

Federal Communications Commission

**Before the
Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554**

In the Matter of)	
)	
Benton Cooperative Telephone Company)	File No.: EB-FIELDNER-13-00011673
Owner of Antenna Structure No. 1235745)	
Rice, Minnesota)	NOV No.: V201432320001

NOTICE OF VIOLATION

Released: October 23, 2013

By the District Director, Chicago Office, Northeast Region, Enforcement Bureau:

1. This is a Notice of Violation (Notice) issued pursuant to Section 1.89 of the Commission's rules (Rules)¹ to the Benton Cooperative Telephone Company, registrant of antenna structure number 1235745 in Rice, Minnesota. Pursuant to Section 1.89(a) of the Rules, issuance of this Notice does not preclude the Enforcement Bureau from further action if warranted, including issuing a Notice of Apparent Liability for Forfeiture for the violation noted herein.²

2. On September 24, 2013, an agent of the Enforcement Bureau's Chicago Office inspected antenna structure number 1235745 located at the coordinates 45-44-57.0 North Latitude / 094-12-38.5 West Longitude and observed the following violation:

47 C.F.R. § 17.4(g): "The Antenna Structure Registration Number must be displayed in a conspicuous place so that it is readily visible near the base of the antenna structure. Materials used to display the Antenna Structure Registration Number must be weather-resistant and of sufficient size to be easily seen at the base of the antenna structure." A sign attached to the fence surrounding the tower displays a registration number; however, the number displayed is not correct. The sign reads: "F.C.C. Registration Number 7202708."

3. Pursuant to Section 403 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended,³ and Section 1.89 of the Rules, we seek additional information concerning the violations and any remedial actions taken. Therefore, the Benton Cooperative Telephone Company must submit a written statement concerning this matter within twenty (20) days of release of this Notice. The response (i) must fully explain each violation, including all relevant surrounding facts and circumstances, (ii) must contain a statement of the specific action(s) taken to correct each violation and preclude recurrence, and (iii) must include a time line for completion of any pending corrective action(s). The response must be complete in itself and must not be abbreviated by reference to other communications or answers to other notices.⁴

¹ 47 C.F.R. § 1.89.

² 47 C.F.R. § 1.89(a).

³ 47 U.S.C. § 403.

⁴ 47 C.F.R. § 1.89(c).

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4. In accordance with Section 1.16 of the Rules, we direct the Benton Cooperative Telephone Company to support its response to this Notice with an affidavit or declaration under penalty of perjury, signed and dated by an authorized official of the Benton Cooperative Telephone Company with personal knowledge of the representations provided in the Benton Cooperative Telephone Company's response, verifying the truth and accuracy of the information therein,⁵ and confirming that all of the information requested by this Notice which is in the Benton Cooperative Telephone Company's possession, custody, control, or knowledge has been produced. To knowingly and willfully make any false statement or conceal any material fact in reply to this Notice is punishable by fine or imprisonment under Title 18 of the U.S. Code.⁶

5. All replies and documentation sent in response to this Notice should be marked with the File No. and NOV No. specified above, and mailed to the following address:

Federal Communications Commission
Chicago Office
1550 North Northwest Hwy., Suite 306
Park Ridge, Illinois 60068

6. This Notice shall be sent to the Benton Cooperative Telephone Company, at its address of record.

7. The Privacy Act of 1974⁷ requires that we advise you that the Commission will use all relevant material information before it, including any information disclosed in your reply, to determine what, if any, enforcement action is required to ensure compliance.

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

James M. Roop
District Director
Chicago District Office
Northeast Region
Enforcement Bureau

⁵ Section 1.16 of the Rules provides that "[a]ny document to be filed with the Federal Communications Commission and which is required by any law, rule or other regulation of the United States to be supported, evidenced, established or proved by a written sworn declaration, verification, certificate, statement, oath or affidavit by the person making the same, may be supported, evidenced, established or proved by the unsworn declaration, certification, verification, or statement in writing of such person Such declaration shall be subscribed by the declarant as true under penalty of perjury, and dated, in substantially the following form . . . : 'I declare (or certify, verify, or state) under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed on (date). (Signature)'." 47 C.F.R. § 1.16.

⁶ 18 U.S.C. § 1001 *et seq.* See also 47 C.F.R. § 1.17.

⁷ P.L. 93-579, 5 U.S.C. § 552a(e)(3).