

IV

All right, title, and interest of the Mortgagor in, to, and under all personal property and fixtures of every kind and nature, including without limitation all goods (such as inventory, equipment and any accessions thereto), instruments (such as promissory notes or chattel paper, electronic or otherwise), documents, accounts (such as deposit accounts or trust accounts pursuant hereto or to a loan agreement), letter-of-credit rights, investment property (such as certificated and uncertificated securities or security entitlements and accounts), software, general intangibles (such as payment intangibles), supporting obligations, contract rights or rights to the payment of money, insurance claims, and proceeds (as such terms are presently and hereafter defined in the UCC; provided, however, that the term "instrument" shall be such term as defined in Article 9 of the UCC rather than Article 3);

V

All right, title, and interest of the Mortgagor in, to, and under any and all agreements, leases or contracts heretofore or hereafter executed by and between the Mortgagor and any person, firm, corporation, or other corporate entity relating to the Mortgaged Property (including contracts for the lease, occupancy, or sale of the Mortgage Property, or any portion thereof);

VI

All right, title, and interest of the Mortgagor in, to, and under any and all books, records and correspondence relating to the Mortgage Property, including, but not limited to, all records, ledgers, leases,

computer and automatic machinery, software, programs, databases, disc or tape files, print-outs, batches, runs, and other electronically-prepared information indicating, summarizing, evidencing, or otherwise necessary or helpful in the collection or realization on the Mortgaged Property;

VII

Also, all right, title, and interest of the Mortgagor in, to, and under all other property, real or personal, tangible or intangible, of every kind, nature, and description, and wherever situated, now or hereafter owned or leased by the Mortgagor, it being the intention hereof that all such property now owned or leased but not specifically described herein, or acquired or held by the Mortgagor after the date hereof, shall be as fully embraced within and subjected to the lien hereof as if the same were now owned by the Mortgagor and were specifically described herein to the extent only, however, that the subjection of such property to the lien hereof shall not be contrary to law;

Together with all rents, income, revenues, proceeds, products, profits and benefits at any time derived, received, or had from any and all of the above-described property of the Mortgagor;

Provided, however, that except as provided in section 2.12 of Article II herein, no automobiles, trucks, trailers, tractors or other vehicles (including without limitation aircraft or ships, if any) owned or used by the Mortgagor shall be included in the Mortgaged Property.

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD all or in part the Mortgaged Property unto the Mortgagees and its respective assigns forever, to secure equally and ratably the payment of the principal and interest on the Notes, according to their tenor and effect, without preference, priority, or distinction as to interest, principal (except as otherwise specifically provided herein), lien, or otherwise, of any note over any other note by reason of the priority in time of the execution, delivery, maturity, assignment, negotiation, or otherwise, thereof, and to secure the due performance of the covenants, agreements and provisions herein and contained in the Prior Telephone Loan Contracts and in the Loan Agreement, and for the uses and purposes and upon the terms, conditions, provisos, and agreements herein expressed and declared.

ARTICLE I

ADDITIONAL NOTES

SECTION 1.1 Additional Notes

- (a) The Mortgagor, when authorized by resolution(s) of its board of directors, members, or other relevant governing body, may from time to time execute and deliver to the Government one or more Additional RUS Notes: (1) to evidence loans made or guaranteed by the Government to the Mortgagor pursuant to the Act, or to evidence indebtedness of the Mortgagor incurred by the assumption by the Mortgagor of the indebtedness of a third party, or parties to the Government, created by a loan or loans theretofore made or guaranteed by the Government to such third party or parties pursuant to the Act; and/or (2) to refund any Note(s) then outstanding secured hereby, or in renewal of, or in substitution for, any such Note(s) then outstanding.
- (b) The Mortgagor, when authorized by resolution(s) of its board of directors, members, or other relevant governing body, may from time to time execute and deliver to the Bank one or more Additional Bank Notes: (1) to evidence loans made by the Bank to the Mortgagor pursuant to the Act, or to evidence indebtedness of the Mortgagor incurred by the assumption by the Mortgagor of the indebtedness of a third party or parties to the

Bank created by a loan or loans theretofore made by the Bank to such third party or parties pursuant to the Act; and/or (2) to refund any Note(s) then outstanding secured hereby, or in renewal of, or in substitution for, any such Note(s) then outstanding.

- (c) Additional RUS Notes and Additional Bank Notes shall contain such provisions and shall be executed and delivered upon such terms and conditions as the respective Government and/or Bank and the board of directors, members, or other relevant governing body of the Mortgagor authorizing the execution and delivery thereof, shall prescribe; provided, however, that the outstanding principal balances owing on the Notes shall not at any one time exceed the Mortgage Debt Limit set forth in Schedule A, and no Note shall mature more than fifty (50) years after the date hereof. Additional RUS Notes and Additional Bank Notes, when and as executed and delivered, shall be secured by this Restated Mortgage, equally and ratably with all other Notes then outstanding, without preference, priority, or distinction of any Note over any other Note by reason of the priority of the time of the execution, delivery, maturity, assignment, or negotiation thereof. As used in this Restated Mortgage, the term "directors" includes trustees.

SECTION 1.2 Supplemental Mortgage

The Mortgagor, when authorized by resolution(s) of its board of directors, members, or other relevant governing body, may from time to time execute, acknowledge, deliver, record, and file mortgages supplemental to this Restated Mortgage which thereafter shall form a part hereof, for the purpose of formally confirming this Restated Mortgage as security for the Notes.

ARTICLE II

PARTICULAR COVENANTS OF THE MORTGAGOR

The Mortgagor covenants with the Mortgagees and the holders of Notes secured hereby (hereinafter collectively the "Noteholders") as follows:

SECTION 2.1 Authority to Execute and Deliver Notes, Prior Telephone Loan Contracts, the Loan Agreement and Mortgage; All Action Taken; Enforceable Obligations

The Mortgagor has all requisite corporate and legal power to enter into and perform its obligations under the Outstanding Notes, the Prior Telephone Loan Contracts, the Current Note(s), the Loan Agreement and this Restated Mortgage and to execute and deliver Additional Notes; and all official action on its part for the execution and delivery of the Outstanding Notes, the Prior Telephone Loan Contracts, the Current Note(s), the Loan Agreement and this Restated Mortgage has been duly and effectively taken; and the Outstanding Notes, Prior Telephone Loan Contracts, the Current Note(s), the Loan Agreement and this Restated Mortgage are, or when executed and delivered will be, the valid and enforceable obligations of the Mortgagor in accordance with their respective terms.

SECTION 2.2 Warranty of Title

- (a) Except as disclosed in writing in the opinion of counsel, at the time of execution and delivery of this instrument, the Mortgagor has good and marketable title in fee simple to the Mortgaged Property, free and clear of any deed of trust, mortgage, lien, charge, or encumbrance thereon or affecting the title thereto, except for the following Permitted Encumbrances:
- (i) as to the Mortgaged Property that is real property, restrictions, exceptions, reservations, conditions, limitations, interests, and other

matters which are set forth or referred to in deeds or other conveyance documents, and each of which fits one or more of the clauses of this definition; provided however, that such matters do not in the aggregate materially detract from the value of the Mortgaged Property taken as a whole and do not materially impair the use of such property for the purposes for which it is held by the Mortgagor;

- (ii) liens for taxes, assessments, and other governmental charges which are not delinquent;
- (iii) liens for taxes, assessments, and other governmental charges already delinquent which are currently being contested in good faith by appropriate proceedings; provided, the Mortgagor shall have set aside on its books adequate reserves with respect thereto;
- (iv) mechanics', workmen's, repairmen's, materialmen's, warehousemen's and carriers' liens and other similar liens arising in the ordinary course of business for charges which are not delinquent, or which are being contested in good faith and have not proceeded to judgment; provided, the Mortgagor shall have set aside on its books adequate reserves with respect thereto;
- (v) liens in respect of judgments or awards with respect to which the Mortgagor shall in good faith currently be prosecuting an appeal or proceedings for review and with respect to which the Mortgagor shall have secured a stay of execution pending such appeal or proceedings for review; provided, the Mortgagor shall have set aside on its books adequate reserves with respect thereto;
- (vi) easements and similar rights granted by the Mortgagor over, or in respect of, any Mortgaged Property, provided that in the opinion of the Mortgagor's board, members, other relevant governing body, or official acceptable to RUS, or to the Bank if applicable, such grant will not impair the usefulness of such property in the conduct of the Mortgagor's business and will not be prejudicial to the interests of the Mortgagees, and similar rights granted by any predecessor in title of the Mortgagor;
- (vii) easements, leases, reservations, or other rights of others in any property of the Mortgagor for streets, roads, bridges, pipes, pipe lines, railroads, electric transmission and distribution lines, telegraph and telephone lines, the removal of oil, gas, coal or other minerals and other similar purposes, flood rights, river control and development rights, sewage and drainage rights, restrictions against pollution and zoning laws and minor defects and irregularities in the record of title; provided, that the above do not materially affect the marketability of title to such property and do not in the aggregate materially impair the use of the Mortgaged Property taken as a whole for the purposes for which it is held by the Mortgagor;
- (viii) liens upon lands over which easements or rights of way are acquired by the Mortgagor for any of the purposes specified in Clause (vii) of this definition, securing indebtedness neither created, assumed, nor guaranteed by the Mortgagor, nor on account of which it customarily

pays interest, which liens do not materially impair the use of such easements or rights of way for the purposes for which they are held by the Mortgagor;

