

STATE OF ALASKA
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF MINING, LAND AND WATER

ADL 233359

Public Utility Easement

Communication line between Mile 774 and Mile 763 of the Trans-Alaskan Pipeline System.

This easement is granted this ____ day of _____, 20____ by the State of Alaska, acting by and through the Department of Natural Resources, Division of Mining, Land and Water, whose address is Southcentral Regional Land Office, 550 W 7th Avenue, Suite 900C Anchorage, AK, 99501, hereinafter referred to as the Grantor. This easement is granted to Copper Valley Telephone Association, whose address is P.O. Box 337, Valdez, AK 99686, hereinafter referred to as the Grantee.

In accordance with the provisions of AS 38.05.850, and the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder, a public utility easement is hereby granted for an indefinite term for the operation and maintenance of a communication line. This easement is located near Thompson Pass, Alaska, over and across the following described state lands:

Within Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, and 9, Township 8 South, Range 2 West, Copper River Meridian and Sections 12, 13, 14, 22, 23, and 27 Township 8 South, Range 3 West, Copper River Meridian, in the Valdez Recording District. The easement is **LENGTH** feet in length and 30 feet in width for a total area of **ACRES** acres, more or less. The easement is depicted on the record of survey serialized by DNR as EPF **#####** and approved by DNR on **MONTH ##, ####**, a reduced copy of which is included as "Attachment A" to this document.

This easement is subject to the terms and conditions contained herein.

In the event that this easement shall in any manner conflict with or overlap a previously granted easement or right-of-way, the Grantee shall use this easement in a manner that will not interfere with the peaceful use and enjoyment of the previously issued easement or right-of-way. The Grantor reserves the right to set or modify stipulations governing the use of the conflicting or overlapping area.

Any lands included in this easement that are conveyed from state ownership shall be subject to this easement.

This easement shall terminate at the end of the stated term, if any, when the Grantor determines that the easement is no longer in use for the purpose(s) authorized, or the easement is revoked as

a result of violation of the terms and conditions contained herein. The State of Alaska shall be forever wholly absolved from any liability for damages that might result if this easement is terminated for any reason.

Now therefore, in accordance with the conditions of this easement including all attachments and documents that are incorporated by reference, the Grantee is authorized to operate and maintain said easement over and across lands herein described. In witness whereof, the Grantor and the Grantee have affixed their signatures on the date(s) specified herein.

GRANTOR

Clark Cox, Regional Manager
DMLW Southcentral Regional Land Office

STATE OF ALASKA

)
) ss
3rd Judicial District)

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT ON THIS ____ day of _____, 20____, before me personally appeared _____ to be known and known by me to be the person named in and who executed said document and acknowledged voluntarily signing the same.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my official seal, the day and year in this certificate first above written.

Notary Public in and for the State of Alaska
My commission expires with office

GRANTEE

NAME, TITLE

Copper Valley Telephone Association

STATE OF ALASKA)

) ss

____ Judicial District)

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT ON THIS ____ day of _____, 20____, before me personally appeared _____ to be known and known by me to be the person named in and who executed said document and acknowledged voluntarily signing the same.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my official seal, the day and year in this certificate first above written.

Notary Public in and for the State of Alaska
My commission expires: _____

WHEN RECORDED, RETURN DOCUMENT TO:

Department of Natural Resources
Division of Mining, Land and Water
550 W 7th Ave., Suite 900C
Anchorage, AK 99501-3577

