

PROMISSORY NOTE

ID 515-G11 RURAL
Glenns Ferry, Idaho

THIS PROMISSORY NOTE (hereinafter the "Note,") dated as of March 9, 2005, is made by **RURAL TELEPHONE COMPANY** (hereinafter the "Borrower,") a corporation duly organized and existing under the laws of the State of Idaho, and the **UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**, (hereinafter the "Government,") acting through the Administrator of the Rural Utilities Service. For value received, the Borrower promises to pay to the order of the Government, at the United States Treasury, Washington, D.C., Seventeen Million, Four Hundred Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$17,425,000), with interest payable, from the date of each advance, on the amount advanced by the Government (hereinafter the "Advance,") pursuant to a certain Loan Agreement, dated as of the same date as this Note (hereinafter the "Loan Agreement,") made by and between the Borrower and the Government, and remaining unpaid from time to time, in the time and manner herein provided:

1. *Interest Rate.* Interest on each Advance shall be at the rate of five per cent (5%) per annum.
2. *Maturity Date.* On a date twenty-one (21) years after the date hereof, the principal hereof advanced pursuant to the Loan Agreement and remaining unpaid, if any, and interest thereon, shall be due and payable (hereinafter the "Maturity Date.")
3. *Fund Advance Period.* Funds will be advanced pursuant to the Loan Agreement. The fund advance period for this Note begins on the date hereof and terminates five (5) years from the date of this Note (hereinafter the "Termination Date.") No funds will be advanced subsequent to the Termination Date unless the Administrator extends the fund advance period in accordance with the Loan Agreement.
4. *Payments on Advances.*
 - (a) *Made Within Two (2) Years.* Interest on Advances made during the first two (2) years from the date of the first Advance hereunder, and remaining unpaid, shall be payable on the last day of each month (hereinafter the "Monthly Payment Date,") beginning on the last day of the month following the month of each Advance for the period ending two (2) years from the date of the first Advance hereunder. Thereafter, to and including the Maturity Date, the Borrower shall make a payment every Monthly Payment Date on each Advance which shall be: (i) substantially equal to all subsequent monthly payments and (ii) in an amount that will pay all principal and interest due on each Advance no later than the Maturity Date.

(b). *Made After Two (2) Years.* Interest and principal payments on Advances made more than two (2) years after the date of the first Advance hereunder shall be repaid in installments beginning with the Monthly Payment Date of the month following each Advance and ending on the Maturity Date. The first such payment on an Advance shall be increased by the amount of interest accruing between the date of the Advance and the first day of the next month. Thereafter, to and including the Maturity Date, the Borrower shall make a payment every Monthly Payment Date on each such Advance (i) substantially equal to every other monthly payment on such Advance, and (ii) in an amount that will pay all principal and interest of such Advance no later than the Maturity Date. This payment shall be in addition to the payment on the Advances made within two (2) years from the date of the first Advance hereunder and remaining unpaid.

5. *Application of Payments.* Each payment made on this Note shall be applied as follows: First, to expenses, costs, and penalties; Second, to late charges; Third, to the payment of interest on principal; and Fourth, to principal.

6. *Prepayment.* All, or a portion of the outstanding balance, of any Advance may be prepaid on any payment date, as herein provided. However, so long as any of the principal advanced pursuant to the Loan Agreement shall remain unpaid, the Borrower shall be obligated to make the monthly payment on account of principal and interest, in the amount provided herein, unless the Borrower and the Government shall otherwise agree, in writing.

7. *Late Payments.* A late charge shall be charged on any payment not made within five (5) days of the date the payment becomes due. The late charge rate shall be computed on the payment from the due date at a rate equal to the rate of the cost of funds to the United States Treasury as prescribed and published by the Secretary of the Treasury. In addition, the Borrower shall pay administrative costs and penalty charges assessed in accordance with applicable Government regulations. Acceptance by the Government of a late payment shall not be deemed to be a waiver of any right or remedy of the Government.

8. *Security.* This Note is secured by a security interest in collateral described in the Restated Mortgage, Security Agreement and Financing Statement, dated as of the same date as this Note made by and between the Borrower and the Government (such mortgage, as amended, supplemented, consolidated or restated from time to time, hereinafter called the "Mortgage.") Rights and obligations with respect to the collateral are stated in the Mortgage.

9. *Noteholder.* This Note evidences indebtedness created by a loan made under the Rural Electrification Act (7 U.S.C. § 901 *et seq.*). The Government shall be, and shall have all rights as, holder of this Note. If the Government shall at any time assign this Note and insure the payment hereof, the Borrower shall continue to make payments hereunder to the Government as collection agent for the insured holder, and for purposes of the Mortgage, the Government, and not such insured holder, shall be considered to be, and shall have the rights of, the noteholder.

10. *Default.* In an event of default, as provided in the Loan Agreement and/or Mortgage, all principal advanced pursuant to the Loan Agreement and remaining unpaid on this Note, and all interest thereon may be declared or may become due and payable in the manner and with the effect provided in the Loan Agreement and/or Mortgage.

11. *Costs.* The Borrower shall pay any and all costs and expenses incurred in connection with the exercise of rights or the enforcement of remedies, as set forth in the Loan Agreement and/or Mortgage.

12. *Waivers.* The Borrower waives demand, presentment for payment, notice of non-payment, notice of dishonor, protest, and notice of non-payment of this Note.

13. *Obligations.* The obligations of the Borrower hereunder are absolute and unconditional, irrespective of any defense or any right to set off, recoupment, or counterclaim it might otherwise have against the Government.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Borrower has caused this Note to be signed in its corporate or legal name and its corporate seal, if any, to be hereunto affixed and attested by its officers thereunto duly authorized, all as of the day and year first above written.

RURAL TELEPHONE COMPANY

by James R Martell
Name: James R Martell
Title: President

(SEAL)

Attested to by: Carmela M Martell
Secretary