- (ix) leases existing at the date of this instrument affecting property owned by the Mortgagor at said date which have been previously disclosed to the Mortgagees in writing, and leases for a term of not more than two years (including any extensions or renewals) affecting property acquired by the Mortgagor after said date;
- (x) terminable or short term leases or permits for occupancy which expressly grant to the Mortgagor the right to terminate at any time on not more than six months' notice and which occupancy does not interfere with the operation of the business of the Mortgagor;
- (xi) any lien or privilege vested in any lessor, licensor, or permitor for rent or other obligations or acts to be performed, the payment or performance of which other obligations or acts is required under leases, subleases, licenses or permits, so long as the payment of such rent or the performance of such other obligations or acts is not delinquent;
- (xii) liens or privileges of any employees of the Mortgagor for salary or wages earned but not yet payable;
- (xiii) the burdens of any law, governmental regulation, or permit requiring the Mortgagor to maintain certain facilities or to perform certain acts as a condition of the Mortgagor's occupancy of certain real estate, or prohibiting the interference with any public lands or any river or stream or navigable waters;
- (xiv) any irregularities in or deficiencies of title to any rights-of-way for pipe lines, telephone lines, telegraph lines, power lines or appurtenances thereto, or other improvements thereon, and to any real estate used or to be used primarily for right-of-way purposes; provided, that in the opinion of counsel for the Mortgagor: (1) the Mortgagor shall have obtained from the apparent owner of the lands or estates therein covered by any such right-of-way, a sufficient right, by the terms of the instrument granting such right-of-way, to the use thereof for the construction, operation, or maintenance of the lines, appurtenances, or improvements for which the same are used or to be used; or (2) the Mortgagor has power under eminent domain, or similar statutes, to remove such irregularities or deficiencies;
- (xv) rights reserved to, or vested in, any municipal, governmental, or other public authority to control or regulate any property of the Mortgagor, or to use such property in any manner, which rights do not materially impair the use of such property, for the purposes it is held by the Mortgagor;
- (xvi) any obligations or duties affecting the property of the Mortgagor, to any municipal, governmental, or other public authority with respect to any franchise, grant, license or permit;

- (xvii) any right which any municipal, governmental, or other public authority may have by virtue of any franchise, license, contract or statute (1) to purchase, (2) to designate a purchaser of, or (3) to order the sale of, any property of the Mortgagor upon payment of cash or reasonable compensation therefor; or to terminate any franchise, license or other rights; or to regulate the property and business of the Mortgagor; provided however, that nothing in this clause is intended to waive any claim or rights that the Government may otherwise have under federal laws;
 - (xviii) any lien required by law or government regulation as a condition to the transaction of any business or the exercise of any privilege or license, or to enable the Mortgagor to maintain self-insurance or to participate in any fund established to cover any insurance risks or in connection with workmen's compensation, unemployment insurance, old age pensions, or other social security, or to share in the privileges or benefits required for companies participating in such arrangements; provided however, that nothing in this clause is intended to waive any claim or rights that the Government may otherwise have under federal laws;
 - (xix) liens arising out of any defeased mortgage or indenture of the Mortgagor;
 - (xx) the undivided interest of other owners, and liens on such undivided interests, in property owned jointly with the Mortgagor, as well as the rights of such owners to such property pursuant to the ownership contracts;
 - (xxi) this Restated Mortgage and any Underlying Mortgages identified therein.
- (b) The Mortgagor warrants that it has good right and lawful authority to mortgage the Mortgaged Property for the purposes herein expressed.
- (c) At the time of execution and delivery of this Restated Mortgage, the Mortgagor lawfully owns and is possessed of the personal property described in the Granting Clauses herein, free and clear of any deed of trust, mortgage, lien, charge, or encumbrance thereon or affecting the title thereto, except Permitted Encumbrances.

SECTION 2.3 Maintain Superior Lien of Mortgage, After-Acquired Property, Further Assurances, Recording

- (a) The Mortgagor will, so long as any of the Notes shall be outstanding, maintain and preserve the lien of this Restated Mortgage superior to all other liens affecting the Mortgaged Property and shall execute, file and/or record all such financing statements, continuation statements, mortgages or other security instruments as necessary to maintain such superior lien, and will forever warrant and defend the title to said property against any and all claims and demands whatsoever.
- (b) All property of every kind acquired by the Mortgagor after the date hereof, shall, immediately upon the acquisition thereof by the Mortgagor, and without any further mortgage, conveyance, or assignment, become subject to the lien of this Restated Mortgage. Nevertheless, the Mortgagor will do, execute, acknowledge, and deliver any

and all such further acts, conveyances, mortgages, security agreements, financing statements, and assurances as either Mortgagee shall require for accomplishing the purposes of this Restated Mortgage.

- (c) The Mortgagor will cause this Restated Mortgage and all supplemental mortgages and other instruments of further assurance, including all financing statements covering security interests in personal property, to be promptly recorded, registered and filed, and will execute and file such financing statements and cause to be issued and filed such continuation statements, all in such manner and place as may be required by law, or requested by either Mortgagee, fully to preserve and protect the rights of the Mortgagees and Noteholders hereunder to the Mortgaged Property.

SECTION 2.4 Negative Pledge

The Mortgagor shall not create, incur, or suffer any lien, mortgage, pledge, assignment, or other encumbrance on, or security interest in, the Mortgaged Property, other than the Permitted Encumbrances.

SECTION 2.5 Payment of Taxes

The Mortgagor will promptly pay or discharge any and all obligations for which, or on account of which, any lien, claim, or charge against the Mortgagor's property might exist or could be created, and for any and all lawful taxes, rates, levies, or assessments imposed upon, or accruing upon, any of the Mortgagor's property (whether taxed to the Mortgagor or to any Noteholder), franchises, earnings, or businesses, as and when the same shall become due and payable; and whenever called upon to do so, the Mortgagor will furnish to the Mortgagees or to any Noteholder adequate proof of such payment or discharge.

SECTION 2.6 Payment of Notes and Secured Obligations

The Mortgagor will duly and punctually pay the principal and interest on the Notes, at the time, place, and manner provided therein, according to the true intent and meaning thereof, as well as all other sums becoming due hereunder.

SECTION 2.7 Restrictions on Transfers of Property

Except as provided in Section 2.8 below, the Mortgagor shall not sell, lease or transfer any Mortgaged Property to any other person or entity (including any subsidiary or affiliate of the Mortgagor) without the prior written consent of the Mortgagees.

SECTION 2.8 Disposal of Obsolete or Damaged Mortgaged Property

So long as the Mortgagor is not in default hereunder, the Mortgagor may, without obtaining the consent of the Mortgagees or Noteholders, sell or otherwise dispose of, free from the lien hereof, any of its property which is neither necessary to, nor useful for, the operation of the Mortgagor's business, or which has become obsolete, worn out, damaged, or otherwise unsuitable for the purposes of the Mortgagor; provided, however, that the Mortgagor shall to the extent necessary: (1) replace the same with other property of the same kind and nature, or substitute thereof, which shall be subject to the lien hereof, free and clear of all prior liens, and apply the proceeds, if any, derived from the sale or disposition of such property, which are not needed for the replacement thereof, to the prepayment of the indebtedness on the then outstanding RUS Notes and Bank Notes in proportion to the aggregate principal balances on each, and shall be applied to such notes and installments thereof as may be designated by the respective Noteholders at the time of any such receipt; (2) immediately upon the receipt of the proceeds of any sale or disposition of said property, apply the entire amount of such proceeds to the prepayment of the indebtedness evidenced by the RUS Notes and the Bank Notes in proportion and manner as provided for in (1) above; or (3) deposit all or such part of the proceeds derived from the sale or disposition of said property into such bank accounts

as the Mortgagees shall specify, and shall use the same only for such additions to, or improvements in, the Mortgaged Property, on such terms and conditions as the Mortgagees shall specify.

