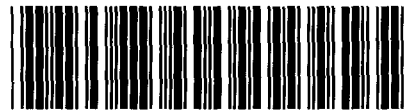


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GVNW CONSULTING, INC.

RECEIVED

1001 WATER STREET, STE A-100  
KERRVILLE, TX 78028  
TEL 830.896.5200  
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2017 DEC 29 AM 11:18

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION  
FILING CLERK

December 28, 2017

Filing Clerk  
Public Utility Commission of Texas  
1701 North Congress Avenue  
Austin, TX 78701

Re: Project No. 30240 – Annual Progress Reports on Five-Year Plan to Enhance Supplier and Workforce Diversity – 2017 Report

Dear Filing Clerk:

On behalf of Lake Livingston Telephone (“Lake Livingston”), and pursuant to 16 TAC § 26.85(e), please find enclosed for filing in the above-referenced project an original and three (3) copies of the 2017 Annual Progress Report on the Five-Year Plan to Enhance Supplier and Workforce Diversity.

Consistent with 16 TAC §26.85(e), copies of this report are also being provided to: The Governor’s Office, The Lt. Governor’s Office, The Speaker of the Texas House of Representatives, The Texas Legislative Black Caucus, The Texas Senate Hispanic Caucus, and The Mexican-American Legislative Caucus.

Please feel free to contact me at 830.895.7221 or [cspears@gvnw.com](mailto:cspears@gvnw.com) with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Courtney Spears  
Authorized Representative for  
Lake Livingston Telephone

cc: w/attachment      The Governor’s Office  
                                 The Lt. Governor’s Office  
                                 The Speaker of the Texas House of Representatives  
                                 The Texas Legislative Black Caucus  
                                 The Texas Senate Hispanic Caucus  
                                 The Mexican-American Legislative Caucus

2910

**WORKFORCE AND SUPPLIER DIVERSITY FORM**  
**WORKFORCE DIVERSITY**  
**LAKE LIVINGSTON TELEPHONE COMPANY**  
**Project No. 30240 For Reporting Period October 1, 2016 through September 30, 2017**

Occupational Categories	NUMBER OF TEXAS FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES FOR REPORTING YEAR												
	Combined Total	Company Totals		Caucasian		African American		Hispanic		Asian		American Indian	
		Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Officials and Managers	3	3	0	3									
Professionals	0	0	0										
Technicians	3	3	0	3									
Sales Workers	0	0	0										
Office and Clerical	2	0	2		2								
Craft Workers (Skilled)	0	0	0										
Operatives (Semi-skilled)	0	0	0										
Laborers (Unskilled)	0	0	0										
Service Workers	0	0	0										
<b>Previous Year Totals</b>	8	6	2	6	2								
<b>This Year Totals</b>	8	6	2	6	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

**NOTE:** Double-click on embedded Excel chart to open. Click on a cell or use arrow keys to select an occupational category and ethnic group to update workforce diversity numbers. Do not enter information in Combined Total and Company Totals columns or the This Year Totals row as these will update automatically. Cells left blank will be counted as zero. Click anywhere outside of chart to exit.

**WORKFORCE AND SUPPLIER DIVERSITY FORM**  
**HUB/SMALL BUSINESS PROCUREMENT AS A PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL COMPANY PROCUREMENT**

<b>Actual % = [Total HUB(1) procurement + Total Small Business(2) procurement]/Total Company procurement</b>	<b>Actual % for Previous FY</b>	<b>Actual % for Current FY</b>	<b>Percentage Change</b>
Construction Contracts (3)	23.72%	24.21%	<b>.49%</b>
Commodities Contracts (4)	0.00%	0.00%	<b>0%</b>
Other Services (5)	9.51%	9.26%	<b>-.25%</b>
Professional Services Contracts (6)	24.67%	25.10%	<b>.43%</b>
Major Equipment (7)	2.98%	2.88%	<b>.10%</b>
Other (8)	39.11%	38.91%	<b>-.20%</b>

**(1) HUB** – Pursuant to Texas Government Code § 481.191(4), HUB means: (A) 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 members of certain groups, including black Americans, Hispanic Americans, women, Asian Pacific Americans, and American Indians; (B) a sole proprietorship formed for the purpose of making a profit that is 100 percent owned, operated, and controlled by a person described by Paragraph (A) of this subdivision; (C) a partnership formed for the purpose of making a profit in which 51 percent of the assets and interest in the partnership is owned by one or more persons described by Paragraph (A) of this subdivision. Those persons must have proportionate interest and demonstrate active participation in the control, operation, and management of the partnership's affairs; or (D) a joint venture in which each entity in the joint venture is a historically underutilized business under this subdivision.

**(2) Small Business** – Pursuant to Texas Government Code § 481.191(6), Small Business means a corporation, partnership, sole proprietorship, or other legal entity that: (A) is domiciled in this state; (B) is formed to make a profit; (C) is independently owned and operated; and (D) employs fewer than 100 full-time employees.

**(3) Construction** – Construction done by general contractors and special trade contractors which includes new work, additions, alterations, reconstruction, installations, repairs, remodeling, renovating, and repair of office buildings. Heavy construction other than buildings such as pipelines, communication and power lines, sewer and water mains, asphalt and concrete construction of roads, trenching, cable laying, conduit construction, land clearing and leveling.

**(4) Commodities** – All materials, goods or tangibles purchased to conduct business, not including fuel or purchased power contracts and major equipment purchases and rentals.

