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About the PUC

South Dakotans elect their three Public Utilities Commissioners to staggered, six-year terms. A dedicated staff of analysts, attorneys, consumer representatives and other professionals work with the commissioners to carry out the duties of the PUC. The PUC's website, www.puc.sd.gov, contains a wealth of information including audio web casts and recordings of meetings and hearings.

Utility Regulation

The PUC ensures utility companies in South Dakota provide safe, reliable service at fair and reasonable rates. The commission regulates investor-owned electric, natural gas and telephone utilities. It plays a more limited regulatory role with respect to wireless telecommunications companies and cooperative, independent and municipal utilities.

Other Responsibilities

The PUC helps resolve disputes between customers and their utilities, operates the South Dakota Do Not Call Registry and administers the state's One Call notification center (call before you dig). The commission also operates the natural gas pipeline safety program and licenses and inspects state public grain warehouses and grain buyers.

Advocacy and Education

The commission advocates for smart energy and telecommunications policy at the state and federal levels and works hard to educate consumers about ways to save energy and money (www.SDEnergySmart.com). The PUC acts as a resource to landowners, communities and developers for both renewable energy development (www.SDWind.com) and for the build-out of our state's wireless telecommunications networks.

Information superhighway

The commission's main website, www.puc.sd.gov, has a wealth of information ranging from utility company phone numbers to summaries of regulatory filings. In 2011, the commission offered live audio web casts of three dozen proceedings, including commission meetings and hearings. All audio files are archived for later reference and convenience. The website also contains a comprehensive docket system that encompasses thousands of pages frequently used by PUC commissioners, staff and the public. The website is a valuable resource to utilities, attorneys, consultants and citizens interested in the work of the PUC.

PUC on the World Wide Web

www.SDDoNotCall.com includes an overview of how consumers can add their personal phone numbers to the national registry to decrease the amount of telemarketing calls they receive. The site also describes how telemarketing companies doing business in South Dakota need to comply with applicable statutes and rules.

www.SDEnergySmart.com is a guide for South Dakota consumers to become more energy efficient. The site includes links to the state's utility providers that are partners in the South Dakota Energy Smart initiative.

www.SDOneCall.com includes an electronic ticketing system for excavators and others who use the Call Before You Dig notification service and an index of complaints, among other important information. The PUC maintains the site for the One Call Board.

www.SDWind.com has information about wind energy.

Commissioners

This report includes information about commissioners who served in 2011 through the date of publication (Spring 2012).

South Dakotans elect their three Public Utilities Commissioners to staggered, six year terms.



Chris Nelson
Appointed 2011. Term Ends 2012.

Chris Nelson is currently the chairman of the Public Utilities Commission. Chris was appointed Jan. 8, 2011, by Gov. Dennis Daugaard to fill a vacancy on the commission and served as the PUC's vice chairman in 2011. He is a member of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, serving as a member of the association's Committee on Telecommunications.

Previously, Chris served as Secretary of State having been elected in the 2002 general election. Chris was unopposed for reelection in 2006 which was the first time the office was unopposed in the history of South Dakota.

Prior to becoming Secretary of State, Chris held the position of state election supervisor in the Secretary of State's office for 13 years and was uniform commercial code supervisor in the same office for two years.

As Secretary of State, Chris received the 2010 Excellent Service to South Dakota County Officials award from the South Dakota County Officials Association, the 2004 Hazeltine/Taylor award from South Dakota Kids Voting, and the 2003 Excellence in South Dakota Municipal Government award from the South Dakota Municipal League. In 2005, Chris was appointed as a National Governors Association representative on the United States Election Assistance Commission Board of Advisors.

Under Chris's leadership the secretary of state's office was awarded the Election Center's 2009 Professional Practices Program State Award. This annual award is given as recognition for the most outstanding election administration professional practice in the nation. The award recognizes the 2008 development and implementation of a new central election reporting system for the state.

Following graduation from White Lake High School, Chris earned a bachelor's degree in animal science, with highest honors, from South Dakota State University in 1987.

Chris is actively involved in his church and counts agriculture and hunting as two areas of personal interest. He maintains a part-time cattle operation.



Kristie Fiegen
Appointed 2011. Term Ends 2012.

Kristie Fiegen is the Public Utilities Commission's vice chairman. She was appointed by Gov. Dennis Daugaard on Aug. 9, 2011, to fill a vacancy on the commission. She is a member of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners' Committee on Gas.

Prior to joining the PUC, Kristie was the president of Junior Achievement of South Dakota for 17 years and was recognized as the top Junior Achievement USA President in 2008.

Under Kristie's leadership, participation in Junior Achievement increased from 2,400 to more than 44,000

students annually and her team was named among the top eight franchises in the country nine times. Kristie's career also includes serving as the South Dakota area manager for the National Multiple Sclerosis Society for nine years and as a sales representative for Monsanto Company.

Kristie's public service career includes four terms in the South Dakota House of Representatives, from 1993 to 2001. While a legislator, she served as chair of the House Health and Human Services Committee.

She has been active in Rotary, United Way and Toastmasters, and is a member of Central Baptist Church.

Kristie earned a bachelor's degree in commercial economics and agricultural business from South Dakota State University and a master's degree in business administration from the University of South Dakota. She grew up on her family's farm near Chancellor, S.D., and is a graduate of Parker High School.



Gary Hanson Elected 2002 and 2008. Term Ends 2014.

Gary Hanson was elected to the Public Utilities Commission in 2003 and re-elected in November 2008. He served as the commission's chairman in 2005, 2008 and 2011. Gary represents South Dakota on the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners' Committee on Electricity. He served on the executive committee and as treasurer of the Organization of MISO States, is a member of the Mid-America Regulatory Conference, and represents the nation's NARUC commissioners on the steering committee of the National

Wind Coordinating Collaborative and is a member of the Advisory Council for New Mexico State University's Center for Public Utilities.

Gary has served as chairman of the South Dakota Underground Pipeline Task Force, as member of Gov. Mike Rounds' Task Force on Wind Development, South Dakota's Energy Task Force, and Gov. George S. Mickelson's Cumulative Environmental Evaluation of Black Hills Mining Task Force. His service to the state also includes three terms in the South Dakota Senate where he was chairman of the committees of Bonding

and of Government Audit and Operations, and vice

chairman of the Taxation Committee.

A native of Sioux Falls, Gary was twice elected as mayor of that city and oversaw multiple departmental operations of more than 1,200 employees. Prior to serving as mayor, Gary was Sioux Falls' utilities commissioner for six years and was responsible for the development and day-to-day activities for three municipal utilities. He owned several businesses before elected office and is a licensed real estate auctioneer, appraiser and broker.

As a regional and industry leader, Gary was a cofounder, past president and chairman of the Lewis and Clark Regional Water System, chairman of the South Dakota Public Assurance Alliance, and president of the Sioux Falls Board of Realtors. He has served on the boards of directors of Lutheran Social Services Credit Counseling Advisory Board, DAV



PUC Commissioners Fiegen, Hanson and Nelson

Arthur H. Muchow Independent Living Center, Sioux Falls Jaycees, Northern State University Foundation, Minnehaha Metro Communications Systems, South Dakota Water Congress, and Sister Cities Association. Gary was instrumental in the founding of the Multicultural Center in Sioux Falls, the Great Plains Waicipi, Community Drug Concerns Task Force, as well as endowments for the Sioux Falls Pavilion and the Great Plains Zoo.

Awards and honors received by Gary include being named Distinguished Alumnus of Northern State University, Sioux Falls' City Father of the Year, YMCA Tri-State Hall of Fame, International Lions Club Melvin Jones Fellow, Outstanding Young Citizen of South Dakota, Habitat for Humanity's Hats Off Award, Spirit of Downtown Sioux Falls Award, White Cane Safety Award, Multiple Sclerosis Society Chapter's Mayor of the Year, Children's Care Hospital Wings of Love Award, DAV's Outstanding Legislator Award, and Life Member of Lions Club Sight and Service Foundation.

He has regularly shared his passion for athletics as a volunteer coach for a variety of youth sports. Gary actively pursues a number of interests including astronomy, carpentry, car engines, birding, genealogy, hunting, fishing, skydiving, spelunking, camping, history and sports.



Steve Kolbeck
Elected 2006. Resigned 2011.

Steve Kolbeck was elected to the Public Utilities Commission in November 2006 and was sworn in to office in December 2006. He served as the chairman of the commission for the first half of 2011 and vice chairman in 2009 and 2010. Steve resigned his office in June 2011 to become South Dakota operations manager for CenturyLink.

During Steve's term with the PUC he was a member of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, serving as co-vice chair of the association's Committee on Telecommunications and on the Ad Hoc Committee on National Wireless Consumer Protection Standards. He held appointed positions through NARUC to the FCC's Interstate Telecommunications Relay Services Fund Advisory Council and the Federal-State Joint Board on Jurisdictional Separations, where he was state chairman. Steve also held offices as secretary, treasurer, vice president and president of the Mid-America Regulatory Conference and chairman of the Regional Oversight Committee.

Steve has extensive experience in the telecommunications industry, having held positions with Northern Telecom (now Nortel Networks), AT&T, South Dakota Network (now SDN Communications), and Alliance Communications.

Prior to joining the commission, Steve served as a Brandon, S.D., city councilman for three years. He is a native of Salem, S.D. Steve has a bachelor's degree from South Dakota State University and an associate's degree in telecommunications from Mitchell Technical Institute.



PUC Commissioners Hanson, Kolbeck and Nelson



The PUC's 30 staff members perform a variety of duties on behalf of the citizens of South Dakota and in support of the commission.

As **executive director**, **Patricia Van Gerpen** is responsible for the overall management of the PUC staff and day-to-day operation of the agency. She makes docket and project assignments and is the liaison between the commissioners and staff on all issues. Patty also works directly on a number of legislative, strategic planning and policy initiatives.

Leah Mohr, **deputy executive director**, schedules hearings and various meetings for the commission. She is also the copy writer for the PUC's websites, outreach materials and news releases, handles media inquiries and coordinates logistics for informational and educational meetings.

Cindy Kemnitz, **finance manager**, is responsible for the commission's fiscal activities including administrative functions related to the gross receipts tax and the regulatory assessment fee fund. She prepares and monitors budgets and handles accounting, payroll and purchasing duties. She also prepares the commission's meeting agendas.

Ben Schaap serves as the **communications assistant**. He assists with the development of educational materials, meeting and event coordination, and news releases.

Advising the commissioners are **John Smith**, **general counsel**; **Greg Rislov**, **commission advisor**; and **Rolayne Ailts Wiest**, **commission attorney**. The attorneys also serve as hearing examiners and represent the commission in state and federal courts and before federal regulatory agencies. Rolayne's additional specialties are advising about federal regulation and state legislative matters. Greg provides policy and technical consultation and research support regarding major regulatory issues.

Administrative staff members perform a variety of support services including handling incoming phone calls and mail and greeting guests. Each staff member has specific duties that keep the PUC running smoothly.

Tina Douglas is the web specialist with primary responsibility for maintaining the PUC's electronic dockets as well as each of the websites the commission operates. Demaris Axthelm schedules and coordinates meeting logistics, travel and training and maintains the telephone solicitor registry. Joy Irving assists with the preparation of legal documents, distributes meeting agendas and weekly filings and coordinates mailings.

