BEFORE THE

GEORGIA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

HART'S STATEMENT FOR TRADE SECRET PROTECTION

Hart Telephone Company, Inc. ("Hart") hereby files this Statement for Trade Secret Protection for Hart's 2024 Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) CAF ICC Output Form pursuant to Section 515-3-1-.11 of the Rules of the Georgia Public Service Commission ("PSC"), and states as follows:

1. Rule 515-3-1-.11 requires that a party claiming that information constitutes a trade secret provide, in writing, that basis of this claim. Rule 515-3-1-.11(c) specifically requires that this statement detail (1) the economic benefit derived from the information not being generally known; (2) the economic benefit to others if disclosure were to occur and (3) the procedures utilized to maintain confidentiality. This statement is submitted pursuant to those requirements. Hart is submitting this data in accordance with the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC") WC Docket No. 10-90. The data in these reports is trade secret.
2. The subject trade secret material is the 2024 USAC CAF ICC Output Form.
3. The release of this data disadvantage Hart by providing its competitors an unfair competitive advantage by disclosing data regarding Hart's financial information that is not generally known and would not be readily ascertainable to third parties by any proper means. Hart takes all appropriate and legal measures to ensure that such information is disseminated internally only to those with a need to know, and that all public measures are taken to protect the information when it is required to be filed in a public forum.

4. Release of Hart's proprietary information to the general public would provide Hart's competitors an unfair advantage in a competitive market.

This 11th day of June 2024.

JOHN STAURULAKIS, INC.

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