STIPULATIONS

1. **Authorized Officer:** The Authorized Officer (AO) for the State of Alaska (State), Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Division of Mining, Land and Water (DMLW), is the Regional Manager or designee.
2. **Change of Contact Information:** The Grantee shall maintain current contact information with the AO. Any change of contact information must be submitted in writing to the AO.
3. **Valid Existing Rights:** This authorization is subject to all valid existing rights and reservations in and to the authorized area. The State makes no representations or warranties, whatsoever, either expressed or implied, as to the existence, number, or nature of such valid existing rights.
4. **Preference Right:** No preference right for subsequent authorizations is granted or implied by this authorization.
5. **Inspections:** The AO shall have reasonable access to the authorized area for inspection, which may be conducted without prior notice. If the Grantee is found to be in noncompliance, the authorized area may be subject to reinspection. The Grantee may be charged for actual expenses of any inspection.
6. **Public Access:** The construction, operation, use, and maintenance of the authorized area shall not interfere with public use of roads, trails, waters, landing areas, and public access easements. The ability to use or access state land or public waters may not be restricted in any manner. However, if a specific activity poses a safety concern, the AO may allow the restriction of public access for a specific period of time. The Grantee is required to contact the AO in advance for approval. No restriction is allowed unless specifically authorized in writing by the AO.
7. **Public Trust Doctrine:** The Public Trust Doctrine guarantees public access to, and the public right to use, navigable and public waters and the land beneath them for navigation, commerce, fishing, and other purposes. This authorization is subject to the principles of the Public Trust Doctrine regarding navigable or public waters. The AO reserves the right to grant other interests consistent with the Public Trust Doctrine.
8. **Alaska Historic Preservation Act:** The Alaska Historic Preservation Act, AS 41.35.200, prohibits the appropriation, excavation, removal, injury, or destruction of any state-owned historic, prehistoric, archaeological or paleontological site without written approval from the DNR Commissioner. Should any sites be discovered, the Grantee shall cease any activities that may cause damage and immediately contact the AO and the Office of History and Archaeology in the Division of Parks and Recreation.
9. **Compliance with Government Requirements:** The Grantee shall, at its expense, comply with all federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and ordinances directly or indirectly related to this authorization. The Grantee shall ensure compliance by its employees, agents, contractors, subcontractors, licensees, or invitees.

- 10. Incurred Expenses:** The Grantor shall in no way be held liable for expenses incurred by the Grantee connected with the activities directly or indirectly related to this authorization.
- 11. Waiver of Forbearance:** Any failure on the part of the AO to enforce the terms of this authorization, or the waiver of any right under this authorization by the Grantee, unless in writing, shall not discharge or invalidate the authorization of such terms. No forbearance or written waiver affects the right of the AO to enforce any terms in the event of any subsequent violations of terms of this authorization.
- 12. Severability Clause:** If any clause or provision of this authorization is, in a final judicial proceeding, determined illegal, invalid, or unenforceable under present or future laws, then the Grantor and the Grantee agree that the remainder of this authorization will not be affected, and in lieu of each clause or provision of this authorization that is illegal, invalid, or unenforceable, there will be added as a part of this authorization a clause or provision as similar in terms to the illegal, invalid, or unenforceable clause or provision as may be possible, legal, valid, and enforceable.
- 13. Assignment:** This authorization may not be transferred or assigned without the prior written consent of the AO.
- 14. Indemnification:** Unless specified herein, Grantee assumes all responsibility, risk and liability for all activities of Grantee, its employees, agents, invitees, contractors, subcontractors, or licensees directly or indirectly conducted in connection with this authorization, including environmental and hazardous substance risks and liabilities, whether accruing during or after the term of this authorization as stated herein. Grantee shall defend, indemnify and hold harmless the State of Alaska, its employees and agents, from and against any and all suits, claims, actions, losses, costs, penalties and damages of whatever kind or nature, including all attorney's fees and litigation costs, arising out of, in connection with, or incident to any act or omission by Grantee, its employees, agents, invitees, contractors, subcontractors, or licensees, unless the sole proximate cause of the injury or damage is the negligence or willful misconduct of the State or anyone acting on the State's behalf. Within 15 days Grantee shall accept any such cause or action or proceeding upon tender by the State. This indemnification shall survive the termination of the authorization.
- 15. Fuel and Hazardous Substances:** No fuel or hazardous substances may be stored in the authorized area without prior written approval from the AO.
- 16. Insurance:** Insurance is required during the term of this authorization and is subject to annual review and adjustment by the Department of Natural Resources. The Department may require a reasonable increase based on a change in the Grantee's development plan or with increased risk. The insurance policy or policies must be written by a company or companies on the Division of Insurance's "admitted list" or the "Surplus Lines Insurance list." The broker/agent must be licensed to do business in the State, and if Surplus Lines Insurance is provided, the broker must have a surplus broker license. Additional information

regarding the admitted and Surplus Lines Insurance lists may be obtained from the Division of Insurance (1-907-269-7900). Pursuant to the authorization, the Grantee shall:

- a. Consult, as appropriate, with an insurance professional licensed to transact the business of insurance under Alaska Statute, Title 21, to determine what types and levels of insurance are adequate to protect the Grantee and the Grantor (the State, its officers, agents, and employees) relative to the liability exposures of the Grantee's commercial operations.
- b. Secure or purchase at Grantee's own expense, and maintain in full force at all times during the term of the authorization, adequate insurance policies and coverage levels recommended by an insurance professional, licensed to transact the business of insurance under Alaska Statute, Title 21, and acceptable to the State of Alaska. The State will expect to see, at a minimum, the following types of coverage: Commercial General Liability Insurance: The policy shall be written on an "occurrence" form and shall not be written as a "claims-made" form unless specifically reviewed and agreed to by the Division of Risk Management, Alaska Department of Administration. Workers' Compensation Insurance: the Grantee shall provide and maintain, for all its employees, Workers' Compensation Insurance as required by AS 23.30.045. Where applicable, coverage must comply with any other statutory obligations, whether Federal (i.e. U.S.L. & H or Jones Act) or other state laws in which employees are engaged in work on the authorized premises. The insurance policy must contain a waiver of subrogation clause in favor of the State of Alaska.
- c. Ensure that the State of Alaska, Department of Natural Resources is listed as an additional named insured on all liability policies held by the Grantee that provide coverage for liabilities connected to the operations of the Grantee on or in conjunction with the authorized premises.
- d. Provide proof of insurance to the AO on a yearly basis. The certificate must provide for a 30-day prior notice to the State of Alaska in the event of cancellation, non-renewal, or material change of conditions. Failure to furnish satisfactory evidence of insurance, or lapse of the policy, are material breaches of the authorization and shall be grounds, at the option of the Grantor, for termination of the authorization. Generally, the State of Alaska will rely upon the best professional judgment of the licensed insurance agent and, at renewal, the agent's annual reassessment of the insured's right to require additional coverage if, in its discretion, it determines that it may be warranted. Any changes in the approved authorization development and operations plan, or the existence of significant claims against the liability coverage, would warrant examination of the insurance by the State to determine adequacy.

- e. In the event the Grantee becomes aware of a claim against any of its liability coverage, the Grantee shall notify, and provide documentation and full disclosure of the claim to the AO within 20 days.

- 17. Removal of Improvements and Site Restoration:** Upon termination of this authorization, whether by abandonment, revocation or any other means, the Grantee shall within 30 days remove all improvements from the area herein granted, except those owned by the State, and the site shall be restored to a condition acceptable to the AO. Should the Grantee fail or refuse to remove said structures or improvements within the time allotted, they shall revert to and become the property of the State; however, the Grantee shall not be relieved of the cost of the removal of the structures, improvements and/or the cost of restoring the area.
- 18. Performance Guaranty:** A performance guaranty is not required. The AO reserves the right to require a performance guaranty during the term of this authorization. If required, a performance guaranty, in an amount acceptable to the AO, must be provided and remain in place during the term of this authorization. The guaranty may be adjusted to reflect updates and changes in the associated project. The guaranty assures compliance with the terms and conditions of the authorization. The guaranty may be utilized by the DMLW, at the discretion of the AO, to cover costs incurred by the State of Alaska to pay for any necessary corrective action(s) in the event the Grantee does not comply with site utilization and restoration guidelines. The provisions of this authorization shall not prejudice the State's right to obtain remedy under any law or regulation
- 19. Violations:** This authorization may be revoked upon violation of any of its terms, conditions, stipulations, nonpayment of fees, or upon failure to comply with any other applicable laws, statutes, and regulations. A revocation may not become effective until 60 days after the Grantee has been notified in writing of the violation during which time the Grantee has an opportunity to cure any such violation. No public access easement may be terminated without the prior written approval of DMLW.
- 20. Notification of Discharge:** The Grantee shall immediately notify the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) and AO of any unauthorized discharge of oil to water, any discharge of hazardous substances (other than oil), and any discharge of oil greater than 55 gallons on land. All fires and explosions must also be reported immediately.

If a discharge, including a cumulative discharge, of oil is greater than 10 gallons but less than 55 gallons, or a discharge of oil greater than 55 gallons is made to an impermeable secondary containment area, the Grantee shall report the discharge within 48 hours. Any discharge of oil greater than one gallon up to 10 gallons, including a cumulative discharge, solely to land, must be reported in writing on a monthly basis.

Notification of discharge during normal business hours must be made to the nearest DEC Area Response Team: Anchorage (907) 269-7500, fax (907) 269-7687; Fairbanks (907) 451-2121, fax (907) 451-2362; Juneau (907) 465-5340, fax (907) 465-5245. For discharges in state off shore waters call (907) 269-0667. The DEC oil spill report number outside normal business hours is (800) 478-9300.

