## BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of the Application of	)	
Se-Ma-No Technologies, LLC to	)	
Withdraw and have cancelled all	)	Case No. XD-2005-0440
Certificates of Service Authority.	)	(consolidated)

## **AFFIDAVIT OF JOHN RICHARDS**

I, John Richards, Chief Financial Officer of Sho-Me Technologies, L.L.C., being over the age of twenty-one, state the following based on my personal knowledge, information, and belief, that the following is true:

- 1. Sho-Me Technologies, L.L.C. is certificated by the Missouri Public Service Commission to provide non-switched local and interexchange telecommunications services.
- 2. Sho-Me Technologies, L.L.C. is an affiliate of Sho-Me Power Electric Cooperative, a transmission rural electric cooperative.
- 3. The member-owners of Sho-Me Power Electric Cooperative include distribution rural electric cooperatives Se-Ma-No Electric Cooperative, Laclede Electric Cooperative, Webster Electric Cooperative, Crawford Electric Cooperative, Howell-Oregon Electric Cooperative, Gascosage Electric Cooperative, White River Electric Cooperative, and Southwest Electric Cooperative.
- 4. Applicants Se-Ma-No Technologies, L.L.C., Laclede Technologies, L.L.C., Webster Technologies, L.L.C., Crawford Technologies, L.L.C., Howell-Oregon Technologies, L.L.C., Gascosage Technologies, L.L.C., White River Technologies, L.L.C., and Southwest Fiber Communications, L.L.C. are affiliates respectively of Se-Ma-No Electric Cooperative, Laclede Electric Cooperative, Webster Electric

Cooperative, Crawford Electric Cooperative, Howell-Oregon Electric Cooperative, Gascosage Electric Cooperative, White River Electric Cooperative, and Southwest Electric Cooperative.

- 5. Prior to 1997 Sho-Me Power Electric Cooperative utilized microwave radio equipment to communicate between its substations, power suppliers, and distribution cooperatives. At the direction of the FCC Sho-Me Power Electric Cooperative removed itself from the microwave bandwidth reclaimed by the FCC.
- 6. Sho-Me Power and its member-owner distribution electric cooperatives replaced the microwave communications system with a fiber-based system. It was decided to utilize excess capacity in this fiber system to provide communications services in rural areas of Missouri.
- 7. Sho-Me Power and its member-owners distribution electric cooperatives determined they would create affiliates to operate their fiber systems. It was known that facilities of Sho-Me and the member distribution electric cooperatives would have to be utilized jointly in order to reach customers. It was uncertain as to what business structure would be utilized between the communication affiliates. All of these affiliates, including Sho-Me Technologies, requested and received certificates of authority from the Missouri Public Service Commission to provide non-switched local and interexchange telecommunications services.
- 8. During the past eight years, this fiber system has evolved, and today it is used to provide bandwidth services to MORENET, the Office of the State Courts Administrator, the Missouri Office of Administration, the Missouri Secretary of State,

public schools, libraries, medical services providers, and to private commercial enterprises in rural areas of Missouri.

- 9. At the time Applicants filed their applications to withdraw and cancel their certificates of service authority, the business structure utilized had developed into the one now in place.
- 10. Under the business structure now in place, Sho-Me Technologies is the communications provider providing service to all end users served by this system. Sho-Me Technologies bids, negotiates, and enters into contracts with the customers in the name of Sho-Me Technologies as the communications service provider. Sho-Me Technologies renders bills to the customers in the name of Sho-Me Technologies, and receives customer payments made payable to Sho-Me Technologies. Sho-Me Technologies provides the optronic equipment used to light the fiber. Applicants do not light the fiber, do not enter into customer contracts, and do not provide communications service.
- 11. Most of the Applicants own the fiber facilities on their poles, and lease the use of that fiber to Sho-Me Technologies. Some Applicants do not install their own fiber, rather they allow Sho-Me Technologies to locate its fiber on their systems.
- 12. Sho-Me Technologies is not requesting withdrawal of its certificate, because it will continue to hold itself out to provide the services authorized in its certificate and tariffs. Sho-Me Technologies will continue to file reports, will continue to pay Commission operational assessments, and will report its net Missouri end-user revenues to the Missouri Universal Service Fund.

13. Further affiant sayeth not.

John Richards

STATE OF MISSOURI
COUNTY OF WEBSTER
(notary seal)

Before me this 17th day of October, 2005, personally appeared John Richards, duly sworn and on his oath deposed and said the foregoing affidavit was true to the best of his knowledge, information, and belief.

Evelyn Whitchurst Notary Public

EVELYN WHITEHURST
Webster County
My Commission Expires
January 31, 2006