SECTION 2.9 Maintenance, Preservation and Operation of Mortgaged Property

- (a) At all times the Mortgagor will maintain and preserve the Mortgaged Property in good repair, working order, and condition, and will, subject to contingencies beyond its reasonable control, keep its plant and properties in continuous operation, and from time to time make all needed and proper repairs, renewals, replacements, useful and proper alterations, additions, betterments and improvements, and use all reasonable diligence to furnish the subscribers served by it through the Mortgaged Property with adequate telecommunications and broadband telephone service.
- (b) If in the sole judgment of either Mortgagee, the Mortgaged Property is not being maintained and repaired in accordance with paragraph (a) of this Section, either Mortgagee may send the Mortgagor a written report of needed improvements, upon receipt of which the Mortgagor will promptly undertake to accomplish such improvements.

SECTION 2.10 Mortgaged Property to be Purchased Free of Encumbrances

Except as specifically authorized in writing in advance by the Mortgagees, the Mortgagor will purchase all materials, equipment, supplies, and replacements to be incorporated in, or used in connection with, the Mortgaged Property outright, and not subject to any conditional sales agreement, chattel mortgage, bailment lease, or other agreement reserving to the seller any right, title, or lien.

SECTION 2.11 Insurance Requirements: Application of Insurance Proceeds

- (a) The Mortgagor shall take out and maintain insurance on the property acquired with the Loan in accordance with 7 C.F.R. Part 1788.
- (b) Sums recovered under any policy or fidelity bond by the Mortgagor or any Noteholder for a loss of funds advanced under the Notes or for any loss under such policy or bond shall, unless applied as provided in 7 C.F.R. Part 1788, be used to finance construction of utility plant secured or to be secured by this Restated Mortgage, or, unless otherwise directed by the Mortgagees, be applied to the prepayment of the then outstanding RUS Notes and Bank Notes in proportion to the aggregate principal balances on each, and shall be applied to such Notes and installments thereof as may be designated by the respective Noteholders at the time of receipt. At the request of either Mortgagee, the Mortgagor shall exercise such rights and remedies under such policy or fidelity bond as designated by such Mortgagee, and the Mortgagor hereby irrevocably appoints each Mortgagee as its agent to exercise such rights and remedies under such policy or bond as each Mortgagee may choose, and the Mortgagor shall pay all costs and reasonable expenses incurred by the Mortgagee(s) in connection with such exercise.

SECTION 2.12 When Mortgage Lien Attaches to Vehicles, Ships, Etc.

In the event the Mortgagor has or suffers a deficit in Net Income or Net Margins, as such terms are defined in the Loan Agreement, during any fiscal year while any of the Notes are outstanding, the Mortgagor will at any time, upon written demand of either Mortgagee, make, execute, acknowledge and deliver or cause to be made, executed, acknowledged, and delivered all such further and supplemental indentures of mortgages, security agreements, financing statements, instruments, and conveyances, and take or cause to be taken all such further action, as may be requested by the Mortgagee, in order to attach to this Restated Mortgage, as Mortgaged Property, and to subject to all the terms and conditions of this Restated Mortgage, all right, title, and interest of the Mortgagor

in and to, all or in part, the automobiles, trucks, tractors, trailers, railcars, aircraft, ships, boats and other vehicles then or thereafter owned or acquired by the Mortgagor. Upon the making of such written demand by any Mortgagee, such vehicles shall be deemed part of the Mortgaged Property for all purposes hereof.

SECTION 2.13 Application of Proceeds from Eminent Domain

In the event the Mortgaged Property, or any part thereof, shall be taken under the power of eminent domain, all proceeds and avails therefrom, except to the extent that all Noteholders shall consent to other use and application thereof, shall forthwith be applied by the Mortgagor: First, to the ratable payment of any indebtedness by this Restated Mortgage secured other than principal or interest on the Notes; Second, to the ratable payment of interest which shall have accrued on the Notes and be unpaid; Third, to the ratable payment of, or on account of, the unpaid principal of the Notes and to such installments thereof as may be designated by the respective Noteholders at the time of any such payment; and if any, the balance shall be paid to whosoever shall be entitled thereto.

SECTION 2.14 Compliance with Loan Agreement and Prior Telephone Loan Contracts

The Mortgagor will well and truly observe and perform all applicable covenants, agreements, terms, and conditions contained in the Loan Agreement and Prior Telephone Loan Contracts.

SECTION 2.15 Government to be Noteholder

At all times when any Note is held by the Government, or in the event the Government shall assign an Additional RUS Note without having insured the payment of such Note, this Restated Mortgage shall secure payment of such Note for the benefit of the Government or such uninsured holder thereof, as the case may be. Whenever any Additional RUS Note may be sold to an insured purchaser, it shall continue to be considered a "Note" as defined herein, but as to any such insured Note, the Government, and not such insured purchaser, shall be considered and shall have the rights of the Noteholder for purposes of this Restated Mortgage. Notice of the rights of the Government under the preceding sentence shall be set forth in all such insured Notes. As to any Note which evidences a loan made by a third party lender to the Mortgagor and guaranteed by the Government, acting through the Administrator, pursuant to the Act, the Government and not such third party lender shall be considered to be and shall have the rights of the Noteholder for purposes of this Restated Mortgage.

SECTION 2.16 Mortgagee Right to Expend Money to Protect Mortgaged Property

If in any respect the Mortgagor fails to comply with the covenants and conditions herein contained regarding the procuring of insurance, the payment of taxes, assessments, and other charges, the keeping of the Mortgaged Property in repair and free of liens and other claims, or to comply with any other covenant contained in this Restated Mortgage or the Loan Agreement, the Mortgagees shall have the right, without prejudice to any other remedies arising by reason of such default: (1) to advance or expend moneys for the purpose of procuring such insurance, or for the payment of insurance premiums, taxes, assessments or other charges; (2) to save the Mortgaged Property from sale or forfeiture for any unpaid tax, assessment, or otherwise; (3) to redeem the same from any tax or other sale; (4) to purchase any tax title thereon; (5) to remove or purchase any mechanics' liens or other encumbrance thereon; (6) to make repairs thereon; (7) to comply with any other covenant herein contained; (8) to prosecute and defend any suit in relation to the Mortgaged Property; or (9) in any manner, to protect the Mortgaged Property and the title thereto. All sums so advanced for any of the aforesaid purposes with interest thereon at the highest legal rate, but not in excess of twelve percent (12%) per annum, shall be deemed a charge upon the Mortgaged Property in the same manner as the Notes are secured and shall be forthwith paid to the Mortgagee upon demand. It shall not be obligatory for the Mortgagees in making any such advances or expenditures to inquire into the validity of any such title, tax, assessment, sale, mechanics' lien, or other encumbrance thereof.

ARTICLE III

REMEDIES OF THE MORTGAGEE AND NOTEHOLDERS

SECTION 3.1. Events of Default:

Each of the following shall be an "Event of Default" under this Restated Mortgage:

- (a) Representations and Warranties. Any representation or warranty made by the Mortgagor in the Loan Documents, as such term is defined in the Loan Agreement or in the Application, as such term is defined in the Loan Agreement, or any certificate furnished to RUS or the Bank thereunder, which proves to have been incorrect in any material respect at the time made;
- (b) Non-Payment. The nonpayment of any required and due installment of interest on, or principal of, any Note, whether by acceleration or otherwise, which continues for five (5) Business Days, as such term is defined in the Loan Agreement;
- (c) Corrective Actions. Default by the Mortgagor in the observance or performance of Section 5.13 of the Loan Agreement;
- (d) Limited Liability Companies. Default by the Mortgagor or its members in the observance or performance of Section 6.3 of the Loan Agreement;
- (e) Other Covenants. Default by the Mortgagor in the observance or performance of any other covenant or agreement contained in any of the Loan Documents, which shall remain unremedied for thirty (30) calendar days after written notice thereof shall have been given to the Mortgagor by RUS or the Bank;
- (f) Adverse Effects. The Mortgagor shall forfeit or otherwise be deprived of its charter, articles of organization, franchises, permits, easements, consents or licenses required to carry on any material portion of its business or the Mortgagor files for or an event occurs which can reasonably be expected to result in its dissolution or termination;
- (g) Other Obligations. Default by the Mortgagor in the payment of any obligation, whether direct or contingent, for borrowed money in excess of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00) or in the performance or observance of the terms of any instrument pursuant to which such obligation was created or securing such obligation which default shall have resulted in such obligation becoming or being declared due and payable prior to the date on which it would otherwise be due and payable;
- (h) Bankruptcy. A court having jurisdiction in the premises shall enter a decree or order for relief with respect to the Mortgagor in an involuntary case under any applicable bankruptcy, insolvency, or other similar law now or hereafter in effect: (1) appointing a receiver, liquidator, assignee, custodian, trustee, sequestrator, or similar official, or (2) ordering the winding up or liquidation of its affairs; or the Mortgagor shall commence a voluntary case under any applicable bankruptcy, insolvency or other similar law now or hereafter in effect, or under any such law, or consent to the appointment or taking possession by a receiver, liquidator, assignee, custodian or trustee, of a substantial part of its property, or make any general assignment for the benefit of creditors;
- (i) Dissolution or Liquidation. Other than as provided in the immediately preceding subsection, the dissolution or liquidation of the Mortgagor, or the filing of such by the Mortgagor;

- (j) Impaired Business. The failure by the Mortgagor to promptly foreclose or remove any execution, garnishment or attachment of such consequence as shall impair its ability to continue its business or fulfill its obligations and such execution, garnishment or attachment shall not be vacated within thirty (30) days; and/or
- (k) Payment of Final Judgment. A final judgment in an amount of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00) or more shall be entered against the Mortgagor and shall remain unsatisfied or without a stay in respect thereof for a period of thirty (30) days.

SECTION 3.2 Acceleration of Maturity; Annulment of Acceleration

- (a) If any Event of Default has occurred and is continuing, the Mortgagees and/or any other Noteholder may, by notice in writing to the Mortgagor and delivery of a copy thereof to the other Noteholders, if any, declare all unpaid principal and accrued interest on any or all of their respective Notes to be due and payable immediately; and upon any such declaration, all such unpaid principal and accrued interest shall immediately become due and payable, notwithstanding anything contained herein or in any Note to the contrary.
- (b) If after the unpaid principal and accrued interest on any of the Notes shall have been so declared to be due and payable, all payments in respect of principal and interest which have become due and payable by the terms of such Note(s) shall be paid to the respective Noteholders, and all other defaults hereunder and under the Notes shall have been made good or secured to the satisfaction of all of the Noteholders, the Noteholder(s) which have declared the principal and interest on Notes held by such Noteholder(s) to be due and payable may, by written notice to the Mortgagor and delivery of a copy thereof to the other Noteholders, annul such declaration or declarations and waive such default(s) and consequences thereof, with such waiver not extending to or affecting any subsequent default or impairing any right consequent thereon.

SECTION 3.3 Remedies of Mortgagees

If any Event of Default shall occur and continues, either or both Mortgagees, for itself or for themselves, and as the agent of the other Noteholders, personally or by attorney, in its or their discretion, may, insofar as not prohibited by law:

- (a) (i) take immediate possession of the Mortgaged Property, (ii) collect and receive all credits, outstanding accounts, bills, receivables, rents, income, revenues, and profits of the Mortgagor, pertaining to or arising from the Mortgaged Property, or any part thereof, and issue binding receipts therefor; and (iii) manage, control, and/or operate the Mortgaged Property as fully as the Mortgagor might do if in possession thereof, including, without limitation, the making of all repairs or replacements deemed necessary or advisable;
- (b) Mortgagees, or any employee or agent of either Mortgagee, is hereby constituted and appointed as true and lawful attorney-in-fact of the Mortgagor with full power to (i) notify or require the Mortgagor to notify any and all customers that the Mortgaged Property has been assigned to Mortgagee(s) and/or that Mortgagee(s) has a security interest in the Mortgaged Property; (ii) sign and endorse the name of the Mortgagor upon any notes, checks, acceptances, drafts, money orders, or other instruments of payment (including payments made under any policy of insurance) that may come into possession of Mortgagee(s), or upon any invoice, freight or express bill, bill of lading, storage or warehouse receipt, assignment, verification, or notice in connection with receivables, all in full or part payment of any amount owing to any Noteholder; (iii) send requests for verifications of Mortgaged Property to customers or account debtors; (iv) sell, assign, sue

for, collect, or compromise payment of all or any part of the Mortgaged Property in the name of the Mortgagor or in its/their own name, or make any other disposition of Mortgaged Property, or any part thereof, for cash, credit, or any combination thereof; and Mortgagee(s) may purchase all or any part of the Mortgaged Property at public or, if permitted by law, private sale, and in lieu of actual payment of such purchase price may set off the amount of such price against amount owing to said Mortgagee(s); granting to Mortgagees, as the attorney-in-fact of the Mortgagor, full power of substitution and full power to do any and all things necessary to be done in and about the premises fully and effectually as the Mortgagor might or could do but for this appointment, and hereby ratifying all that said attorney-in-fact shall lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue hereof. The Mortgagee(s), its/their employees, or agents shall not be liable for any act, omission, error of judgment, or mistake of fact or law in its/their capacity as attorney-in-fact. This power of attorney is coupled with an interest and shall be irrevocable during the term of this Restated Mortgage so long as any Notes shall remain outstanding;

- (c) proceed to protect and enforce the rights of the Mortgagees and the rights of the Noteholder(s) under this Restated Mortgage by suits or actions in equity or at law in any court of competent jurisdiction, whether for specific performance of any covenant or any agreement contained herein, for aid of execution of any power herein granted, for foreclosure hereunder, for sale of the Mortgaged Property, or any part thereof, for collection of debts hereby secured, or for enforcement of other appropriate legal or equitable remedies as may be deemed most effectual to protect and enforce the rights and remedies herein granted or conferred; and in the event any such action or suit is instituted, the Mortgagee(s) or Noteholder(s) instituting such action or suit shall have the right to have appointed a receiver of the Mortgaged Property and of all rents, income, revenues, and profits pertaining thereto, or arising, derived, received, or had therefrom, from the commencement of such suit or action. Such receiver shall have all the usual powers and duties of receivers, in like and similar cases, to the fullest extent permitted by law; and if application shall be made for the appointment of a receiver, the Mortgagor hereby expressly consents that the court to which such application shall be made may make said appointment;
- (d) sell or cause to be sold the Mortgaged Property, all or in part, and all right, title, interest, claim, and demand of the Mortgagor therein or thereto, at public auction in any county in which the property to be sold is located, at such time, place, and manner as may be specified in the notice of sale, containing a brief general description of the property to be sold, giving a copy thereof to the Mortgagor by mail at least fifteen (15) days prior to the date fixed for such sale, and publishing the same once in each week for two successive calendar weeks prior to the date of such sale in a newspaper of general circulation published in said county, or if no such newspaper is published in such county, in a newspaper of general circulation in such county, the first such publication to be not less than fifteen (15) days nor more than thirty (30) days prior to the date fixed for such sale. Any sale made under this subparagraph may be adjourned from time to time by announcement, at the time and place appointed for such sale or adjourned sale(s); and without further notice or publication the sale may be had at the time and place to which the same shall be adjourned; provided, however, that in the event another or different notice of sale or another or different manner of conducting the same shall be required by law, the notice of sale shall be given or the sale shall be conducted, as the case may be, in accordance with the applicable provisions of law. The expenses incurred by the Mortgagee(s), including but not limited to receiver's fees, attorneys' fees, cost of advertisement, and agents' compensation, in the exercise of any of the remedies provided in this Restated Mortgage shall be secured by this Restated Mortgage;

- (e) Mortgagees shall have the right to enter and/or remain upon the premises of the Mortgagor without any obligation to pay rent to the Mortgagor or others, or any other place(s) where any of the Mortgaged Property is located and kept, and: (i) remove the Mortgaged Property therefrom in order to maintain, collect, sell, and/or liquidate the Mortgaged Property or, (ii) use such premises, together with materials, supplies, books, and records of the Mortgagor, to maintain possession and/or the condition of the Mortgaged Property, and to prepare the Mortgaged Property for sale, liquidation, or collection. Mortgagees may require the Mortgagor to assemble the Mortgaged Property and make it available to Mortgagees at a place to be designated by Mortgagees;
- (f) Mortgagees shall have the right, without prior notice to the Mortgagor, to exercise rights of setoff, recoupment, or any counterclaim and apply any and all amounts held or hereafter held by Mortgagees, owed to the Mortgagor, or for the credit of the Mortgagor, against any and all of the Notes. Mortgagees agree to notify the Mortgagor promptly after any such setoff or recoupment and the application thereof; provided that the failure to give such notice shall not affect the validity of such setoff, recoupment or application. Mortgagor waives all rights of setoff, deduction, recoupment, or counterclaim; and/or
- (g) Mortgagees shall have, in addition to any other rights and remedies contained in this Restated Mortgage, and in any other agreements, guarantees, notes, mortgages, instruments, and documents heretofore, now, or at any time hereafter executed by the Mortgagor and delivered to Mortgagee(s), all of the rights and remedies of a secured party under the UCC in force in the state identified in the first paragraph hereof and any other jurisdiction where the Mortgaged Property is located, as of the date hereof, all of which rights and remedies shall be cumulative, and nonexclusive.