Staff analysts are responsible for investigating, analyzing, evaluating and presenting testimony regarding issues and policies related to the electric, natural gas and telecommunications industries as regulated by the commission. Their educational and professional background includes expertise in accounting, economics, research and engineering. **Dave Jacobson**, **Brittany Mehlhaff**, **Patrick Steffensen** and **Jon Thurber** use these

skills to focus on quality of service, financial and rate matters as they work to understand and evaluate complex rate structures, earning requirements, and technical issues of various utility organizations. Chris Daugaard and Brian Rounds are analysts who primarily concentrate on emerging technologies such as renewable energy, wireless telecommunications and energy efficiency efforts. They also engage in outreach activities to consumers, industry representatives and students and provide docket analysis as assigned.

Here for the duration

The PUC bid a fond farewell to long-time staff analyst Bob Knadle in April 2011. Bob came to the PUC in 1980 as a recent college graduate and retired 31 years later. In between, he analyzed hundreds of dockets and served a stint as director of the grain warehouse division. The PUC is fortunate to have a number of staff members, like Bob, whose careers with the agency span 20-plus years.

Karen Cremer and Kara Semmler are staff attorneys with educational and practical experience in administrative law, trial procedure and business management principles. They review filings by utilities and represent the staff in proceedings before the commission. They work closely with staff analysts as they develop recommendations for policy, rate, siting and enforcement matters. They coordinate the presentation of the staff's case and cross-examine other parties who submit testimony. Kara also serves as the staff attorney assigned to all South Dakota One Call matters.

Three staff positions were added to the PUC on a temporary basis in 2010 as a result of funding provided by the **American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA)**. Provisions of the federal funding specify the staff members commit resources to electricity-related activities only and the positions be filled for no longer than a three-year period. These positions are held by analysts **Ross Pedersen** and **Matthew Tysdal** and staff attorney **Ryan Soye**.

The **Pipeline Safety Program** is staffed by engineers **Nathan Solem** and **Joshua Williams** with Nathan handling additional duties as program manager. The PUC administers the program on behalf of the U.S. Department of Transportation. Nathan and Josh inspect and investigate intrastate natural gas pipelines, master meters and propane systems to ensure the public is provided safe and dependable gas service. The two also analyze utility dockets as assigned.

Jim Mehlhaff is the director of the Grain Warehouse Division that works to protect property rights of customers and safeguard payments to grain producers. Judy Page assists with the issuance of warehouse and grain dealer licenses. Justin Blais and Paul Kenefick-Aschoff conduct grain warehouse and grain dealer inspections and investigations. The warehouse staff also performs check-off audits for various grain commissions and councils.



The PUC held a "Boxes for Bosses" food drive in honor of National Boss Day and to benefit the Pierre and Fort Pierre Food Pantry. Staff members donated more than 200 boxes, cans and containers of food and personal care products in recognition and appreciation of the folks in charge at the PUC.

The **Consumer Affairs Division** works with customers to answer questions and resolve complaints about the rates and services of regulated utilities. Manager **Deb Gregg** and representatives **Vicky Burns** and **Jason Schuchard** act as liaisons between consumers and utility companies in resolving these issues. This division also coordinates the PUC's presence at home shows and fairs and makes group presentations as requested.

Giving Spirit

PUC commissioners and staff are known for being hard-working, loyal and dedicated to their official duties. Those same characteristics resonate in their off-hour actions as well. Case in point: The Missouri River Flood of 2011. For many weeks in May and June as the water level rose putting homes, businesses and public areas in Pierre and Fort Pierre at risk, many at the PUC had two, very different work environments. Office hours were dominated by suits, ties, dockets and decisions in the high and dry Capitol building. Evenings, late nights and weekends brought PUC members to the flood zone with gloves, work boots, shovels and sandbags. The priority became building berms, moving friends' and relatives' belongings to safe places, and preparing and serving meals to volunteers and displaced residents. A handful at the PUC had a very personal stake in the flood fight and had to vacate their homes until the waters receded. Through this all, each one of the PUC commissioners and staff carried on faithfully and professionally with their obligations to the office and the public they serve.

Financial Report

For Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2011			L EXPENDIT / Fund Group		ENCUMBRANCE	BALANCE
	BUDGET	GENERAL FUNDS	FEDERAL FUNDS	OTHER FUNDS		
ADMINISTRATION						
Personal Services	\$933,002	\$328,651	\$11,167	\$607,775	\$0	-\$14,592
Operating Expenses	\$171,915	\$0	\$145	\$118,114	\$7,521	\$46,136
TOTAL PROGRAM	\$1,104,917	\$328,651	\$11,312	\$725,889	\$7,521	\$31,545
WAREHOUSE						
Personal Services	\$266,490	\$115,487	\$0	\$106,936	\$0	\$44,067
Operating Expenses	\$76,150	\$50,901	\$0	\$5,084	\$3,222	\$16,943
TOTAL PROGRAM	\$342,640	\$166,388	\$0	\$112,020	\$3,222	\$61,010
FIXED UTILITY						
(Informational Budget)						
Personal Services	\$1,205,906	\$0	\$154,150	\$996,663	\$0	\$55,094
Operating Expenses	\$549,477	\$0	\$46,740	\$331,526	\$11,864	\$159,347
TOTAL PROGRAM	\$1,755,383	\$0	\$200,889	\$1,328,189	\$11,864	\$214,440
PIPELINE SAFETY						
(Informational Budget)						
Personal Services	\$190,307	\$0	\$65,161	\$86,319	\$2,837	\$35,990
Operating Expenses	\$152,867	\$0	\$90,579	\$27,641	\$605	\$34,042
TOTAL PROGRAM	\$343,174	\$0	\$155,740	\$113,960	\$3,442	\$70,032
ONE CALL NOTIFICATION						
(Informational Budget)						
Personal Services	\$136	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$136
Operating Expenses	\$662,285	\$0	\$0	\$481,618	\$0	\$180,667
TOTAL PROGRAM	\$662,421	\$0	\$0	\$481,618	\$0	\$180,803
DO NOT CALL LIST						
(Informational Budget)						
Personal Services	\$18,803	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$18,803
Operating Expenses	\$27,200	\$0	\$0	\$27,146	\$0	\$54
TOTAL PROGRAM	\$46,003	\$0	\$0	\$27,146	\$0	\$18,857
Gross Receipts Tax Fund Revenues						
Grain and Warehouse Licenses*		\$ 89,488		Gross Receip	ts Tax*	\$1,730,993
Check Off Audits		\$ 11,196		Application I	- ees	\$ 2,250
Interest Earned		\$ 11,709		Interest Earn		\$ 130,852
Total Revenue		\$ 112,392		Total Revenu	ie	\$ 1,864,095

^{*} Includes Fines/Penalties

2011 Year in Review

LEGISLATION

- Introduced House Bill 1016, grain warehouse legislation, which added language to include electronic warehouse receipts as a form of negotiable instrument. The bill also clarified the existing statutes.
- Updated state law via Senate Bill 24 to increase the general rate increase filing fee paid by rate-regulated investor-owned natural gas or electric utilities from \$125,000 to \$250,000. The fee had not been raised in 16 years, during which time rate cases had become more complicated resulting in higher costs to the commission. The most recent rate case the PUC handled prior to the legislation had a cost of more than \$287,000, which exceeded the filing fee by more than \$162,000.
- Shepherded the passage of Senate Bill 26 to allow a rate-regulated natural gas or electric public utility to
 implement an interim rate without commission approval that is lower than what the utility initially
 proposed when it filed its rate case. The legislation states that interim rate is in effect pending a final rate
 case decision by the PUC.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

- Commissioner Steve Kolbeck was appointed as co-vice chair of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners' Committee on Telecommunications.
- After an extensive review of a complex issue with considerable input from industry, adopted new
 switched access rules that revise how rates are set for competitive local exchange carriers. Rules state
 that a CLEC's intrastate switched access rate shall not exceed the intrastate switched access rate of the
 Regional Bell Operating Company (CenturyLink) operating in the state.
- Monitored, at local and national levels, issues related to completion of calls to customers of rural telecommunications companies. Researched complaints from consumers and companies. Submitted comments to the FCC in support of an investigation of call routing practices of certain telecommunications providers. Presented a summary of the PUC's handling of such consumer complaints to statewide telephone company office professionals.
- Deemed 41 telecommunications companies as eligible to collectively receive millions of dollars in high
 cost support from the federal Universal Service Fund for maintaining, upgrading and building out their
 networks in South Dakota in 2012. The Universal Service Administration Company estimates companies
 invested more than \$90 million in USF monies for high cost support in South Dakota in 2010.

NATURAL GAS

Approved a lower-than-requested natural gas rate increase for NorthWestern Energy. The company
asked to raise its rates by 7.2 percent; the PUC approved a 3.3 percent increase. The case included a sixmonth review. A public meeting was held in Scotland, at the request of residents concerned about the
rate increase.

RENEWABLE ENERGY

• Commissioner Gary Hanson delivered a presentation to fellow state regulators at the national American Wind Energy Association convention. Hanson's remarks focused on renewable energy, electric transmission and regulatory issues in the country and the specific impact in South Dakota.

- Adopted a new chapter of rules related to renewable energy credits and renewable, recycled and conserved energy. Electric service providers provided comments and participated in the process.
- Compiled the annual South Dakota Renewable, Recycled and Conserved Energy Objective report. Companies
 reporting for 2010 collectively owned 349 megawatts of renewable generation capacity in South Dakota;
 retired 14,160 megawatt hours of renewable energy credits; and reported 8,122 MWh in conserved energy
 and 96 MW of conserved capacity, all in South Dakota.

PIPELINE SAFETY AND INSPECTION

- No reportable pipeline safety incidents occurred on jurisdictional pipelines in the state. Reportable
 incidents include, but are not limited to, events involving a release of gas from a pipeline where death,
 injury or \$50,000 or more of property damage occurs. Jurisdictional pipelines typically start at the gas
 connection to a town and end at the outlet of each individual house meter.
- Hosted the South Dakota/North Dakota Pipeline Safety Operator Training in Sioux Falls for more than 110
 members of the pipeline industry. The event included seminars about regulations, damage prevention,
 pipe protection, distribution integrity management, investigations and an educational tour of a landfill
 gas system.
- Nathan Solem, pipeline safety program manager, was elected vice chairman of the Central Region National Association of Pipeline Safety Representatives.



- Proposed pipeline safety violation penalties against two pipeline operators.
- Completed 126 days of pipeline safety inspections, exceeding the federal requirement of 85 days.
- Received a score of 99.75 out of a possible 100 on the federal audit conducted by the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration's Office of Pipeline Safety.
- Conducted distribution integrity management program inspections of pipeline operators in Illinois, Washington and Arizona along with other state inspectors as part of pilot process to test new federal inspection requirements. Nathan Solem, pipeline safety program manager, participated in the inspections as part of his service on the joint PHMSA-NAPSR DIMP implementation task force.
- Issued safe digging reminders to the public via a statewide news release that promoted the use of the South Dakota One Call system.
- Coordinated a survey of pipeline safety stakeholders including South Dakota One Call, utility companies, excavators and locating companies to gather input on damage prevention program improvements.
- Led two training webinars about public awareness attended by 27 pipeline operators.
- Conducted in-house research that revealed a strong downward trend, since 1997, in leaks per 1,000 miles of main intrastate pipeline and a slight downward trend in aboveground leaks on distribution services, per 1,000 services.
- Issued nearly 200 notices of probable violations and warnings.

GRAIN WAREHOUSE

- Continued monitoring activities related to VeraSun's bankruptcy. Negotiated final settlement with the surety on behalf of three producers who had not been paid for grain.
- Issued more than 300 licenses and performed 366 on-site inspections.
- Attended a presentation and tour of the Glacial Lakes Energy ethanol production facility in Watertown.