Notification of discharge must be made to the appropriate DNR Office, preferably by e-mail: Anchorage email dnr.scro.spill@alaska.gov, (907) 269-8503; Fairbanks email dnr.nro.spill@alaska.gov, (907) 451-2739; Juneau email sero@alaska.gov, (907) 465-3400. The Grantee shall supply the AO with all incident reports submitted to DEC.

- 21. Returned Check Penalty:** A returned check penalty of \$50.00 will be charged for any check on which the bank refuses payment. Late payment penalties shall continue to accrue.
- 22. Late Payment Penalty Charges:** The Grantee shall pay a fee for any late payment. The amount is the greater of either \$50.00 or interest accrued daily at the rate of 10.5% per annum and will be assessed on each past-due payment until paid in full.
- 23. Fees:** No fees are associated with this authorization.
- 24. Request for Information:** The AO, at any time, may require the Grantee to provide any information directly or indirectly related to this authorization in a manner prescribed by the AO.
- 25. Waste Disposal:** On-site refuse disposal is prohibited unless specifically authorized. All waste generated during operation, maintenance, and termination activities under this authorization shall be removed and disposed of at an off-site DEC approved disposal facility. Waste, in this paragraph, means all discarded matter, including but not limited to human waste, trash, garbage, refuse, oil drums, petroleum products, ashes, and discarded equipment.
- 26. Destruction of Markers:** The Grantee shall protect all survey monuments, witness corners, reference monuments, mining claim posts, bearing trees, and unsurveyed corner posts against damage, destruction, or obliteration. The Grantee shall notify the AO of any damaged, destroyed, or obliterated markers and shall reestablish the markers at the Grantee's expense in accordance with accepted survey practices of the DMLW.
- 27. Site Maintenance:** The authorized area shall be maintained in a neat, clean, and safe condition, free of any solid waste, debris, or litter, except as specifically authorized herein.
- 28. Maintenance of Improvements:** The Grantor is not responsible for maintenance of authorized improvements or liable for injuries or damages related to those improvements. No action or inaction of the Grantor is to be construed as assumption of responsibility.
- 29. Amendment or Modification:** The Grantee may request an amendment or modification of this authorization; the Grantee's request must be in writing. Any amendment or modification must be approved by the AO in advance and may require additional fees and changes to the terms of this authorization.
- 30. Development Plan:** Development shall be limited to the authorized area and improvements specified in the approved development plan or subsequent modifications approved by the AO. The Grantee is responsible for accurately siting development and operations within the

authorized area. Any proposed revisions to the development plan must be approved in writing by the AO before the change in use or development occurs.

- 31. Proper Location:** This authorization is for activities on state lands or interests managed by DMLW. It does not authorize any activities on private, federal, native, and municipal lands, or lands which are owned or solely managed by other offices and agencies of the State. The Grantee is responsible for proper location within the authorized area.
- 32. Choice of Venue:** This authorization shall be construed under the laws of the State of Alaska. The Grantee confers personal jurisdiction on the courts of the State of Alaska for any litigation under this authorization.
- 33. Stop Work Orders:** Stop Work Orders may be issued if there is a deviation from design criteria, project specifications, stipulations, state statutes, or state regulations and that deviation is causing or is likely to cause significant damage to state resources. Under a Stop Work Order, work at the area subject to the Stop Work Order may not resume until the deviation is cured and corrective action is taken. Corrective action may include halting or avoiding specific conduct, implementing alternative measures, repairing any damage to state resources that may have resulted from the conduct, or other action as determined by the AO. The AO has the right but not the obligation, to undertake corrective action at the expense of the Grantee by moving against the performance bond when such action is necessitated by neglect or inaction on the part of the Grantee to take corrective action.
- 34. Fire Prevention, Protection and Liability:** The Grantee shall take all reasonable precautions to prevent and suppress forest, structure, brush and grass fires, and shall assume full liability for any damage to state land and structures resulting from the negligent use of fire. The State is not liable for damage to the Grantee's personal property and is not responsible for forest fire protection of the Grantee's activity. To report a wildfire, call 911 or 1-800-237-3633.

ATTACHMENT A

Reduced copy of record of survey EPF #####

DRAFT