SECTION 3.4 Right to Purchase Mortgaged Property

At any sale hereunder any Noteholder shall have the right to bid for and purchase the Mortgaged Property, or such part thereof as shall be offered for sale, and any Noteholder may in lieu of actual payment of the purchase price, set off against the purchase price the amount owing to said Noteholder secured hereunder and such set off amount shall be credited as a payment on account of principal and interest on the Note(s) held by such Noteholder.

SECTION 3.5 Application of Proceeds from Remedial Actions

Any proceeds or funds arising from the exercise of any rights or the enforcement of any remedies herein provided after the payment, or provision for the payment, of any and all costs and expenses in connection with the exercise of such rights or the enforcement of such remedies shall be applied: First, to the payment of indebtedness hereby secured other than the principal or interest on the Notes; Second, to the ratable payment of interest which shall have accrued on the Notes and which shall be unpaid; Third, to the ratable payment of, or on account of, the unpaid principal of the Notes, and the balance, if any, shall be paid to whomsoever shall be entitled thereto.

SECTION 3.6 Notice of Default

The Mortgagor covenants that it will give immediate written notice to the Mortgagees and to all Noteholders of the occurrence of an Event of Default, or in the event that any right or remedy described in Sections 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, or 3.5 of this Article III is exercised or enforced, or of any action taken to exercise or enforce any such right or remedy.

SECTION 3.7 Remedies Cumulative, No Election

Every right or remedy herein conferred upon or reserved to the Mortgagees or to the Noteholder(s) shall be cumulative and shall be in addition to every other right and remedy given hereunder, or now or hereafter existing at law, in equity, or by statute. The pursuit of any right or remedy shall not be construed as an election.

SECTION 3.8 Waiver of Appraisal Rights, Marshaling of Assets Not Required

The Mortgagor, for itself and for all who may claim through or under it, covenants that it will not at any time insist upon or plead, or in any manner whatsoever, claim or take the benefit or advantage of, any appraisal, valuation, stay, extension, or redemption laws, now or hereafter in force in any locality where any of the Mortgaged Property may be situated, in order to prevent, delay or hinder the enforcement or foreclosure of this Restated Mortgage, or the absolute sale of the Mortgaged Property, or any part thereof, or the final and absolute putting into possession thereof, immediately after such sale, of the purchaser(s) thereat, and the Mortgagor, for itself and for all who may claim through or under it, hereby waives the benefit of all such laws, unless such waiver shall be forbidden by law. Under no circumstance shall there be any marshaling of assets upon any foreclosure or other enforcement of this Restated Mortgage.

SECTION 3.9 Federal Communications Commission Matters

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Restated Mortgage, the following provisions shall be applicable in the event that the Mortgaged Property includes (to the extent such property can be included under the applicable law) licenses, permits, or similar rights granted by the Federal Communications Commission (hereinafter referred to as the "FCC") to the Mortgagor (such licenses, permits or similar rights hereinafter referred to as "FCC Licenses:")

- (a) Any loss, revocation, foreclosure on, sale, transfer, or other disposition of FCC Licenses by the Mortgagee(s) shall be pursuant to Section 310(d) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, and applicable rules and regulations thereunder, and, if and to the extent required thereby, subject to the prior approval or notice to and non-opposition of the FCC.
- (b) If an Event of Default shall have occurred and be continuing, the Mortgagor shall take any action which the Mortgagees may request in order to transfer and assign to the Mortgagees, or to such one or more third parties as the Mortgagees may designate, or to a combination of the foregoing, each FCC License held by the Mortgagor. The Mortgagees are empowered, to the extent permitted by applicable law, to request the appointment of a receiver from any court of competent jurisdiction. Such receiver may be instructed by the Mortgagees to seek from the FCC an involuntary transfer of control of each such FCC License for the purpose of seeking a bona fide purchaser to whom control will ultimately be transferred. The Mortgagor hereby agrees to authorize such an involuntary transfer of control upon the request of the receiver so appointed and, if the Mortgagor shall refuse to authorize the transfer, its approval may be required by the court. Upon the occurrence and during the continuance of an Event of Default, the Mortgagor shall further use its best efforts to assist in obtaining approval of the FCC and any state regulatory bodies, if required, for any action contemplated by this Restated Mortgage, including, without limitation, the preparation, execution and filing with the FCC and any state regulatory bodies of the assignor's or transferor's portion of any application or applications for consent to the assignment of any FCC license or transfer of control necessary or appropriate under the rules and regulations of the FCC or any state regulatory body for approval or non-opposition of the transfer or assignment of any portion of the Mortgaged Property, including, without limitation any FCC License.

- (c) The Mortgagor acknowledges that the assignment, transfer, loss, or revocation of any FCC License is integral to the Mortgagees' realization of the value of the Mortgaged Property, that there is no adequate remedy at law for failure by the Mortgagor to comply with the provisions of this Section and that such failure would not be adequately compensable in damages, and therefore agrees, without limiting the rights of the Mortgagees to seek and obtain specific performance of other obligations of the Mortgagor contained in this Restated Mortgage, that the agreements contained in this Section may be specifically enforced.
- (d) In accordance with the requirements of 47 C.F.R. Section 22.937, or any successor provision thereto, the Mortgagees shall notify the Mortgagor and the FCC in writing at least ten (10) days prior to the date on which the Mortgagees intend to exercise their rights under this Restated Mortgage or any other document or instrument relating to the Notes, by foreclosing on, or otherwise disposing of any Mortgaged Property in connection with which such notice is required pursuant to 47 C.F.R. Section 22.937 or any successor provision thereto.

ARTICLE IV

POSSESSION UNTIL DEFAULT-DEFEASANCE CLAUSE

SECTION 4.1 Possession until Default

Until one or more of the Events of Default has happened, the Mortgagor shall be permitted to retain actual possession of the Mortgaged Property, and to manage, operate and use the same and any part thereof, with the rights and franchises appertaining thereto, and to collect, receive, take, use and enjoy the rents, revenues, issues, earnings, income, products, and profits thereof or therefrom, subject to the provisions of this Restated Mortgage.

SECTION 4.2 Defeasance

If the Mortgagor shall pay or cause to be paid the whole amount of the principal and interest on the Notes at the time and manner therein provided, according to the true intent and meaning thereof, and shall also pay or cause to be paid all other sums payable hereunder by the Mortgagor and shall well and truly keep and perform according to the true intent and meaning of this Restated Mortgage, all covenants herein required to be kept and performed by it, then and in that case, all property, rights, and interests hereby conveyed, assigned, or pledged shall revert to the Mortgagor, and the estate, right, title and interest of the Mortgagees and the Noteholders shall thereupon cease, determine, and become void and the Mortgagees and the Noteholders, in such case, on written demand of the Mortgagor, but at the Mortgagor's cost and expense, shall enter satisfaction of this Restated Mortgage upon the record. In any event, each Noteholder, upon payment in full to him by the Mortgagor of all principal and interest on any Note held by him, and the payment and discharge by the Mortgagor of all charges due such Noteholder hereunder, shall execute and deliver to the Mortgagor such instrument of satisfaction, discharge, or release as shall be required by law in the circumstances.

ARTICLE V

MISCELLANEOUS

SECTION 5.1 Mortgage to Bind and Benefit Successors and Assigns

All of the covenants, stipulations, promises, undertakings, and agreements herein contained by, or on behalf of, the Mortgagor shall bind its successors and assigns, whether so specified or not, and all titles, rights,

and remedies hereby granted to, or conferred upon, the Mortgagees shall pass to and inure to the benefit of the successors and assigns of the Mortgagees and shall be deemed to be granted or conferred for the ratable benefit and security of all who shall from time to time be the holders of Notes executed and delivered as herein provided.