PUBLIC OUTREACH AND CONSUMER ASSISTANCE

- Hosted a pre-session PUC briefing for legislators. The forums featured an update about wind energy development in South Dakota, forthcoming EPA regulations, Keystone pipelines and the Federal Communications Commission's recent order that overhauls telecommunications funding support. The event attracted nearly 30 legislators and a number of utility industry representatives.
- Assisted consumers on more than 2,700 occasions with issues and complaints related to electric, natural gas, telecommunications (including wireless), energy efficiency and other utility-related topics.
- Conducted personal consumer outreach at home shows in Sioux Falls and Rapid City and fairs in Aberdeen, Sioux Falls and Huron. Commissioners and staff met with more than 4,300 consumers to answer questions about utility issues and promote energy efficiency, Lifeline and Link-Up telephone assistance programs and the Do Not Call registry.
- Revamped the PUC's Do Not Call website to better organize information for consumers and telemarketers.
- Do Not Call registry
- Revised rules regarding the overbilling or underbilling of customers due to meter errors. Rulemaking was a result of consumer complaints filed with the commission the previous year.
- Commissioner Chris Nelson was a guest lecturer for Brookings eighth grade science classes. Nelson and the students discussed wind, hydro and solar applications in South Dakota.
- Commissioners Gary Hanson and Chris Nelson presented at the AARP South Dakota Utilities Symposium.
- Hosted MONUMENTAL MARC 2011, the annual meeting of the Mid-America Regulatory Conference in Rapid City under the direction of MARC president, Commissioner Steve Kolbeck. More than 300 representatives from utility commissions in the Midwest and utility service companies as well as nearly 100 guests attended. Educational sessions focused on energy, telecommunications, water and professional development topics. Social events included a visit to Mount Rushmore National Memorial and a cook-out in Custer State Park.

LEADERSHIP

- Welcomed Commissioner Chris Nelson who was appointed by Gov. Dennis Daugaard to fill a vacancy created by Commissioner Dusty Johnson's resignation. Johnson departed the PUC to serve as Gov. Daugaard's chief of staff.
- Bid farewell to Commissioner Steve Kolbeck who resigned to become South Dakota operations manager for CenturyLink.

- Welcomed Commissioner Kristie Fiegen who was appointed by Gov. Daugaard to fill the remainder of Commissioner Kolbeck's term after his resignation.
- Commissioner Gary Hanson was voted to serve as PUC chairman and Commissioner Chris Nelson was voted vice chairman. The new leadership became effective mid-year.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY

 Approved energy efficiency plans by investor-owned utilities that offer cost and energy savings to customers.
 The plans were filed as a result of energy efficiency workshops commission staff initiated in 2010:



- Black Hills Power Plan provides rebates, audits and educational programs to qualified customers
 that install equipment and devices to help them reduce their energy use. Collective energy savings
 during the first three years of the plan are estimated to be more than 13.3 million kilowatt hours.
- Xcel Energy An expansion of the company's previously-approved plan, the update includes programs for lighting, ground source heat pumps, air conditioning and education. The programs have an estimated potential of saving more than 48.1 million kWh.
- MidAmerican Energy A one-year extension of the company's plan was approved. Annual savings
 are estimated to be approximately 246,000 therms of natural gas and 674,000 kWh of electricity.

ELECTRIC

- Commissioner Gary Hanson was a featured speaker at the Aspen Energy Policy Forum, addressing electric transmission issues affecting the Midwest.
- Intervened and filed comments with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission asking the agency to study how regulations of the Environmental Protection Agency will impact the reliability and affordability of electricity. The PUC pointed out that numerous proposed EPA regulations that will become effective over a very compressed time frame have the potential to cause the premature retirement of a number of generating facilities in the Midwest, creating serious reliability and economic consequences. Attended separate presentations by Black Hills Power and Otter Tail Power Co., including a tour of the Big Stone power plant, to learn how the companies interpret the impact of the regulations on their operations.
- Completed an extensive rate case review for Otter Tail Power Co. resulting in a 2.32 percent increase in electric rates. The review and negotiation process among staff, staff consultants and company representatives trimmed \$2.1 million in annual revenues from the company's request of a 9.96 percent rate increase.
- Continued working with counterparts from 39 states and eight Canadian provinces on the Eastern
 Interconnect States' Planning Council to evaluate transmission development options throughout the
 eastern interconnection. Completed Phase I, which defined three generation and transmission scenarios
 (from 70) that support the forecast needs of the eastern interconnection through 2050. Scenarios will be
 analyzed in Phase II to examine the economic efficiency of each.
- Approved an application by Xcel Energy for the company's environmental measures cost recovery tariff.
 The action allows the company to collect from ratepayers eligible costs associated with new mercury control systems installed on two of its coal-fired generating plants.

- Approved a new environmental measures cost recovery tariff for Black Hills Power related to improvements made to the company's jointly-owned Wyodak Power Plant to comply with the federal Regional Haze Rule. The approval allows the company to collect from South Dakota ratepayers an appropriate share of eligible costs related to the pollution controls.
- Approved a transmission cost recovery tariff for Otter Tail Power Co. for the company's share of regional
 transmission investments. Staff and company representatives developed a cost allocation method that
 considers the jurisdiction that has created the need for transmission investment and the amount of
 investment that is appropriate to include in retail rates. This transmission rider is the first filing of its kind
 to analyze the rate impact of large regional transmission projects.
- Approved the construction of a 10.6-mile 345kV transmission line in Brookings County. The line is part of CapX2020, a joint initiative of 11 transmission-owning utilities to expand transmission in the region. The application was submitted by Great River Energy and Xcel Energy.

WIRELESS

- Monitored the transition as AT&T
 Mobility began to provide service to
 former Alltel Wireless customers. Staff
 was in frequent contact with AT&T
 officials throughout the process to
 advocate on behalf of South Dakota
 customers. Assisted dozens of consumers
 with questions related to service quality
 and billing.
- Commissioner Kristie Fiegen participated in the State Policymaker Forum at the CTIA Enterprise and Applications conference, discussing the impact of state regulatory issues on wireless technologies.

Monitored the actions and results as new wireless telecommunications sites were launched by companies at several locations including in or near:

Aberdeen

Crow Creek

Pierre

ArtesianBlunt

• Dupree

Reva

Diant

Irene

Salem

• Bridgewater

Keystone

Sheridan Lake

BurkeCamp Crook

Lake CampbellMilltown

Sioux FallsSturgis

Castlewood

Mitchell

SturgisWolsey

Colman

Nemo

Yankton

Companies also made a number of technology enhancements on existing towers throughout the year.



Top Priorities

The South Dakota Public Utilities Commission focuses on the state's ratepayers and utility producers, managing its responsibility with the long-term public interest in mind. Accordingly, the priorities are among those that the commission examines to evaluate the fulfillment of its responsibility for electric and natural gas, grain warehouse, pipeline safety, South Dakota One Call, telecommunications and consumer affairs.

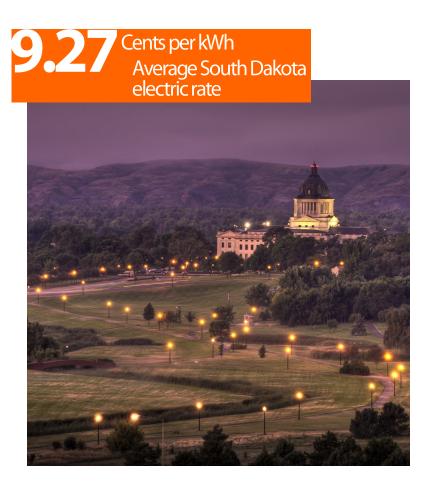
ELECTRIC AND NATURAL GAS

The commission looks after the welfare of South Dakotans as related to electric and natural gas issues. Actions taken by the commission strive to ensure reliable service and reasonable rates from investor-owned utilities as well as fair service territory boundaries for all utilities. The commission follows guidelines prescribed by South Dakota law when siting energy conversion and transmission facilities and serves as an objective resource on renewable energy issues. The components of this priority affect South Dakotans in terms of reliability and cost of their electric and natural gas services.

The PUC uses a number of ways to measure the agency's effectiveness at handling these issues.

Rates

Reviewing electric and natural gas rates from around the state, region and nation offers perspective to evaluate the financial impact South Dakota ratepayers experience compared to residents of other states.



Average Reside	ential Electric Rate
9.27 cents	South Dakota
10.22 cents	West North Central Region (Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota)
11.79 cents	United States
Meas	urement, per kWh, September 2011

Average Resi	idential Natural Gas Rate
\$8.77	South Dakota
\$9.92	West North Central Region (Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota)
\$11.39	United States
Measu	rement, per thousand cubic feet, 2010

2011 Electric and Natural Gas Dockets

33 Completed dockets

20 Completed within approximately 1 month

11 Completed in 2 to 4 months

2 Completed in 5 to 6 months

N/A Completed in 7 to 12 months

5 Uncompleted dockets

87% Percentage completed

Measurement, 2011

Completed Electric and Natural Gas Dockets

The number of electric and natural gas dockets completed each year reveals the agency's ability to manage its duties and workload. The measurement also alerts agency officials if the process by which dockets are assigned, analyzed and acted upon by staff and commissioners is appropriate. The commission seeks to completely process 85 percent of its annual electric and natural gas dockets within 12 months of a docket being filed.

Overturned Electric and Natural Gas Dockets

Parties that file requests or applications with the PUC and intervenors to those dockets have the right to challenge the commission's decision in circuit court. The number of dockets overturned by judicial order is an assessment of the manner by which the commission perceives and uses its regulatory authority.

Overturned dockets: None

Electric Reliability

The electric utility industry uses indices to track and benchmark reliability performance. Companies use this data to evaluate and improve upon their response to outages, handling of customer complaints and system integrity. Though electric utilities in South Dakota are not required to report these scores to the PUC, the companies discuss the information with the commission and a comparison to national scores is ascertained.

Electric Reliability

All of the 18 scores provided to the PUC by South Dakota's six investor-owned utilities ranked below the national average. (The lower the score, the better the ranking.) Analyzing the scores with relation to customer base and other factors reveals that the utilities have a high degree of electric reliability performance.

Measurement, South Dakota 2011 scores compared to National 2010 average

Indices:

System Average Interruption Duration Index (SAIDI): The average amount of time a customer's service is interrupted during the reporting period.

System Average Interruption Frequency Index (SAIFI): The average number of interruptions that a customer would experience.

Customer Average Interruption Duration Index (CAIDI): The average outage duration that any given customer would experience. CAIDI can also be viewed as the average restoration time.

Measurement, 2011

GRAIN WAREHOUSE

Monitoring the South Dakota grain industry is a significant responsibility of the Public Utilities Commission. The PUC Warehouse Division licenses and inspects:

- state-licensed grain storage warehouses,
- federally-licensed grain storage warehouses holding state grain-buyer licenses,
- grain buyers licensed as processors and non-storage facilities.

Grain brokers and truck-based grain buyers are also licensed but not inspected because they do not maintain grain handling facilities within South Dakota.

The warehouse staff works to reduce producer risk by reviewing the grain buyer and grain warehouse financial statements each year and by performing regular on-site inspections.

The PUC uses three main categories to measure its effectiveness in the grain industry.

Inspections

The PUC conducts inspections to ensure compliance with statutes and rules related to the licensing and bonding requirements for grain warehouses and grain buyers. The number of inspections conducted describes the penetration of the agency's review process. The commission aims to inspect each licensed facility annually.



