BEFORE THE

GEORGIA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

ELLIJAY'S STATEMENT FOR TRADE SECRET PROTECTION

Ellijay Telephone Company ("Ellijay") hereby files this Statement for Trade Secret Protection for Ellijay's 2024 (USAC) CAF-ICC TRP Summary for USAC 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. Ellijay 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 (USAC) CAF-ICC TRP Summary for USAC.

3. The release of this data disadvantage Ellijay by providing its competitors an unfair competitive advantage by disclosing data regarding Ellijay's financial information that is not generally known and would not be readily ascertainable to third parties by any proper means. Ellijay 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 Ellijay's proprietary information to the general public would provide Ellijay's competitors an unfair advantage in a competitive market.

This 12th day of June 2024.

JOHN STAURULAKIS, INC.

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