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GVNW CONSULTING, INC.

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September 20, 2006

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2006 SEP 21 AM 10:42
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
FILING CLERK

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

RE: Project No. 32182 – Investigation of Methods to Improve Electric and Telecom
Infrastructure That Will Minimize Long Term Outages and Restoration Costs

Dear Filing Clerk:

On behalf of La Ward Telephone Exchange, Inc. ("La Ward" or "Company"), I am filing an original and ten (10) copies of this response to the PUC Staff's Information Request in the above referenced Project. The Staff requested information concerning; (1) La Ward's on-going vegetation management program for overhead facilities and, (2) the Company's on-going ground based inspection program for structural integrity for overhead facilities.

Most of La Ward's outside plant infrastructure consists of direct buried and underground facilities. Its minimal amount of aerial outside plant consists of a few customer drops and drop poles serving only one or two customers each. The Company's outside plant personnel are responsible for reporting any overgrown vegetation, obstructions or hazardous conditions to management to insure those conditions are investigated and resolved.

If you need any additional information, please contact Terri Parker at 361-872-2211 or terri@laward.net.

Respectfully submitted,

James A. Miller
Authorized Representative for La Ward Telephone Exchange, Inc.

cc: Terri Parker, General Manager