SECTION 5.2 Headings

The descriptive headings of the various articles of this Restated Mortgage were formulated and inserted for convenience only and shall not be deemed to affect the meaning or construction of any of the provisions hereof.

SECTION 5.3 Notices

All demands, notices, reports, approvals, designations, or directions required or permitted to be given hereunder shall be given or made in writing (including, without limitation, by telecopy) and delivered to the intended recipient at the "Address for Notices" specified in Schedule "A;" or, as to any party, at such other address as shall be designated by such party in a notice to each other party. All such communications shall be deemed to have been duly given when transmitted by telecopier or personally delivered or, in the case of a mailed notice, upon receipt, in each case given or addressed as provided for herein. The Addresses for Notice of the respective parties are set forth in Schedule "A."

SECTION 5.4 Mortgage Deemed Security Agreement

To the extent that any of the property described or referred to in this Restated Mortgage is governed by the provisions of the UCC, this Restated Mortgage is hereby deemed a "security agreement" under the UCC. The mailing addresses of the Mortgagor, as debtor, and of the Mortgagees as secured parties, are as set forth in Schedule "A."

SECTION 5.5 Mortgagees Right to File Financing Statements

Mortgagees shall have the right to file such financing statements and continuation statements on its behalf, as a secured party, and Mortgagor, as Debtor, as Mortgagees deem necessary to perfect a first lien on the Mortgaged Property and to maintain and preserve such perfected first lien as long as any Note remains outstanding. Mortgagor shall reimburse the Mortgagees for any expenses incurred in the exercise of this right.

SECTION 5.6 Severability Clause

If any provision of this Restated Mortgage shall for any reason be found or held invalid or unenforceable by any governmental agency or court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity or unenforceability shall not affect the validity, legality, and enforceability of the remainder of such provision nor any other provision thereof and this Restated Mortgage shall survive and be construed as if such invalid or unenforceable provision had not been contained therein. Any invalidity or unenforceability as to any Mortgagee hereunder shall not affect or impair the rights hereunder of any other Mortgagee.

SECTION 5.7 Indemnification by Mortgagor of Mortgagees

The Mortgagor agrees to indemnify the Mortgagees against any liability or damages which it may incur or sustain in the exercise and performance of its rightful powers and duties hereunder. For such reimbursement and indemnity, the Mortgagees shall be secured under this Restated Mortgage in the same manner as the Notes and all such reimbursements for expense or damage shall be paid to the Mortgagee(s) incurring or suffering the same with interest at the rate specified in Section 2.16 hereof. The Mortgagor's obligation to indemnify the Mortgagees under this section shall survive the satisfaction of the Notes, the reconveyance or foreclosure of this Restated Mortgage, the acceptance of a deed in lieu of foreclosure, or any transfer or abandonment of the Mortgaged Property.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, LINCOLN COUNTY TELEPHONE SYSTEM, INC. as Mortgagor, has caused this Restated Mortgage to be signed in its name and its seal, if any, to be hereunto affixed and attested by its duly authorized officer, and the RURAL TELEPHONE BANK as Mortgagee and secured party, has caused this Restated Mortgage to be duly signed in its name and its seal to be hereunto affixed and attested by its duly authorized officer and the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, as Mortgagee and secured party, has caused this Restated Mortgage to be duly executed on its behalf, all as of the day and year first above written.

LINCOLN COUNTY TELEPHONE SYSTEM, INC.
by John W. Christian
Name: John W. Christian
Position: President

(Seal)
Attested to by: Dave Sprick
Secretary

Executed by the Mortgagor
in the presence of:
[Signature]
Name:
[Signature]
Name:

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA and
RURAL TELEPHONE BANK
by James M. Anderson
Administrator of the Rural Utilities Service
and Governor of the Rural Telephone Bank

(Seal)
Attested to by: [Signature]
Assistant Secretary of the
Rural Telephone Bank

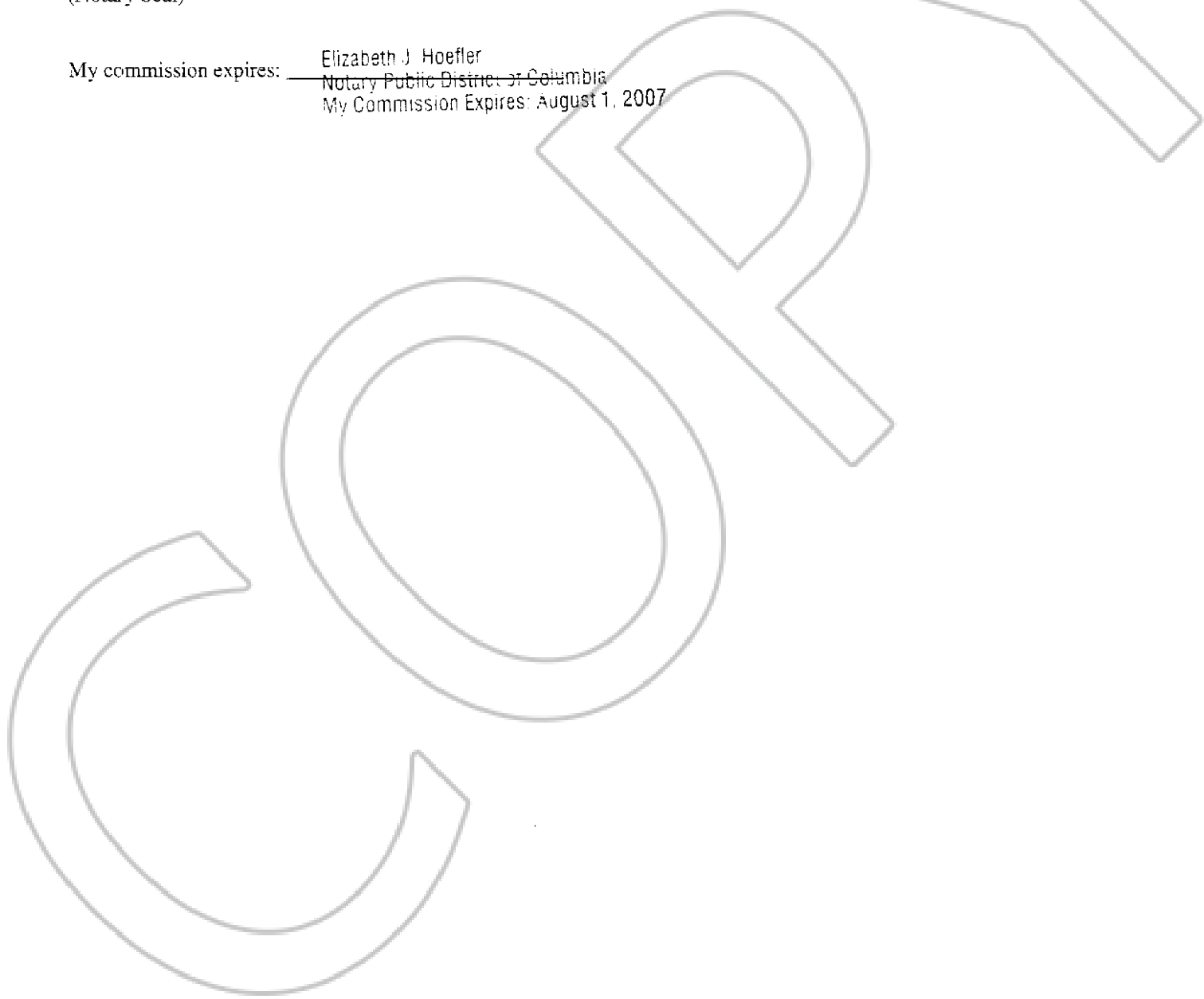
Executed by United States of America, Mortgagee
and Rural Telephone Bank, Mortgagee,
in the presence of:
[Signature]
Name:
Wanda E. Lloyd
Name:

This instrument was acknowledged before me on February 6, 2006, by James M. Andrew, Administrator of the Rural Utilities Service of the United States of America and Governor of the Rural Telephone Bank.