Class A Grain Buyer Licenses (entities that use voluntary credit sale contracts or exceed \$10,000,000 in annual purchases):

127 entities with 253 locations

Class B Grain Buyer Licenses (entities that do not use voluntary credit sale contracts and do not exceed \$10,000,000 in annual purchases):

59 entities with 61 locations

Warehouse Licenses (entities that are licensed to store grain for hire):

62 entities with 94 locations

Measurement, 2011

Licenses

The PUC issues two types of licenses for grain buyers/grain warehouses doing business in the state. Each licensed entity is required to apply for renewal annually. As part of the licensing and renewal process, the commission analyzes grain buyers' financial ability to pay grain producers and suppliers. The number of licenses handled by the PUC depicts the wide scope of the commission's monitoring of the industry.

Failures

When a licensed grain warehouse fails to perform its duties or carry out its obligations to its producers, the PUC follows prescribed laws and administrative rules to investigate, audit or take other necessary action to limit damage to the public. The number of failures, excluding circumstances beyond the commission's authority, can be an indicator of the commission's level of diligence in overseeing the industry.

Failures: None

Measurement, 2011

PIPELINE SAFETY

The PUC has responsibility to regulate hazardous gas intrastate pipelines which includes ensuring the public is provided safe and dependable gas service. As part of its duties, commission staff inspects and investigates natural gas pipeline operators, master meter operators and propane systems for compliance with statutes and administrative rules.

The commission uses the following measurement tools to establish that it is appropriately handling its role with regard to pipeline safety.

Inspections

PUC pipeline safety engineers regularly inspect hazardous gas pipeline operators to determine compliance with state and federal regulations. Inspections occur in the areas of records, field, construction, drug and alcohol, public awareness, incident investigation, operator qualification and integrity management. The number of inspection hours logged by the safety engineers is an indicator of the agency's

Inspections: 126 days

(85 days required)

Measurement, 2011

thoroughness in this area. Based on the PUC's certification agreement to administer this program for the U.S. Department of Transportation's Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA), a minimum of 85 inspection days are required. In 2012, a minimum of 133 inspection days will be required.

Federal Audit

South Dakota's pipeline safety program is field audited annually by the PHMSA's Office of Pipeline Safety (Central Region). The agency reviews the inspections conducted and citations issued by the PUC and evaluates the commission's adherence to its pipeline procedures plan. The result of the federal review indicates the PUC's ability to correctly carry out its obligations related to pipeline safety. PHMSA also reviews and scores South Dakota's annual certification document submittals. The total score for calendar year 2011 is a 50/50 weighted average of the percentage score for the 2009 field audit and the 2011 certification

Federal audit score of South Dakota pipeline safety program

Measurement, 2011

document submittal. The highest possible score is 100 and the lowest score for any state reported in 2011 was 88.75. This audit score affects the funding South Dakota will receive for calendar year 2012.

Federal Certification

PUC staff involved in pipeline safety inspection are required to complete six training courses to become a certified pipeline safety instructor. The courses are taught by the federal Pipeline Safety Office of Training and Qualifications and are designed to educate federal and state pipeline safety inspectors in the application of compliance requirements, inspection techniques and enforcement procedures.

Program Manager: Six of six required courses plus nine elective courses completed.

Inspector: Five of six required courses plus eight elective courses completed.

Staff Attorney: One elective course completed.

Measurement, training/certification to-date

SOUTH DAKOTA ONE CALL BOARD

The PUC assists the South Dakota One Call Board with administering the South Dakota One Call program, commonly referred to as "Call Before You Dig." This program operates a notification center that informs underground facility operators, such as electric, gas, cable television, water and sewer, of any excavation activities. An individual preparing to conduct excavating activities can have underground facilities located by calling 811 to reach the One Call notification center. The center will contact the appropriate facility operators who are responsible to accurately mark the underground facilities affected. Parties failing to comply with the statutes and administrative rules that govern the program are subject to complaint action which may result in a penalty.

The correct application of all elements in the process provides many benefits. Excavators preserve their safety and decrease their liability by knowing the location of underground facilities in advance of their activities. Facility operators have greater assurance their assets are guarded against damage, dislocation and disturbance by clearly marking their facilities. The public receives protection from injury, damage and loss of service when the One Call process is followed.

The commission monitors the success of the program by focusing on three key measures.

34.33 seconds

Average time in queue

Measurement, 2011

Time in Queue

The prompt handling of locate requests is a top priority of the South Dakota One Call program. Each request of the system is handled in the order by which it is received. Queue times indicate the capability of the system's representatives to understand and appropriately react to the locate requests, affecting the timeline by which the excavator may proceed with their activity.

Locate Requests and Tickets

The One Call notification center is the hub of the South Dakota One Call program. It is here that incoming locate requests are received, processed and multiply into outbound locate tickets. Trained operators receive inbound requests from excavators to have dig sites marked and issue outbound locate tickets to the affected utilities that dispatch personnel to locate the underground facilities at the respective dig site. An incoming request will typically result in multiple locate tickets. This

inbound and outbound traffic is monitored to reveal the amount of excavation activities throughout the state and the general usage of the One Call system.

127,156 Incoming locate requests741,516 Outgoing locate tickets

Measurement, 2011

Complaints Filed

Complaints filed with the One Call Board are reviewed to determine if probable cause of a violation exists. If so, the board may recommend a penalty be assessed. The One Call program's complaint process is an enforcement as well as an educational tool. Often, parties found

13 Complaints

Measurement, 2011

in violation were not previously aware of their duties to follow One Call statutes or administrative rules. A goal of handling 12 complaints annually delivers a reasonable balance of enforcement and public awareness results.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

The commission has regulatory authority over some telecommunications providers and services in South Dakota. The PUC issues certificates of authority to certain providers; approves switched access rates for local exchange carriers; designates providers as eligible telecommunication carriers and approves plans for investing Federal Universal Service Funds; and arbitrates disputes between providers. In addition, the commission serves as a resource on emerging issues.

The commission continually assesses its performance in dealing with telecommunications issues, with specific attention paid to these measurements:

Completed Telecommunications Dockets

As with the electric and natural gas category, the number of telecommunications dockets completed each year reveals the agency's ability to manage its duties and workload. The measurement also alerts agency officials if the process by which dockets are assigned, analyzed and acted upon by staff and commissioners is appropriate. The number can also act as a meter of the amount of activity, within the commission's jurisdiction, by telecommunications providers in the state. The commission seeks to process 85 percent of its annual telecommunications dockets within 12 months of a docket being filed.

2011 Telecommunications Dockets				
84	Completed dockets			
_	Completed within 1 month Completed in 2 to 4 months Completed in 5 to 6 months Completed in 7 to 12 months			
9 90%	Uncompleted dockets Percentage completed			
	Magsurament 2011			

Overturned Telecommunications Dockets

Overturned dockets: None

Measurement, 2011

for a state with 5.64 customers per line mile.

Parties that file requests or applications with the PUC and intervenors to those dockets have the right to challenge the commission's decision in circuit court. The number of dockets that are overturned by judicial order is an assessment of the manner in which the commission perceives and uses its regulatory authority.

Wireline Customer Density

Customer density is a valuable measurement tool in the telecommunications industry used to help guide policy decisions. It depicts the customers served per mile of line, which is a standard measurement used to show the relative expense of providing state-of-the-art services in rural areas. The lower the customer density, the more expensive it is to serve. In South Dakota the average is 2.82 wireline customers per line mile, which means it costs roughly twice as much for wireline distribution facilities than it would

2.82 Approximate wireline

customers served per mile of line

Measurement, 2011

CONSUMER AFFAIRS

The PUC provides a number of services for consumers. The agency's consumer affairs staff is trained to assist consumers with issues related to their electric, natural gas or telecommunications service, including wireless. They provide educational information about energy efficiency, consumer protection and making wise utility choices. They also offer guidance and referrals for consumers who may have difficulty paying their utility bills. The commission also administers the South Dakota Do Not Call Registry, helping to enroll consumers on the registry and investigating violations against consumers who are on the registry.

The commission evaluates its performance related to consumer affairs by examining the following areas:

Complaints Completed within a Month

Consumer complaints are received by the commission via phone, email and, occasionally, are delivered in-person by the complainant. The PUC strives to quickly and fully investigate each incident by analyzing both sides of the complaint and working with the affected parties to informally reach a resolution. The number of complaints completed within a month reveals the commission's effectiveness in responding to consumers. The goal is 90 percent completed within a month.



Measurement, 2011

Formal Consumer Complaints

When a consumer and utility cannot reach a resolution though the informal process, one of the parties may file a formal complaint. A formal complaint is entered into a docket and, unless settled, may result in a

1 Formal consumer complaint

Measurement, 2011

hearing before the commission. The commission endeavors to affect complaint resolutions informally and therefore strives for a low number of formal complaints. This measurement is also an assessment of the commission's negotiation and mediation skills.

Do Not Call Registry

The commission continually uses outreach efforts to educate South Dakotans about enrolling their personal telephone number on the Do Not Call Registry to reduce the number of telemarketing calls they receive. In addition to advocacy, the PUC takes an active role and, at the request of a consumer, will enroll their number on the registry. The PUC tracks the number of South Dakota telephone numbers on the registry, noting the amount of growth each year which is an indication of the success of education efforts.

579,114 South Dakota telephone numbers on Do Not Call Registry (2% increase)

Measurement, 2011

Regulated Utility Companies

The Commission has territory, complaint and quality of service authority over all natural gas, electric and telecommunications utilities operating within South Dakota. Certain utilities are exempt from the commission's rate regulation. They include municipal, rural electric cooperatives and small, independent and cooperative telephone companies. The commission retains its switched access rate making authority for all telecommunications companies providing local service, including small, independent and cooperative companies.

GROSS RECEIPTS TAX ASSESSMENT PAID BY REGULATED UTILITY COMPANY

The sum of these figures does not correspond with the Gross Receipts Tax Revenues reported on page 8 due to timing issues. Revenues are based on calendar year.

Electric and Natural Gas Companies \$969,304
Telecommunications Companies \$739,614

INVESTOR-OWNED ELECTRIC AND NATURAL GAS COMPANIES

Investor-owned electric and natural gas companies provide service to specific geographic areas in South Dakota and are regulated by the PUC. These companies are owned by their investors and are managed as private enterprises.

Black Hills Power Inc.
MidAmerican Energy Co.
Minnesota Energy Resources Corp.
Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.
Northern States Power Co. dba Xcel Energy
NorthWestern Energy
Otter Tail Power Co.
South Dakota Intrastate Pipeline Co.

LONG DISTANCE TELEPHONE COMPANIES

These long distance telephone providers are certified by the PUC to do business in South Dakota. These companies carry traffic between telephone exchanges.

360networks (USA) inc.

800 Response Information Services LLC

Long Distance Telephone Companies (cont.)

Access One Inc.

Access Point Inc.

AccessLine Communications Corp.

ACN Communication Services Inc.

Airespring Inc.

Airnex Communications Inc.

Alliance Global Networks LLC

Alliance Group Services Inc. dba U.S. Republic Communications Inc.

American Fiber Network Inc. dba AFN Inc.

American Telecommunications Systems Inc.

Americatel Corp. dba 1010123 Americatel

dba AMETEX fka STARTEC Global

Operating CompanyGoSolutions

dba Startec

AmeriVision Communications Inc. dba LifeLine

Communications dba Affinity 4

Applewood Communications Corp.

Associated Network Partners Inc.

AT&T Communications of the Midwest Inc.

Avera Communication LLC

Dandwidth com Cl

Bandwidth.com CLEC LLC fka Computer Network Technology Corp.

BCN Telecom Inc. fka NUI Telecom Inc.

BEK Communications Cooperative

В

Long Distance Telephone Companies (cont.)

