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PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION  
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December 26, 2002

Ms. Cathy Hightower - Filing Clerk  
Public Utility Commission Of Texas  
1701 N. Congress Ave.  
Austin, TX 78071

Re: Project No. 26714 - 2002 Annual Report Regarding the Use Of Historically Underutilized  
Businesses (HUB)

Dear Ms. Hightower:

On behalf of La Ward Telephone Exchange, Inc. (La Ward), and pursuant to P.U.C. SUBST. R. 26.80, I have attached for filing an original and three (3) copies of La Ward's annual report of Historically Underutilized Businesses (HUB) for the period of October 1, 2001, through September 30, 2002.

Each vendor La Ward used between October 1, 2001, and September 30, 2002, was mailed a Business Certification form (copy attached). The expenditures for goods and services were totaled by vendor from La Ward's general ledger. The expenditures were categorized and reported on the Small Utilities HUB Use Report based on the vendor's completion and return of the Business Certification form. The expenditures associated with vendors who did not return the form are listed as Total Unknown Status Procurement on the forms. Purchases from companies within the state of Texas and those outside Texas are shown on separate reports.

Any questions may be directed to Steve Sewell at 830-895-7248.

Sincerely,

Michael F. Rinehart  
Authorized Representative for  
La Ward Telephone Exchange, Inc.

Attachment

cc: Ms. Terri Parker, General Manager  
La Ward Telephone Exchange, Inc.

# SMALL UTILITIES HUB USE REPORT (Texas purchases)

Utility: La Ward Telephone Exchange, Inc.

	Construction		Commodities		Other Services		Professional		Major Equipment		Other		Total HUB	
	MBE Exp		MBE Exp		MBE Exp		MBE Exp		MBE Exp		MBE Exp		MBE Exp	
African-American														
Male	0		0		0		0		0		0		0	
Female	0		0		0		0		0		0		0	
Total	0		0		0		0		0		0		0	
Asian American														
Male	0		0		0		0		0		0		0	
Female	0		0		0		0		0		0		0	
Total	0		0		0		0		0		0		0	
Hispanic American														
Male	0		0		0		0		0		171		171	
Female	0		0		0		0		0		0		0	
Total	0		0		0		0		0		171		171	
Native American														
Male	0		0		0		0		0		0		0	
Female	0		0		0		0		0		0		0	
Total	0		0		0		0		0		0		0	
MBE Total	0		9,298		0		387		0		171		13,224	
Non-Minority Females														
Total MBE & WBE Procurement	0		9,298		0		387		0		3,710		13,395	
Total Unknown Status Procurement (1)	161,430		18,266		8,399		154,079		52,264		59,132		453,570	
Total Non-Fuel Procurement (2)													466,965	
														Total Utility Purchases
														N/A
														N/A

Total Fuel and Purchased Power Equipment (electric only)  
Total Non-Fuel, Fuel, and Purchased Power procurement

(1) Vendors for whom HUB status is not directly known (2) Expenditures for goods and services not including wages, benefits, and other non-negotiable goods and services such as taxes and postage

Reporting Period: Oct. 1, 2001 through Sept. 30, 2002.

Reporting Date: December 26, 2002

Address: P.O. Box 246  
City: La Ward, TX 77970

Contact person: Terri Parker, General Manager

# SMALL UTILITIES HUB USE REPORT (Purchases outside Texas)

Utility: La Ward Telephone Exchange, Inc.