Elizabeth J. Hoefler
Notary Public

(Notary Seal)

My commission expires: Elizabeth J. Hoefler
Notary Public District of Columbia
My Commission Expires: August 1, 2007



STATE OF NEVADA)
)
COUNTY OF Clark) SS

I certify that on this 22 day of March, 2006, the foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me, Beth E. Larson, a Notary Public in and for the above-named County and State, and that John W. Christian, to me personally known and the person whose name is signed to the foregoing instrument, did personally appear before me, who being duly sworn and deposed according to law, did make proof to my satisfaction and say that he/she was, at the time of execution thereof, the President [Position] of Lincoln County Telephone System, Inc., a Nevada corporation, that he/she knows the corporate seal of said entity, if one exists, and that the foregoing instrument, whose contents are known to him/her, was signed, sealed, and delivered on behalf of said entity by authority and/or Resolution of its Board of Directors, and furthermore acknowledged the instrument to be his/her free and voluntary act and deed, as well as that of the entity, for the purposes and uses therein set forth.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, sworn and subscribed before me, I have hereunto set my hand and official seal.

Beth E. Larson
Notary Public



(Notarial Seal)

My Commission expires:

STATE OF NEVADA)
) SS
COUNTY OF Clark)

I certify that on this 22 day of March, 2006, the foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me, Beth E. Larson, a Notary Public in and for said County and State, by Peter Smith E, Paul Christian [~~Secretary~~/Subscribing ~~Witness~~], and that _____, to me personally known, did personally appear before me and execute the foregoing instrument in my presence and in the presence of the subscribing witness above, who being duly sworn and deposed according to law, did make proof to my satisfaction and say that he/she is at the time of execution hereof the NA [Position] of Lincoln County Telephone System, Inc., a Nevada corporation, that he/she knows the corporate seal of said entity, if one exists, and that the foregoing instrument, whose contents are known to him/her, was signed, sealed, and delivered on behalf of said entity by authority and/or Resolution of its Board of Directors, and furthermore acknowledged the instrument to be his/her free and voluntary act and deed, as well as that of the entity, for the purposes and uses therein set forth.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, sworn and subscribed before me, I have hereunto set my hand and official seal.



Beth E. Larson
Notary Public

(Notarial Seal)

My Commission expires:

STATE OF NEVADA)
)
COUNTY OF Clark) SS

I, Beth E. Larson, a Notary Public in and for said County and State certify that on this 23 day of March, 2006, the foregoing instrument, acknowledged before me, by DAVE L Smith, to me personally known or properly identified, did personally appear before me and execute the foregoing instrument in my presence and in the presence of the subscribing witnesses, listed on the signature page hereto, who reside at 5320 W. Sahara Ave Las Vegas, NV 89146, and being duly sworn and deposed according to law, did make proof to my satisfaction and say: that he/she is at the time of execution hereof the Secretary [Position] of Lincoln County Telephone System, Inc., a Nevada corporation; that he/she knows the corporate seal of said entity, if one exists; that the foregoing instrument, whose contents are known to him/her, was signed, sealed (if one exists), and delivered before me on behalf of said entity by authority and/or Resolution of its Board of Directors; and furthermore that the instrument was his/her free and voluntary act and deed, as well as that of the entity's, for the purposes and uses therein set forth.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, sworn and subscribed before me, I have hereunto set my hand and official seal.



Beth E. Larson
Notary Public

(Notarial Seal)

My Commission expires:

SCHEDULE A

1. The Outstanding RUS Notes referred to in the Recitals are:

| <u>Note Designation</u> | <u>Note Date</u> | <u>Stated Principal Amount</u> | <u>Maturity Date</u> | <u>Interest Rate</u> |
|-------------------------|------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| H8 | 05-30-79 | \$2,472,000 | 05-30-14 | 2% |
| K8 | 10-28-83 | \$2,368,000 | 10-30-23 | 2% |

2. The Outstanding Bank Notes referred to in the Recitals are:

| <u>Note Designation</u> | <u>Note Date</u> | <u>Stated Principal Amount</u> | <u>Maturity Date</u> | <u>Interest Rate</u> |
|-------------------------|------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| F5 | 02-04-74 | \$ 850,500 | 02-04-09 | 6.5% |
| G5#2 | 09-17-76 | \$1,048,600 | 09-17-11 | 7.0% |

3. The Prior Mortgages referred to in the Recitals is the **Supplement to Supplemental Mortgage and Security Agreement dated May 30, 1979 among Mortgagor and the Mortgagees.**
4. The Loan Agreement referred to in the Recitals is the Loan Agreement, dated the same date as this Restated Mortgage between the Mortgagor and the Mortgagees.
5. The Current RUS Note(s), made by the Mortgagor to the Government, dated the same date as this Restated Mortgage and referred to in the Recitals are:

RUS Designation: **Nevada 1101-A34**
 Stated Principal Amount: **\$23,538,000**
 Interest Rate: **determined at advance**
 Maturity Date: **February 3, 2030**

6. The "Mortgage Debt Limit" referred to in section 1.1 is: **\$50,000,000**
7. The following addresses are for purposes of Section 5.3 and 5.4:

Mortgagees: **Rural Utilities Service
 United States Department of Agriculture
 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W.
 Washington, D.C.20250-1500
 Attention: Administrator
 Fax: (202) 720-1725**

With a copy to: **Rural Utilities Service
 United States Department of Agriculture
 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W.
 Stop 1599, Room No. 2844
 Washington, D.C. 20250-1599
 Attention: Kenneth Kuchno
 Fax: (202) 690-4389**

Mortgagor: **Lincoln County Telephone System, Inc.
 P.O. Box 150
 Pioche, Nevada 89043
 Attention: John W. Christian
 Fax: (775) 962-5593**

With a copy to: **N/A**

SCHEDULE B

1. The "Existing Facilities" referred to in Granting Clause I are located in the County of Lincoln in the State of Nevada
2. The real estate mortgaged and pledged hereunder includes the following:

PARCEL I:

That portion of the Southeast Quarter (SE 1/4) of the Southwest Quarter (SW 1/4) of Section 15, Township 6 North, Range 66 East, M.D.M., described as follows:

BEGINNING at the Northeast corner of the said Southeast Quarter (SE 1/4) of the Southwest Quarter (SW 1/4) of Section 15, and running thence South along the Quarter Section line 100 feet; thence running at right angles West 100 feet; thence running at right angles North 100 feet; thence running at right angles East 100 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING.

PARCEL II:

The following described property situate in the Town of Alamo, on a map thereof on file in Book of Plats, page 41, in the Office of the County Recorder of Lincoln County, Nevada, described as follows:

BEGINNING at the Northwest corner of Lot One (1) in Block Fifty-Six (56) in the Town of Alamo; thence running East 50 feet; thence running South 75 feet; thence running West 50 feet; thence running North 75 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING.

PARCEL III:

Lot Eight (8) in Block One (1) in the City of Caliente, as shown by map thereof on file in Book of Plats, page 47 in the Office of the County Recorder of Lincoln County, Nevada.

PARCEL IV:

That portion of Lot One (1) in Block Thirty-Six (36) in the Town of Panaca, as shown by map thereof on file in Book of Plats, page 34 in the Office of the County Recorder of Lincoln County, Nevada, described as follows:

BEGINNING at the Southwest corner of said Lot One (1) and running thence North 50 feet along the street line of Fourth Street; thence at right angles East 50 feet; thence at right angles South 50 feet to the South line of said Lot One (1) and the dividing line between Lot One (1) and Lot Four (4) of said Block Thirty-Six (36); thence at right angles West along said dividing line to the TRUE POINT OF BEGINNING.

PARCEL V:

Lot Forty (40) in Block Thirty (30) in the Town of Pioche, as shown by map thereof on file in Book of Plats, page 37 in the Office of the County Recorder of Lincoln County, Nevada.

PARCEL VI:

Lots Ten (10), Eleven (11), Twelve (12) and Thirteen (13) in Block Two (2);

Lots Thirty-Five (35), Thirty-Six (36), Thirty-Seven (37), Thirty-Eight (38) and Thirty-Nine (39) in Block Thirty (30)

All in the Town of Pioche, as shown by map thereof on file in Book of Plats, page 37, in the Office of the County Recorder of Lincoln County, Nevada.

PARCEL VII:

Lot Thirty-Three (33) in Block Thirty (30); and

Lot Fifty-Six (56) in Block Twenty-Five (25)

All in the Town of Pioche, as shown on the map thereof on file in Book of Plats, page 37, in the Office of the County Recorder of Lincoln County, Nevada.