BellSouth Long Distance Inc. dba AT&T Long **Enhanced Communications Group LLC Distance Service** dba ECG LLC BLC Management LLC dba AT&T Long Distance EnTelegent Solutions Inc. Entrix Telecom Inc. Service **Broadband Dynamics LLC** Enventis Telecom Inc. Broadview Networks Inc. Express Communications Inc. Broadvox-CLEC LLC F FiberComm LC **Broadwing Communications LLC** BT Communications Sales LLC First Choice Technology Inc. Budget PrePay Inc. dba Budget Phone First Communications LLC BullsEye Telecom Inc. France Telecom Corporate Solutions LLC Business Discount Plan Inc. Frontier Communications of America Inc. Business Network Long Distance Inc. fka Citizens Telecommunications Co. Business Telecom Inc. dba BTI dba Citizens Long Distance Co. G GC Pivotal LLC Central Telecom Long Distance Inc. Cincinnati Bell Any Distance Inc. Global Crossing North American Networks Inc. fka BroadWing Telecommunications Inc. Global Crossing Telecommunications Inc. Comcast Phone of South Dakota LLC Global Tel*Link Corp. dba Comcast Digital Phone Go Solo Technologies Inc. Communication Access Center for the Deaf Gold Line Telemanagement Inc. and Hard of Hearing Inc. **Granite Telecommunications LLC** Communications Network Billing Inc. Greenfly Networks Inc. dba Clearfly COMTECH 21 LLC Communications Consolidated Communications Networks Inc. Н Consumer Telcom Inc. Hawk Relay LLC Convergia Inc. HickoryTech Long Distance fka Crystal Covista Inc. Communications Inc. Crexendo Business Solutions Inc. Horizon Telecom Inc. Hypercube Telecom LLC fka KMC Data LLC CSDVRS LLC CTC Communications Corp. IDT America Corp. Custom Teleconnect Inc. CVC CLEC LLC inContact Inc. dba UCN Inc. fka Buyers United Inc. fka Gyphics D DakotaComm LLC Communications Inc. dba BuyersOnline and dba United Carrier Networks Deltacom Inc. dba Earthlink Business DelTel Inc. dba AuctionFON iNetworks Group Inc. DIECA Communications Inc. dba Covad Integra Telecom of South Dakota Inc. Communications Co. Integrated Services Inc. Digital Telecommunications Inc. Intelepeer Inc. Ionex Communications North Inc. dba Birch **Earthlink Business** Communications Easton Telecom Services LLC Κ KDDI America Inc. fka KDD America Inc. **Embarg Communications Inc.** Embarq Payphone Services Inc. fka Sprint Knology of the Black Hills LLC fka PrairieWave Payphone Services Inc. Black Hills LLC **Encompass Communications LLC** Knology of the Plains Inc. fka PrairieWave

F

Telecommunications Inc.

Long Distance Telephone Companies (cont.)

	Lattice Inc.		New Edge Network Inc. dba New Edge
	LCR Telecommunications LLC		Networks
	Least Cost Routing Inc. dba Long Distance		New Horizons Communications Corp.
	Charges		NobelTel LLC
	Legacy Long Distance International Inc.		Norlight Telecommunications Inc.
	Level 3 Communications LLC		Norstan Network Services Inc.
	Liberty-Bell Telecom LLC dba Dish Network		North Dakota Long Distance LLC
	Lightyear Network Solutions LLC		Northern Valley Communications LLC
	Long Lines Metro fka CommChoice LLC		NOS Communications Inc. dba International
Μ	_		Plus and dba Internet Business
141	Main Street Telephone Co.		Association and Ivantage Network
	Matrix Telecom Inc. dba Matrix Business		Solutions (Inetba) and dba 011
	Technology		Communications and dba Blueridge
	MCC Telephony of the Midwest Inc.		Telecom Systems
	dba Mediacom		NOSVA Limited Partnership dba CierraCom
	MCI Communications Services Inc. dba Verizon		Systems
	Business Services		NovaTel Ltd. Inc.
	MCImetro Access Transmission Services LLC	0	Trovarer Etai me.
	dba Verizon Access Transmission		ONLINE SAVINGS INC.
	McLeodUSA Telecommunications Services Inc.		Onvoy Inc. fka Minnesota Independent
	dba PaeTec Business Services		Interexchange Corp. dba MEANS
	Megapath Inc. fka DSLnet Communications LLC		Telcom
	Metropolitan Telecommunications of South		OPCOM Inc. dba WCS Telecom dba WCS
	Dakota Inc.		Operators
	Midcontinent Communications Inc.		Operator Service Co. dba Excell Services
	Midstate Telecom Inc.		Opex Communications Inc. fka PremierCom Inc.
	Mitel NetSolutions Inc. fka Inter-Tel		OrbitCom fka VP Telecom Inc.
	NetSolutions Inc.	Р	Orbited III Telecom IIIe.
	Mobilitie LLC	<u> </u>	Pac-West Telecomm Inc.
	Momentum Telecom Inc.		PaeTec Communications Inc.
	Multiline Long Distance Inc.		PNG Telecommunications Inc. dba PowerNet
N			Global Communications and
14	National Access Long Distance Inc.		dba CrossConnect
	National Directory Assistance LLC		Public Communications Services Inc.
	Nationwide Long Distance Services Inc.		Pulse Telecom LLC
	Navigator Telecommunications LLC	Q	
	NECC Telecom Inc.		Quantumshift Communications Inc. dba Vcom
	Net One International Inc.		Solutions
	Netwolves Network Services fka Norstan		Qwest Communications Corp.
	Network Services Inc.		dba CenturyLink QCC
	Network Billing Systems LLC		Qwest Corp. dba CenturyLink QC
	Network Communications International Corp.		Qwest LD Corp. dba Qwest Long Distance
	aka Mundo Telecom and		dba CenturyLink LD
	aka 1800Call4Less	R	aba dentaryemik eb
	Network Innovations Inc.		Reduced Rate Long Distance LLC
	Network Service Billing Inc.		Reliance Communications International Inc.
	Network P LLC		Reliant Communications Inc. fka HJN Telecom Inc
	Neutral Tandem-South Dakota LLC		Residential Long Distance Inc.
	Neutral Tandem Jouth Dakota LLC		RRV Enterprises Inc. dba Consumer Access

S

Sage Telecom Inc.

Sancom Inc. dba Mitchell Telecom

SBC Long Distance LLC dba SBC Long Distance dba AT&T Long Distance

SNiP Link LLC

Spectrotel Inc. dba OneTouch

Communications dba Touch Base

Communications

Sprint Communications Co. LP

SSTelecom Inc. dba ITC

STi Prepaid LLC fka Dialaround Enterprises Inc.

Т

TDS Long Distance Corp.

Telecare Inc.

Telecom Management Inc. dba Pioneer
Telephone

Telecom North America Inc.

Teleconnect Long Distance Services and Systems Co. dba Telecom*USA

Telenational Communications Inc.

Telrite Corp.

Three River Telco dba Three River Long
Distance

Total Call International Inc.

Total Holdings dba GTC Communications

TRI-M Communications Inc. dba TMC Communications

TTI National Inc.

tw telecom data services LLC

U

U.S. Telecom Long Distance Inc. fka Corporate Calling Services Inc. fka Business Calling Plan Inc.

USA Digital Communications Inc.

V

Velocity The Greatest Phone Company Ever Inc. Verizon Enterprise Solutions LLC fka NYNEX Long Distance Co.

Verizon Long Distance LLC fka Bell Atlantic Communications Inc.

Verizon Select Services Inc.

Voicecom Telecommunications LLC fka Premiere Communications Inc.

W

WDT World Discount Telecommunications Co.
WilTel Communications LLC fka Williams
Communications LLC

Windstream Communications Inc. fka ALLTEL Holding Corporate Services Inc.

Windstream KDL Inc.

Windstream Norlight Inc.

Windstream NTI Inc. fka Norlight

Telecommunications Inc.

Working Assets Funding Service Inc. dba Credo Long Distance

X

X2Comm Inc. dba DC Communications XO Communications Services Inc. fka XO Network Services Inc. dba XO LDS fka XO Long Distance Services Inc.

ν

Yestel USA Inc.

Ζ

Zeus Telecommunications LLC Zone Telecom Inc.

OPERATOR SERVICE COMPANIES

An operator service provider is a telecommunications company that provides, by contract, a connection to long distance or local services from such places as hotels, motels, hospitals and campuses. The following operator service providers are authorized to do business in South Dakota.

G

Global Tel*Link Corp.

Inmate Calling Solutions LLC dba ICSolutions Intellicall Operator Services Inc. dba ILD

Lattice Inc.

N

Network Operator Services Inc.

Pay Tel Communications Inc.

<u>_R</u>_

Reliance Telephone Systems Inc. (correctional facilities)

<u>S</u>

Securus Technologies Inc. fka Evercom Systems Inc.

<u>T</u>

T-NETIX Inc. (correctional facilities)
T-NETIX Telecommunications Services Inc.
(correctional facilities)

V

Value Added Communications Inc. (correctional facilities)

COMPETITIVE LOCAL EXCHANGE COMPANIES

A CLEC is a local exchange carrier providing local telephone service in competition with the incumbent local exchange carrier (ILEC). Some companies can be both a CLEC and an ILEC (see page 27) in different service areas. The following CLECs are certified by the PUC to provide telecommunications services in South Dakota.

#

1-800-Reconex Inc. dba USTel 321 Communications Inc. 360networks (USA) inc.

Α

Access Point Inc.

ACN Communication Services Inc.
AT&T Communications of the Midwest Inc.
Aventure Communication Technology LLC
Avera Communication LLC

В

Bandwidth.com CLEC LLC fka Computer
Network Technology Corp.
BEK Communications Cooperative
BellSouth Long Distance Inc. dba AT&T Long
Distance Services

BLC Management LLC dba Angles Communication Solutions

Broadview Networks Inc.

Broadvox-CLEC LLC

BT Communications Sales LLC

Budget Prepay Inc. dba Budget Phone BullsEye Telecom Inc.

C

COMTECH 21 LLC

Covista Inc.

Crexendo Business Soultions Inc.

D

DakotaComm LLC

DIECA Communications Inc. dba Covad Communications Co.

Digital Telecommunications Inc.

Ε

EnTelegent Solutions Inc. Eventis Telecom Inc.

F

FiberComm LC

France Telecom Corporate Solutions LLC

G

GC Pivotal LLC

Granite Telecommunications LLC
Greenfly Networks Inc. dba Clearfly
Communications

<u>H</u>

HickoryTech Long Distance fka Crystal Communications Inc.

Hypercube Telecom LLC fka KMC Data LLC

IDT America Corp.

InContact Inc. dba UCN Inc. fka Buyers United Inc. dba BuyersOnline and dba United Carrier Networks

iNetworks Group Inc.

Integra Telecom of South Dakota Inc.

IntelePeer Inc.

Ionex Communications North Inc. dba Birch
Communications

K

Knology of the Black Hills LLC fka PrairieWave Black Hills LLC Knology of the Plains Inc. fka PrairieWave Telecommunications Inc.

L

Level 3 Communications LLC
Liberty-Bell Telecom LLC dba Dish Network
Phone & Internet

Long Lines Metro fka CommChoice LLC

Ν

Matrix Telecom Inc. dba Matrix Business Technologies

MCC Telephony of the Midwest Inc. dba Mediacom

MCImetro Access Transmission Services LLC dba Verizon Access Transmission Services

McLeodUSA Telecommunications Services Inc.
MegaPath Inc. fka DSLnet Communications LLC
Metropolitan Telecommunications of South
Dakota Inc.

Midcontinent Communications

Midstate Telecom Inc.

Mitel NetSolutions Inc. fka Inter-Tel NetSolutions Inc.

Mobilitie LLC

Momentum Telecom Inc.