**(5) Others Services** – All specialty work, special circumstances that required contract labor, special consultants or other non-defined services. Examples include audio/visual, staffing services, landscaping, forestry, tree trimming, art and decorative services, janitorial, travel/lodging, automotive repair, and photography.

**(6) Professional Services** – Contracted professional services which include legal, consulting, health, engineering, accounting, advertising/marketing, architectural, real estate, computer services, research and analysis, education/training, insurance, surveying services, weather services, environmental, financial, etc.

**(7) Major Equipment** – Includes all major equipment purchases and rentals including but not limited to transmission and distribution equipment, power plant equipment, substation equipment, heavy construction equipment, fleet requirements, etc.

**(8) Other** – Any commodity or service not covered by the above categories.

## **WORKFORCE AND SUPPLIER DIVERSITY FORM COMPANY INITIATIVES**

**(1) Describe the specific initiatives, programs, and activities undertaken under the plan during the preceding year:**

Lake Livingston Telephone Company ("Lake Livingston" or "the Company") maintains a commitment to employ a diverse workforce with focused emphasis placed on recruiting, training, and employing individuals with the education and skill-sets needed from within the local community.

Lake Livingston strives to utilize historically underutilized businesses ("HUBs") for the procurement of goods and services, especially when the HUB is affiliated or located within its local or surrounding communities. The Company strives to stay abreast of the availability of certain products, services and businesses that qualify under the HUB definition through community resource participation and involvement and through use of the state's HUB directory. The Company also strives to communicate to the HUB community the opportunities for doing business with Lake Livingston. This initiative will continue to be promoted by local participation and communication with organizations that HUBs belong to, as well as posting of applicable information for HUBs that are independently investigating products or contract opportunities.

Lake Livingston also intends to utilize small businesses other than those defined as HUBs in the procurement of goods and services. With the Company's emphasis on utilizing and promoting local or surrounding area business economic growth, Lake Livingston plans to continue its involvement in local, county, and state organizations that promote the use of small businesses.

Listed below are Lake Livingston's specific programs and activities to achieve the initiatives stated above, and the progress of each during October 1, 2016 and September 30, 2017.

1. Identify local organizations with minority membership emphasis and communicate through these organizations employment opportunities with the Company.
  - a. Lake Livingston was unable to identify any local organization with minority emphasis during October 1, 2016 and September 30, 2017, but will continue with its effort to do so in the future.
2. Identify local organizations with female membership emphasis and communicate through these organizations employment opportunities with the Company.
  - a. Lake Livingston was unable to identify any local organizations with female membership emphasis during October 1, 2016 and September 30, 2017, but will continue with its effort to do so in the future.
3. Identify local educational institutions, and communicate through the educational employment outreach programs for employment opportunities available for minority and female students. Attempt to work with educational institutions to establish a work-for-credit intern program. These types of programs may be

## **WORKFORCE AND SUPPLIER DIVERSITY FORM COMPANY INITIATIVES**

established through the local high school and community or surrounding area colleges.

- a. Lake Livingston was unable to identify any local educational institution with outreach programs during October 1, 2016 and September 30, 2017, but plans to continue this effort next year.

4. Offer available work-related training to employees.

- a. Lake Livingston utilized industry provided technical and commercial training for employees during October 1, 2016 and September 30, 2017.

5. Offer available advancement opportunities to employees.

- a. Lake Livingston continues to train its current employees for increased responsibility. The Company's workforce remained stable in October 1, 2016 and September 30, 2017.

**(2) Make an assessment of the success of each of the specific initiatives, programs, and activities listed above:**

Lake Livingston, whenever possible, contracts with local businesses to provide the goods and services that are available in Lake Livingston's serving area and surrounding communities. At this time, Lake Livingston is not engaged in any business partnerships or joint ventures. Initiatives in this area will be taken under consideration by the management and owners of the Company. If no conflict with current Company policy exists, Lake Livingston may seek to incorporate this issue into its future business plans.

**(3) Describe the initiatives, programs, and activities the utility will pursue during the next year to increase the diversity of its workforce and contracting opportunities for small and historically underutilized businesses:**

The management and employees of Lake Livingston will continue to seek opportunities to make progress in the areas of diversifying the workforce and utilizing the products and services of small and historically underutilized businesses. As a small, rural telephone company, we have and must recognize a fiduciary duty and responsibility to the Company's owners, subscribers and community neighbors to make good, sound economic policy decisions as well as our community responsibility to purchase goods and services within our own communities when possible. By the very nature of the rural area we serve, we are sometimes limited in the local availability of certain telecommunications equipment and products and must go outside our communities for these mandatory purchases. Lake Livingston, whenever possible, contracts with local businesses to provide the goods and services that are available in the Company's serving area and surrounding communities.

**WORKFORCE AND SUPPLIER DIVERSITY FORM  
COMPANY INITIATIVES**

**(4) State the specific progress made under the plan filed by the utility:**

Lake Livingston's management continues to seek opportunities to make progress in the areas of diversifying the workforce and utilizing the products and services of small and historically underutilized businesses. However, Lake Livingston maintains its strong commitment to employing and purchasing within the rural community it serves, when and where possible. Because of the Company's rural service area, it is sometimes limited in the local availability of certain telecommunications equipment and products and must go outside our communities for these mandatory purchases. Lake Livingston, when possible, contracts with local businesses to provide the goods and services that are available in the Company's serving area and neighboring communities.

The Company believes its workforce will remain relatively stable for the foreseeable future.