PARCEL VIII:

The Southwest Quarter (SW 1/4) of the Southeast Quarter (SE 1/4) of the Northwest Quarter (NW 1/4) of the Northwest Quarter (NW 1/4) of the Northeast Quarter (NE 1/4);

The East Half (E 1/2) of the Southeast Quarter (SE 1/4) of the Northwest Quarter (NW 1/4) of the Northwest Quarter (NW 1/4) of the Northeast Quarter (NE 1/4);

The West Half (W 1/2) of the Southwest Quarter (SW 1/4) of the Northeast Quarter (NE 1/4) of the Northwest Quarter (NW 1/4) of the Northeast Quarter (NE 1/4);

The Southeast Quarter (SE 1/4) of the Southwest Quarter (SW 1/4) of the Northeast Quarter (NE 1/4) of the Northwest Quarter (NW 1/4) of the Northeast Quarter (NE 1/4);

The Northwest Quarter (NW 1/4) of the Northwest Quarter (NW 1/4) of the Southeast Quarter (SE 1/4) of the Northwest Quarter (NW 1/4) of the Northeast Quarter (NE 1/4); and

The Northeast Quarter (NE 1/4) of the Northeast Quarter (NE 1/4) of the Southwest Quarter (SW 1/4) of the Northwest Quarter (NW 1/4) of the Northeast Quarter (NE 1/4)

All in Section 27, Township 1 North, Range 67 East, M.D.M.

EXCEPTING THEREFROM any portion lying outside the following Patented Mining Claims:

Susan Duster, Survey No. 2714; Deerfoot, Lot No. 52; Scipio, Lot No. 50; Zero, Lot No. 49; and Index, Lot No. 52.

ALSO EXCEPT that portion lying within the Greenbook Currency Claim.

ALSO EXCEPT the mineral rights as reserved in the Deed from Combined Metal Reduction Company recorded November 23, 1977 in Book 23 of Official Records, page 105.

PARCEL IX:

The South Nine (9) feet of Lot Thirty-Four (34) in Block Thirty (30) in the Town of Pioche, as shown on a map thereof on file in Book of Plats, page 37, in the Office of the County Recorder of Lincoln County, Nevada.

PARCEL X:

The North Twenty-five (25) feet of Lot Thirty-Four (34) in Block Thirty (30) in the Town of Pioche, as shown by map thereof on file in Book of Plats, page 37 in the Office of the County Recorder of Lincoln County, Nevada.

PARCEL XI:

Lot Six (6) of Sunrise Acres Tract No. 1, as shown by map thereof in Book A of Plats, page 130 in the Office of the County Recorder of Lincoln County, Nevada.

PARCEL XII:

The following tract of land situate in the Southwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section 15, Township 1 North, Range 67 East, M.D.M.;

BEGINNING at the Southwest corner of the Southwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of said Section 15; running thence North along the North-South section line between Sections 15 and 16 a distance of 460 feet, more or less, to where said section line intersects U.S. Highway 93 right of way; thence running South 64' East along said highway right of way line a distance of 1096 feet, more or less, to a point on the East-West Quarter Section line of Section 15; thence running due West along said Quarter Section line a distance of 960 feet, more or less, to the TRUE POINT OF BEGINNING.

PARCEL XIII:

Lot Forty-one (41) and the North Half of Lot Forty-two (42) in Block Thirty (30) in the Town of Pioche, County of Lincoln, State of Nevada.

PARCEL XIV:

The Easterly 123.75 feet of the southerly 197.50 feet of Lot Three (3) in Block Forty-Five (45) of Alamo Town.

PARCEL XV:

A Parcel of land situate within the SW 1/4 of the NW 1/4 of Section 31, Township 3 South.

Range 57 East, Mount Diablo Meridian, being more particularly described as follows:

Beginning at the Northeast Corner of this parcel from which the West 1/4 Corner of Section 30, T 3 S, R 57 E, M.D.M., bears N 5° 05' 10" W a distance of 4,797.0 feet; thence S 05° E a distance of 125.0 feet to the Southeast Corner; thence S 85° W a distance of 125.0 feet to the Southwest Corner, thence N 05° W a distance of 125.0 feet to the Northwest Corner; thence N 85° E a distance of 125.0 feet to the Northeast Corner which is the point of beginning. Said parcel contains .36 acres, more or less.

PARCEL XVI (Access and Telephone Equipment Easement):

Teledyne, Inc. a Delaware corporation granted a perpetual Access and Telephone Equipment Easement to and from Parcel XV over, in, under and upon certain real property more particularly described as a Roadway easement from the Microwave site of the Lincoln County Telephone System, Inc. to the existing County Road to Tempiute, on and over a strip of land fifteen (15) feet wide throughout, with the centerpoint of the easement being described as follows:

Traverse begins in the SW 1/4 of the NW 1/4 of Section 31, T 3 S, R 57 E, M.D.M., and has its course through the SE 1/4, Sec. 36, T 3 S, R 56 E, M.D.M., - & SW 1/4 and the NE 1/4 of Section 31; and the SE 1/4 and the NE 1/4 of Section 30, all within T 3 S, R 57 E, Mount Diablo Meridian;

Beginning at a point from which the West 1/4 Corner of said Section 31, T 3 S, R 57 E, M.D.M., bears S 45°5' W a distance of 544.50 feet;

- 1) Thence S 02° 26' E a dist. of 234.34 feet; 2) thence S 49° 33' W a dist. of 146.93 feet;
- 3) thence S 50° 41' W a dist. of 150.48 feet; 4) thence S 28° 48' W a dist. of 263.92 feet;
- 5) thence S 03° 33' W a dist. of 267.34 feet; 6) thence S 52° 53' W a dist. of 244.55 feet;
- 7) thence S 31° 56' W a dist. of 176.50 feet; 8) thence S 01° 36' W a dist. of 215.32 feet;
- 9) thence S 04° 37' W a dist. of 167.82 feet; 10) thence S 00° 28' E a dist. of 140.78 feet;
- 11) thence S 24° 36' E a dist. of 228.09 feet; 12) thence S 08° 36' W a dist. of 92.18 feet;
- 13) thence S 21° 44' W a dist. of 81.71 feet; 14) thence S 45° 54' E a dist. of 358.96 feet;
- 15) thence S 25° 06' E a dist. of 548.92 feet; 16) thence W 59° 53' E a dist. of 156.20 feet;
- 17) thence N 59° 03' E a dist. of 158.72 feet; 18) thence N 25° 42' E a dist. of 214.12 feet;
- 19) thence N 31° 35' E a dist. of 126.36 feet; 20) thence N 45° 48' E a dist. of 338.55 feet;
- 21) thence N 54° 47' E a dist. of 90.80 feet; 22) thence N 65° 57' E a dist. of 102.86 feet;
- 23) thence N 66° 52' E a dist. of 277.86 feet; 24) thence N 52° 09' E a dist. of 496.18 feet;
- 25) thence N 20° 40' E a dist. of 109.16 feet; 26) thence N 03° 42' W a dist. of 342.36 feet;
- 27) thence N 08° 55' E a dist. of 297.70 feet; 28) thence N 36° 40' E a dist. of 208.45 feet;
- 29) thence N 36° 58' E a dist. of 274.14 feet; 30) thence N 43° 43' E a dist. of 203.80 feet;
- 31) thence N 59° 22' E a dist. of 141.73 feet; 32) thence N 66° 24' E a dist. of 701.52 feet;
- 33) thence N 52° 24' E a dist. of 166.80 feet; 34) thence N 50° 57' E a dist. of 467.38 feet;
- 35) thence N 38° 47' E a dist. of 343.25 feet; 36) thence N 03° 30' E a dist. of 595.42 feet;
- 37) thence N 03° 29' W a dist. of 238.17 feet; 38) thence N 09° 29' E a dist. of 496.18 feet;
- 39) thence N 12° 34' E a dist. of 396.94 feet; 40) thence N 24° 27' E a dist. of 183.60 feet;
- 41) thence N 10° 22' E a dist. of 694.65 feet; 42) thence N 04° 27' W a dist. of 397.02 feet;
- 43) thence N 15° 29' W a dist. of 397.66 feet; 44) thence N 07° 26' W a dist. of 347.33 feet;
- 45) thence N 00° 33' E a dist. of 471.25 feet; 46) thence N 94° 31' E a dist. of 387.00 feet;
- 47) thence N 13° 29' E a dist. of 476.20 feet; entering the County Road a point from which the West 1/4 Corner of Section 30, T 3 S, R 57 E, M.D.M., bears S 85°, 05' 52" W a dist. of 4,318.0 feet, more or less.