Competitive Local Exchange Companies (cont.) Ν Net Talk.Com Inc. WIRELESS COMPANIES Neutral Tandem-South Dakota LLC Known by the Public Utilities Commission to be New Edge Network Inc. dba New Edge doing business in South Dakota # Networks 365 Wireless LLC Northern Valley Communications LLC NOS Communications Inc. dba Blueridge Alliance Communications Cooperative Inc. Telecom Systems dba International American Messaging Services LLC fka Verizon Plus dba 011 Communications dba The Wireless Messaging Services LLC Internet Business Association (Inetba) C dba iVANTAGE NETWORK SOLUTIONS Cellco Partnership dba Verizon Wireless, as Success-in-Interest to CommNet OrbitCom Inc. fka VP Telecom Cellular Inc. Managing partner of the following: Pac-West Telecomm Inc. Cellular Inc. Network Corp. (MSA 289 Q B, RSA 634 B, RSA 635 B, RSA 636 B, Quantumshift Communications dba Vcom RSA 638 B1, RSA 638 B2, RSA 639 B1 Solutions and RSA 639 B2) Qwest Communications Co. LLC fka Qwest City of Brookings dba Swiftel Communications Communications Corp. (product brand Sprint PSC) dba CenturyLink QCC Coast to Coast Cellular Inc. R D RC Communications Inc. dba RC Services Dakota Systems Inc. fka Sioux Falls Cellular LP (MSA 267 B) Ε Sage Telecom Inc. Eastern SD Cellular Inc. fka Eastern S.D. of SD Sancom Inc. dba Mitchell Telecom LP (RSA 642 B) Spectrotel Inc. dba OneTouch G Communications dba Touch Base Golden West Technologies Inc. (paging) Communications Н Sprint Communications Co. LP Hills Telephone Company Inc. dba Alliance SSTelecom Inc. Communications tw telecom data service LLC i-Wireless Ionex Communications North Inc. Velocity The Greatest Phone Company Ever Inc. Iowa Wireless Services LLC dba i Wireless W Windstream KDL Inc. fka Kentucky Data Link Inc. James Valley Wireless LLC Windstream NTI Inc. fka Norlight K Telecommunications Inc. KDDI America Inc. <u>X</u> XO Communications Services Inc. fka XO Long Lines Wireless LLC Network Services Inc. dba XO LDS M MCIMetro Access Transmission Services LLC YMax Communications Corp. dba Verizon Access Transmission Services Midwest Wireless Communications LLC Missouri Valley Cellular Inc. fka SD 7 - Sully LP

(RSA 640 B) Mitel Net Solutions Inc. fka Inter-Tel NetSolutions Inc.

Wireless Companies (cont.) Ν New Cingular Wireless dba AT&T Mobility LOCAL TELEPHONE COMPANIES Also known as Incumbent Local Exchange Carriers, the OnStar Corp. dba OEM Telematics Services following companies were providing local service when the Telecommunications Act of 1996 was enacted. Some companies can be both an ILEC and a CLEC (see page Pierre Radio Paging & Telephone Inc. 25) in different service areas. RCC Minnesota and Wireless Alliance dba RCC **Independents** Minnesota Inc. C Rural Cellular Corp. aka Glacial Cellular 2000 Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe Telephone dba Unicel Authority Sanborn Cellular Inc. fka SD 8 Kingsbury LP Fort Randall Telephone Co. (RSA 641 B) Н Software Cellular Network (North America) Hills Telephone Co. Inc. dba Alliance dba Truphone Communications STMessaging Services LLC Standing Rock Sioux Tribe dba Standing Rock Jefferson Telephone LLC dba Long Lines Ltd. Telecom Κ Kennebec Telephone Co. T-Mobile USA Knology Community Telephone Inc. **TDS Long Distance Corporation** fka PrairieWave Community **Telecorp Communications LLC** Telephone Inc. Total Call Mobile Inc. Touchtone Communications Inc. Qwest Corp. Tracfone Wireless Inc. tw telecom data services LLC \mathbb{R} RC Communications Inc. dba RC Services Vantek Communications fka McLeodUSA S Splitrock Properties Inc. dba Alliance Wireless Systems Inc. fka Dakota Communications Wireless Systems Inc. (DTG) Stockholm-Strandburg Telephone Co. dba ITC Verizon Enterprise Solutions LLC W Verizon Long Distance LLC Western Telephone Co. W Western Communications Inc. Western Wireless **Municipals** Managing partner of the following: В Cellular Corp. of Sioux Falls Beresford Municipal Telephone Co. dba Cellular One (MSA 267 A) C GCC License LLC (MSA 289 A, RSA 638 City of Brookings Utilities Telephone Division A, RSA 639 A, RSA 635 A, A 637 A, RSA dba Swiftel Communications 641 A, RSA 640 A, RSA 642 A, RSA 634 City of Faith Municipal Telephone Co. A, RSA 636 A) dba Faith Municipal Telephone Co. Windstream KDL Inc. Wireless Alliance - PSC dba Unicel Cooperatives

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Working Assets Funding Services Inc.

Alliance Communications Cooperative Inc.

G	Local Telepho	ne Com	panies (cont.)
<u>u</u>	Golden West Telecommunications		Three River Te
	Cooperative dba Golden West		Distanc
	Telecommunications	V	
1			Valley Telepho
	Interstate Telecommunications Cooperative	W	, .
J	·		West River Tel
	James Valley Telecommunications		
M			
	Midstate Communications Inc.		MISCELLAN
R			
	Roberts County Telephone Cooperative		TELECOMN
	Association		Certified to provide by the South Dake
S		S	by the South Dak
	Santel Communications Cooperative	<u> </u>	South Dakota
I			Journ Bakota
	TrioTel Communications Inc.		
<u>V</u>			
	Valley Telecommunications Cooperative		
	Association Inc.		
	Venture Communications Cooperative Inc.		
W			
	West River Cooperative Telephone Co.		
	Foreign Exchange Carriers		
<u>C</u>			
	Citizens Telecommunications of Minnesota Inc.		
	Consolidated Telcom		
D			
	Dickey Rural Communications Inc.		
	Dickey Rural Telephone Cooperative		
E			
_	Farmers Mutual Telephone Co.		
<u>G</u>			
	Great Plains Communications		
<u>H</u>			
	Heartland Telecommunications Company		
	of Iowa dba Hickory Tech Corp.		
N			
	Northeast Nebraska Telephone Co.		

Three River Telco dba Three River Long Distance V Valley Telephone Co. W

West River Telecommunications Cooperative

MISCELLANEOUS TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMPANIES

Certified to provide telecommunications services in South Dakota by the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission

South Dakota Network LLC dba SDN Communications

Red River Rural Telephone Association

Q

 R

Qwest Corp. - Iowa

Qwest Corp. - Minnesota Qwest Corp. - Nebraska

RT Communications Inc.

2011 Docket Status Register

Dockets closed between Jan. 1, 2012, and the publication date of this report (Spring 2012) are noted in parentheses.

Visit www.puc.sd.gov to check the current status of pending dockets.

	Filed	Completed	Pending as of 12/31/2011
Civil	3	1	2
Consumer Complaint	1	0	1
Electric	32	25	7
Gas and Electric	2	2	0
Grain Warehouse	2	2	0
Miscellaneous	1	1	0
Natural Gas	8	6	2
Pipeline Safety	3	0	3
Rulemaking	1	1	0
SD One Call	13	6	7
Telecommunications	102	83	19
Total	168	127	41

Civil Dockets

Civ11-8 — In the Matter of the Complaint Filed by Sprint Communications Company, LP Against Native American Telecom LLC Regarding Telecommunications Services

Filed: 05/18/11 (Closed: 01/04/12) Refer to Docket TC10-026

Civ11-97 — The State of South Dakota v. Robert Kohl dba Robert Kohl Construction Filed: 06/17/11 Pending Refer to Docket OC10-009

Civ11-269 — The State of South Dakota v. Scott Olson Digging Inc.

Filed: 06/17/11 Closed: 12/13/11 Refer to Docket OC10-006

Consumer Complaint Docket

CN11-001 — In the Matter of the Complaint filed by Lee Andersen/Progressive Property Management, Sioux Falls, South Dakota, against MidAmerican Energy Company Regarding a Billing Dispute

Filed: 12/19/11 Pending

Electric Dockets

EL11-001 — In the Matter of the Petition of Black Hills Power Inc. to Establish an Environmental Measures Cost Recovery Tariff

Filed: 01/25/11 Completed: 05/31/11

EL11-002 — In the Matter of the Application of Black Hills Power Inc. for Approval of Energy Efficiency

Programs, Tariffs, and Cost Recovery Mechanism Filed: 01/26/11 Completed: 06/28/11

EL11-003 — In the Matter of the Application of Black Hills Power Inc. for Approval of Deferred Collection of Its Electric Cost Adjustment

Filed: 02/14/11 Completed: 02/22/11

Electric Dockets (cont.)

EL11-004 — In the Matter of the Filing by NorthWestern Corporation dba NorthWestern Energy for Approval of Tariff Revisions

Filed: 02/25/11 Completed: 05/03/11

EL11-005 — In the Matter of the Filing of Northern States Power Company dba Xcel Energy for Approval of its 2010 Economic Development Activities and 2011 Budget

Filed: 03/30/11 Completed: 05/17/11

EL11-006 — In the Matter of the Complaint by Oak Tree Energy LLC against NorthWestern Energy for refusing to enter into a Purchase Power Agreement

Filed: 04/28/11 Pending

EL11-007 — In the Matter of the Petition for Declaratory Ruling of Black Hills Power Inc. regarding the Proposed Black Hills Power Wind Project

Filed: 04/28/11 Completed: 05/31/11

EL11-008 — In the Matter of the Filing by Otter Tail Power Company Regarding Its 2010 and 2011 Energy Efficiency Plan Update

Filed: 04/29/11 Completed: 08/24/11

- **EL11-009** In the Matter of the Application of Black Hills Power Inc. for Approval of its Electric Cost Adjustment Filed: 04/29/11 Completed: 05/31/11
- **EL11-010** In the Matter of the Filing by Otter Tail Power Company for Approval of Tariff Revisions Filed: 05/12/11 Completed: 06/14/11
- **EL11-011** In the Matter of the Joint Request for an Electric Service Rights Exception between Northern States Power Company dba Xcel Energy and Central Electric Cooperative Inc.

Filed: 05/23/11 Completed: 06/28/11

EL11-012 — In the Matter of the Filing by Otter Tail Power Company Regarding its Proposed South Dakota Energy Efficiency Plan for 2012-2013

Filed: 05/25/11 Completed: 08/24/11

EL11-013 — In the Matter of the Petition of Northern States Power Company dba Xcel Energy for Approval to Establish a Demand Side Management Program and Cost Recovery Tariff and for Approval of its 2011 Planned Costs to be Included in its Rates

Filed: 05/31/11 Completed: 10/11/11

- **EL11-014** In the Matter of the Filing by Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. for Approval of Tariff Revisions Filed: 06/13/11 Completed: 09/09/11
- **EL11-015** In the Matter of the Filing by Northern States Power Company dba Xcel Energy for Approval of its Revised Rate Sheets for its Occasional Delivery Energy Service and Time of Delivery Energy Service Filed: 06/15/11 Completed: 09/13/11
- **EL11-016** In the Matter of the Filing by NorthWestern Corporation dba NorthWestern Energy for Approval of a Contract with Deviations

Filed: 06/21/11 Completed: 07/26/11

EL11-017 — In the Matter of the Joint Request for an Electric Service Rights Exception between West River Electric Association and Black Hills Power

Filed: 06/23/11 Completed: 07/26/11

EL11-018 — In the Matter of the Filing by MidAmerican Energy Company for Approval of its Tariff Revisions Filed: 06/29/11 Completed: 07/26/11

Electric Dockets (cont.)