	Construction		Commodities		Other Services		Professional		Major Equipment		Other		Total HUB	
	MBE Exp		MBE Exp		MBE Exp		MBE Exp		MBE Exp		MBE Exp		MBE Exp	
African-American	0		0		0		0		0		0		0	
Male	0		0		0		0		0		0		0	
Female	0		0		0		0		0		0		0	
Total	0		0		0		0		0		0		0	
Asian American	0		0		0		0		0		0		0	
Male	0		0		0		0		0		0		0	
Female	0		0		0		0		0		0		0	
Total	0		0		0		0		0		0		0	
Hispanic American	0		0		0		0		0		0		0	
Male	0		0		0		0		0		0		0	
Female	0		0		0		0		0		0		0	
Total	0		0		0		0		0		0		0	
Native American	0		0		0		0		0		0		0	
Male	0		0		0		0		0		0		0	
Female	0		0		0		0		0		0		0	
Total	0		0		0		0		0		0		0	
MBE Total	0		0		0		0		0		0		0	
Non-Minority Females	0		0		0		0		0		0		0	
Total MBE & WBE Procurement	0		0		0		0		0		0		0	
Total Unknown Status Procurement (1)	30,447		24,135				49,504				23,641		127,727	
Total Non-Fuel Procurement (2)														
<p>(1) Vendors for whom HUB status is not directly known (2) Expenditures for goods and services not including wages, benefits, and other non-negotiable goods and services such as taxes and postage</p>														
<p>Reporting Period: <u>Oct. 1, 2001 through Sept. 30, 2002</u> Reporting Date: <u>December 26, 2002</u></p>														
<p>Address: <u>P.O. Box 246</u> Contact person: <u>Terri Parker, General Manager</u></p>														
<p>City: <u>La Ward, TX 77970</u></p>														
<p>Total Fuel and Purchased Power Equipment (electric only) Total Non-Fuel, Fuel, and Purchased Power procurement</p>														
<p>Total Utility Purchases</p>														
<p>N/A</p>														
<p>N/A</p>														

To be filed by a utility which has more than 1,000 customers in a state other than Texas, or which purchases more than 10% of its goods and services from vendors not located in Texas

November, 2002

As you may know the Texas Legislature enacted a law that requires the reporting of certain information concerning our use of historically underutilized businesses as defined in the TEX.GOV'T CODE @ 2161.001 (2).

**To assist us in completing this legislative mandate, we are requesting that you complete the enclosed information sheet and return it to us by November 27, 2002.** A self-addressed, stamped envelope is provided for your convenience. As always, we continue to purchase products and services on the basis of value and support to our company, customers and community.

If after reading the enclosed information you have questions concerning this request, please feel free to call our business office at 361-872-2211.

Thank you in advance for complying with our request for this information.

Sincerely,

La Ward Telephone Exchange, Inc.

# BUSINESS CERTIFICATION

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**CHECK ALL THAT APPLY** (Refer to reverse side for Business Type Certification Definitions)

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Small Business         | <input type="checkbox"/> Historically Underutilized Business |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Woman-Owned Business   | <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Profit Business                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Foreign-Owned Business |  |

Please indicate the category for the individual(s) who own and operate this business:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Black American         | <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic-American |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Asian-Pacific American | <input type="checkbox"/> American Indian   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Woman                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Caucasian         |

Type of Product/Service: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Business: \_\_\_\_\_

Business Address (include County): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Company officer completing form: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Company Officer

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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***Please return this form by December 5, 2002***  
***An addressed, stamped envelope is included***

**We appreciate your business and assistance**

## BUSINESS TYPE CERTIFICATION DEFINITIONS

1. **Small Business.** A business that meets the pertinent criteria established by the Small Business Administration. If you are not certain about your small business status, please contact the nearest office of the Small Business Administration for assistance.
2. **Historically Underutilized Business.** A business that meets the definition of a Historically Underutilized Business according to the Texas Government Code @2161.001(2). (A corporation formed for the purpose of making a profit in which at least 51 percent of all classes of the shares of stock or other equitable securities is owned by one or more persons who are socially disadvantaged because of their identification as a member of certain groups including Black Americans, Hispanic Americans, women, Asian Pacific Americans, and American Indians.)
3. **Woman-Owned Business.** A business that is at least 51 percent owned by a woman or women who also control and operate the business.
4. **Non-Profit Business.** A business that is legally incorporated and not conducted or maintained for the purpose of making a profit.
5. **Foreign-Owned Business.** A business that is located and owned in a country outside the United States.