EL11-019 — In the Matter of the Application of Northern States Power Company dba Xcel Energy for Authority to Increase its Electric Rates

Filed: 06/30/11 Pending

EL11-020 — In the Matter of the Filing by Otter Tail Power Company for Approval of Tariff Revisions

Filed: 06/30/11 Completed: 07/26/11

EL11-021 — In the Matter of the Request for an Electric Service Territory Boundary Change between

NorthWestern Corporation and Clay-Union Electric Corporation

Filed: 07/06/11 Completed: 08/09/11

EL11-022 — In the Matter of the Filing by NorthWestern Corporation dba NorthWestern Energy for Approval of a Contract with Deviations

Filed: 08/02/11 Completed: 09/13/11

EL11-023 — In the Matter of the Petition of Northern States Power Company dba Xcel Energy for Approval of a Credit Mechanism for a Department of Energy Settlement Payment Along with Deferred Accounting and Approval to Depart from Its Fuel Clause Tariff, as Necessary

Filed: 08/16/11 (Completed: 01/17/12)

EL11-024 — In the Matter of the Request for Approval of an Electric Service Territory Boundary Agreement between Grand Electric Cooperative Inc. and Southeast Electric Cooperative Inc.

Filed: 09/13/11 Completed: 10/25/11

EL11-025 — In the Matter of the Complaint by Northern States Power dba Xcel Energy against Southeastern Electric Cooperative Inc. for a Violation of the Service Territory Laws

Filed: 09/21/11 Pending

EL11-026 — In the Matter of the Filing by NorthWestern Corporation dba NorthWestern Energy for Approval of a Contract with Deviations

Filed: 10/04/11 Completed: 10/25/11

EL11-027 — In the Matter of the Joint Request for an Electric Service Rights Exception between Lake Region Electric Association and Otter Tail Power Company

Filed: 10/14/11 Completed: 12/06/11

EL11-028 — In the Matter of the Filing by NorthWestern Corporation dba NorthWestern Energy for Approval of a Contract with Deviations

Filed: 12/08/11 Completed: 12/22/11

EL11-029 — In the Matter of the Filing by Otter Tail Power Company for Approval of Tariff Revisions

Filed: 12/21/11 (Completed: 01/17/12)

EL11-030 — In the Matter of the Filing by NorthWestern Corporation dba NorthWestern Energy for Approval of Tariff Revisions

Filed: 12/30/11 (Completed: 01/31/12)

EL11-031 — In the Matter of the Filing by Otter Tail Power Company for Approval of Tariff Revisions

Filed: 12/30/11 (Completed: 02/28/12)

EL09-018 — In the Matter of the Application of Black Hills Power, Inc. for Authority to Increase its Electric Rates

Filed: 09/30/09; Closed: 09/10/10 Re-opened: 03/08/11; Completed: 06/02/11

Gas & Electric Dockets

GE11-001 — In the Matter of the Filing by MidAmerican Energy Company for the Approval of Its

Reconciliation for 2010 and its Proposed Energy Efficiency Plan for 2011

Filed: 02/15/11 Completed: 03/30/11

GE11-002 — In the Matter of the Filing by MidAmerican Energy Company for the Approval of Its Proposed

Energy Efficiency Plan for 2012

Filed: 12/20/11 Completed: 12/28/11

Grain Warehouse Dockets

GW11-001 — In the Matter of the Settlement Stipulation between South Dakota Wheat Growers and PUC Staff

Filed: 03/01/11 Completed: 03/08/11

GW11-002 — In the Matter of the Filing by Syngenta Seeds Inc. for the Approval of a Waiver of ARSD 20:10:12:14

Filed: 11/22/11 Completed: 12/06/11

Miscellaneous Docket

MS11-001 — In the Matter of the Petition to Terminate the Ongoing Information Requirements in Docket F-3860

Filed: 01/05/11 Completed: 02/01/11

Natural Gas Dockets

NG11-001 — In the Matter of the Application of NorthWestern Corporation dba NorthWestern Energy for its purchase of the Milbank NNG Pipeline

Filed: 01/18/11 Completed: 02/25/11

NG11-002 — In the Matter of the Filing by MidAmerican Energy Company for Approval of Its 2010 Economic

Development Activities and 2011 Proposed Budget

Filed: 04/08/11 Completed: 05/17/11

NG11-003 — In the Matter of the Application of NorthWestern Corporation dba NorthWestern Energy for

Authority to Increase its Natural Gas Rates

Filed: 05/20/11 Completed: 11/22/11

NG11-004 — In the Matter of the Filing by NorthWestern Energy for Approval of its Tariff Revisions

Filed: 08/26/11 Completed: 09/27/11

NG11-005 — In the Matter of the Filing by NorthWestern Corporation dba NorthWestern Energy for Approval to Revise the Rates Included in the Contracts with Deviations Previously Approved in Dockets NG10-003,

NG10-004, NG10-005 and NG10-006

Filed: 09/14/11 Completed: 09/27/11

NG11-006 — In the Matter of the Filing by Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. for Approval of its Revised

Conservation Tracking Adjustment

Filed: 10/04/11 (Completed: 03/13/12)

NG11-007 — In the Matter of the Filing by Minnesota Energy Resource Corporation for Approval of a Refund Plan

Filed: 11/23/11 Completed: 12/06/11

Natural Gas Dockets (cont.)

NG11-008 — In the Matter of the Filing by NorthWestern Corporation dba NorthWestern Energy for Approval of its Tariff Revisions

Filed: 12/30/11 (Completed: 01/31/12)

Pipeline Safety Dockets

PS11-001 — In the Matter of the Petition for Declaratory Ruling of the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission regarding 49 CFR 192.3

Filed: 11/18/11 (Completed: 01/31/12)

PS11-002 — In the Matter of the Filing by Commission Pipeline Safety Staff for Approval of a Penalty for a Pipeline Safety Violation by NorthWestern Corporation dba NorthWestern Energy

Filed: 12/19/11 (Completed: 01/31/12)

PS11-003 — In the Matter of the Filing by Commission Pipeline Safety Staff for Approval of a Penalty for a Pipeline Safety Violation by Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.

Filed: 12/21/11 (Completed: 01/31/12)

Rulemaking Dockets

RM11-001 — In the Matter of the Adoption of Rules Regarding Renewable Energy Credits and Renewable, Recycled and Conserved Energy; Gas and Electric Customer Billing; ARSD 20:10:22:05; and ARSD 20:10:36:02

Filed: 10/12/11 Completed: 12/06/11

South Dakota One Call Complaints

OC11-001 — In the Matter of the Complaint Filed by Watertown Municipal Utilities, Watertown, South Dakota, Against Belair Excavating, Henderson, Colorado

Filed: 04/14/11 Completed: 06/28/11

OC11-002 — In the Matter of the Complaint Filed by Otter Tail Power Company, Fergus Falls, Minnesota,

Against Carlson Excavating, Britton, South Dakota

Filed: 06/07/11 Completed: 10/13/11

OC11-003 — In the Matter of the Complaint Filed by NorthWestern Energy, Huron, South Dakota, Against

Split Rock Contracting Inc., Huron, South Dakota

Filed: 07/11/11 Completed: 10/13/11

OC11-004 — In the Matter of the Complaint Filed by Nustar Pipeline Operating Partnership, L.P. dba Nustar

Energy, Wichita, Kansas, Against Oaklane Colony, Alexandria, South Dakota

Filed: 08/01/11 Completed: 10/13/11

OC11-005 — In the Matter of the Complaint Filed by Watertown Municipal Utilities, Watertown, South

Dakota, Against Dakota Excavating, Watertown, South Dakota

Filed: 08/01/11 Completed: 10/13/11

OC11-006 — In the Matter of the Complaint Filed by Active Care Chiropractic, Ipswich, South Dakota, Against

Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., Bismarck, North Dakota

Filed: 08/18/11 Completed: 10/13/11

One Call Dockets (cont.)

OC11-007 — In the Matter of the Complaint Filed by Southeastern Electric Cooperative Inc. Marion, South Dakota, Against Don Runge, Sioux Falls, South Dakota

Filed: 08/23/11 Pending

OC11-008 — In the Matter of the Complaint Filed by Southeastern Electric Cooperative Inc. Marion, South Dakota, Against Don Runge, Sioux Falls, South Dakota

Filed: 08/23/11 Pending

OC11-009 — In the Matter of the Complaint Filed by Watertown Municipal Utilities, Watertown, South

Dakota, Against Hobart Construction, Watertown, South Dakota

Filed: 09/12/11 (Completed: 01/25/12)

OC11-010 — In the Matter of the Amended Complaint Filed by Carl V. Carlson Company, Tea, South Dakota,

Against CenturyLink dba Qwest Communications, Sioux Falls, South Dakota

Filed: 09/20/11 (Completed: 01/25/12)

OC11-011 — In the Matter of the Complaint Filed by Northern Natural Gas Company, Harrisburg, South

Dakota, Against Wilbert Plienis, Colton, South Dakota

Filed: 10/31/11 (Completed: 01/25/12)

OC11-012 — In the Matter of the Complaint Filed by the City of Aurora, Aurora, South Dakota, Against Eagle

West, Maple Grove, Minnesota

Filed: 11/14/11 Pending

OC11-013 — In the Matter of the Complaint Filed by the City of Aurora, Aurora, South Dakota, Against Eagle

West, Maple Grove, Minnesota

Filed: 11/14/11 Pending

Telecommunications Dockets

TC11-001 — In the Matter of the Application of WiMacTel Inc. for a Certificate of Authority to Provide Interexchange Long Distance Services and Local Exchange Services in South Dakota

Filed: 01/03/11 Completed: 02/22/11

TC11-002 — In the Matter of the Application of Qwest Corporation for Waiver of Switched Access Cost Study

Filed: 01/11/11 Completed: 02/22/11

TC11-003 — In the Matter of CVC CLEC LLC's Failure to Submit a Report and Pay the Gross Receipts Tax

Filed: 01/28/11 Completed: 02/22/11

TC11-004 — In the Matter of Uni-Tel Communications Group Inc.'s Failure to Submit a Report and Pay the

Gross Receipts Tax

Filed: 01/28/11 Completed: 02/22/11

TC11-005 — In the Matter of the Application of City of Brookings Municipal Telephone dba Swiftel

Communications for an Amended Certificate of Authority

Filed: 02/10/11 Completed: 03/22/11

TC11-006 — In the Matter of Qwest Corporation and McLeodUSA Telecommunications Services LLC dba

PAETEC Business Services Request for an Amendment to the Wireline Interconnection Agreement

Filed: 02/16/11 Completed: 03/22/11

TC11-007 — In the Matter of the Approval of an Amendment to the Type 2 Wireless Interconnection

Agreement between Qwest Corporation and Long Lines Wireless LLC

Filed: 02/17/11 Completed: 03/22/11

TC11-008 — In the Matter of the Application of GC Pivotal LLC for a Certificate of Authority to Provide Interexchange Telecommunications Services and Local Exchange Services in South Dakota

Filed: 02/25/11 Completed: 04/05/11

TC11-009 — In the Matter of the Filing by Bandwidth.com CLEC LLC for Approval of its Initial Access Services Tariff and Waivers and Exemptions

Filed: 03/18/11 Completed: 04/19/11

TC11-010 — In the Matter of the Filing by Aventure Communication Technology LLC dba Aventure Communications for Approval of its Switched Access Services Tariff No. 3

Filed: 03/18/11 Completed: 11/08/11

TC11-011 — In the Matter of the Filing for Approval of a Resale Agreement between Qwest Corporation and DIECA Communications Inc. dba Covad Communications Company

Filed: 03/29/11 Completed: 04/19/11

TC11-012 — In the Matter of the Filing for Approval of an Amendment to the Interconnection Agreement between Qwest Corporation and Integra Telecom of South Dakota Inc.

Filed: 03/29/11 Completed: 04/19/11

TC11-013 — In the Matter of the Filing for Approval of the Wireline Interconnection Agreement between Qwest Corporation and South Dakota Network LLC

Filed: 03/29/11 Completed: 04/19/11

TC11-014 — In the Matter of the Approval of the Amendment to the Interconnection Agreement between Qwest Corporation and South Dakota Network LLC

Filed: 04/11/11 Completed: 08/24/11

TC11-015 — In the Matter of the Filing of Gold Line Telemanagement Inc. dba The Group of Gold Line for an Amended Certificate of Authority and Waiver of Surety Indemnity Bond

Filed: 04/15/11 Completed: 05/17/11

TC11-016 — In the Matter of the Application of ONLINE SAVINGS Inc. for a Certificate of Authority to Provide Interexchange Long Distance Services

Filed: 04/25/11 Completed: 10/25/11

TC11-017 — In the Matter of the Approval of the Type 2 Wireless Interconnection Agreement between Qwest Corporation and Cellular Inc. Financial Corporation dba Verizon Wireless, Cellular Inc. Network Corporation dba Verizon Wireless, Rural Cellular Corporation and Verizon Wireless (VZW) LLC dba Verizon Wireless

Filed: 04/26/11 Completed: 06/14/11

TC11-018 — In the Matter of the Application of City of Brookings Municipal Telephone dba Swiftel Communications for an Amended Certificate of Authority

Filed: 04/28/11 Completed: 06/14/11

TC11-019 — In the Matter of the Filing by 360networks (USA) inc. for Approval of Revisions to its Intrastate Switched Exchange Access Tariff No. 1 and Request for a Waiver

Filed: 05/04/11 Completed: 06/14/11

TC11-020 — In the Matter of the Filing for Approval of the Wireline Interconnection Agreement between Broadvox-CLEC LLC and Qwest Corporation for the State of South Dakota

Filed: 05/11/11 Completed: 06/14/11

TC11-021 — In the Matter of the Request of Jefferson Telephone Company for Certification Regarding Its Use of Federal Universal Service Support

Filed: 05/13/11 Completed: 08/24/11

TC11-022 — In the Matter of the Filing of Inmate Calling Solutions LLC dba ICSolutions for an Amended Certificate of Authority

Filed: 05/17/11 Completed: 06/14/11

TC11-023 — In the Matter of the Request of Alliance Communications Cooperative Inc. for Certification Regarding Its Use of Federal Universal Service Support

Filed: 05/17/11 Completed: 08/24/11

TC11-024 — In the Matter of the Request of Hills Telephone Company Inc. for Certification Regarding Its Use of Federal Universal Service Support

Filed: 05/17/11 Completed: 06/28/11

TC11-025 — In the Matter of the Request of Splitrock Properties Inc. for Certification Regarding Its Use of Federal Universal Service Support

Filed: 05/17/11 Completed: 08/24/11

TC11-026 — In the Matter of the Approval of the Amendment to the Interconnection Agreement between Qwest Corporation and XO Communications Services Inc.

Filed: 05/17/11 Completed: 06/14/11

TC11-027 — In the Matter of the Application of Residential Long Distance Inc. for a Certificate of Authority to Provide Interexchange Long Distance Services

Filed: 05/19/11 Completed: 07/12/11

TC11-028 — In the Matter of the Request of Kennebec Telephone Co. Inc. for Certification Regarding Its Use of Federal Universal Service Support

Filed: 05/20/11 Completed: 06/28/11

TC11-029 — In the Matter of the Request of Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe Telephone Authority for Certification Regarding Its Use of Federal Universal Service Support

Filed: 05/20/11 Completed: 09/13/11

TC11-030 — In the Matter of the Request of City of Faith Municipal Telephone Company for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support

Filed: 05/23/11 Completed: 08/24/11

TC11-031 — In the Matter of the Request of TrioTel Communications Inc. for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support

Filed: 05/23/11 Completed: 06/28/11

TC11-032 — In the Matter of the Request of West River Cooperative Telephone Company for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support

Filed: 05/23/11 Completed: 08/24/11

TC11-033 — In the Matter of the Request of Western Telephone Company for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support

Filed: 05/23/11 Completed: 08/24/11

TC11-034 — In the Matter of the Request of Venture Communications Cooperative for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support

Filed: 05/23/11 Completed: 06/28/11

TC11-035 — In the Matter of the Request of Golden West Telecommunications Cooperative Inc. Study Area Codes: 391640, 391659, 391667, 391677, 391684 AND 391686 for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support

Filed: 05/23/11 Completed: 08/24/11

TC11-036 — In the Matter of the Request of Beresford Municipal Telephone Company for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support

Filed: 05/24/11 Completed: 08/24/11

TC11-037 — In the Matter of the Request of Long Lines Wireless LLC for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support

Filed: 05/24/11 Completed: 09/13/11

TC11-038 — In the Matter of the Request of Valley Telecommunications Cooperative Association Inc. for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support

Filed: 05/25/11 Completed: 08/24/11

TC11-039 — In the Matter of the Request of Roberts County Telephone Cooperative Association and RC Communications Inc. for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support

Filed: 05/25/11 Completed: 09/13/11

TC11-040 — In the Matter of the Request of RC Communications Inc. dba RC Services for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support

Filed: 05/25/11 Completed: 08/24/11

TC11-041 — In the Matter of the Request of Midstate Communications Inc. for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support

Filed: 05/26/11 Completed: 08/24/11

TC11-042 — In the Matter of the Request of Midstate Telecom Inc. for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support

Filed: 05/26/11 Completed: 08/24/11

TC11-043 — In the Matter of the Request of Interstate Telecommunications Cooperative Inc. for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support

Filed: 05/26/11 Completed: 08/09/11

TC11-044 — In the Matter of the Request of Stockholm-Strandburg Telephone Company dba ITC for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support

Filed: 05/26/11 Completed: 06/14/11

TC11-045 — In the Matter of the Request of SSTELECOM Inc. dba ITC for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support

Filed: 05/26/11 Completed: 08/24/11

TC11-046 — In the Matter of the Request of Santel Communications Cooperative for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support

Filed: 05/26/11 Completed: 09/13/11

TC11-047 — In the Matter of the Request of Knology of the Black Hills LLC for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support

Filed: 05/27/11 Completed: 09/13/11

TC11-048 — In the Matter of the Request of Knology Community Telephone Inc. for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support

Filed: 05/27/11 Completed: 09/13/11

TC11-049 — In the Matter of the Request of Citizens Telecommunications Company of Minnesota LLC for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support

Filed: 05/27/11 Completed: 07/26/11

TC11-050 — In the Matter of the Filing by Knology of the Plains Inc. for Approval of its Intrastate Switched Access Tariff

Filed: 05/27/11 Completed: 06/28/11

TC11-051 — In the Matter of the Request of RT Communications Inc. for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support

Filed: 05/27/11 Completed: 08/09/11

TC11-052 — In the Matter of the Request of Qwest Corporation for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support

Filed: 05/31/11 Completed: 09/13/11

TC11-053 — In the Matter of the Request of Northern Valley Communications LLC for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support

Filed: 05/31/11 Completed: 08/24/11

TC11-054 — In the Matter of the Request of Midcontinent Communications for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support

Filed: 05/31/11 Completed: 09/13/11

TC11-055 — In the Matter of the Request of James Valley Cooperative Telephone Company for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support

Filed: 05/31/11 Completed: 08/24/11

TC11-056 — In the Matter of the Request of James Valley Wireless LLC for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support

Filed: 05/31/11 Completed: 09/13/11

TC11-057 — In the Matter of the Application of WiMacTel Inc. for a Certificate of Authority to Provide Interexchange Long Distance Services in South Dakota

Filed: 05/31/11 Completed: 10/11/11

TC11-058 — In the Matter of the Request of Farmers Mutual Telephone Company for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support

Filed: 05/31/11 Completed: 08/24/11

TC11-059 — In the Matter of the Request of Fort Randall Telephone Company for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support

Filed: 05/31/11 Completed: 08/09/11

TC11-060 — In the Matter of the Request of Red River Rural Telephone Association for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support

Filed: 05/31/11 Completed: 08/24/11

TC11-061 — In the Matter of the Request of Valley Telephone Company for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support

Filed: 05/31/11 Completed: 08/09/11

TC11-062 — In the Matter of the Request of RCC Minnesota Inc. dba Verizon Wireless for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support

Filed: 05/31/11 Completed: 09/13/11

TC11-063 — In the Matter of the Request of WWC License LLC dba Verizon Wireless for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support

Filed: 05/31/11 Completed: 09/13/11

TC11-064 — In the Matter of the Request of West River Telecommunications Cooperative (Mobridge) for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support

Filed: 05/31/11 Completed: 08/09/11

TC11-065 — In the Matter of the Request of City of Brookings Municipal Telephone for Certification

Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support

Filed: 05/31/11 Completed: 09/13/11

TC11-066 — In the Matter of the Request of Brookings Municipal Telephone dba Swiftel Communications for

Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support

Filed: 06/01/11 Completed: 09/13/11

TC11-067 — In the Matter of the Filing for Approval of an Amendment to an Interconnection Agreement

Between Qwest Corporation and MCC Telephony of the Midwest LLC dba Mediacom

Filed: 06/03/11 Completed: 07/12/11

TC11-068 — In the Matter of the Filing by RC Communications Inc. dba RC Services for Approval of its

Intrastate Switched Access Tariff

Filed: 06/03/11 Completed: 06/28/11

TC11-069 — In the Matter of the Filing by South Dakota Network LLC for an Extension of an Exemption from

Developing Company Specific Cost-Based Switched Access Rates

Filed: 06/07/11 Pending

TC11-070 — In the Matter of the Petition of Fiber Ring Revenue-Pooling Association for Approval of Amended

Revenue Pooling Documents

Filed: 06/08/11 Completed: 08/09/11

TC11-071 — In the Matter of the Application of New Cingular Wireless PCS LLC, a subsidiary of AT&T Mobility

LLC, for Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier in Rural Study Areas

Filed: 06/13/11 Pending

TC11-072 — In the Matter of the Application of New Cingular Wireless PCS LLC, a Subsidiary of AT&T Mobility

LLC, for Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier in Non-Rural Areas

Filed: 06/13/11 Pending

TC11-073 — In the Matter of the Filing by SSTELECOM Inc. for Approval of its Intrastate Switched Access Tariff

Filed: 06/15/11 Completed: 07/12/11

TC11-074 — In the Matter of the Filing by OrbitCom Inc. fka VP Telecom Inc. for Approval of its Intrastate

Switched Access Tariff

Filed: 06/21/11 Completed: 09/27/11

TC11-075 — In the Matter of the Filing by Midstate Telecom Inc. for Approval of its Intrastate Switched

Access Tariff and for a Phase-In Period

Filed: 06/22/11 Pending

TC11-076 — In the Matter of the Filing by Northern Valley Communications LLC for Approval of its Intrastate

Switched Access Tariff

Filed: 06/30/11 Completed: 07/26/11

TC11-077 — In the Matter of the Establishment of Switched Access Revenue Requirement for Fort Randall

Telephone Company

Filed: 07/05/11 Pending

TC11-078 — In the Matter of the Filing by Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink QC for Approval of Revisions to its Access Service Tariff

Filed: 07/07/11 Completed: 08/09/11

TC11-079 — In the Matter of the Filing by Qwest Corporation dba Century Link QC for Approval of Revisions to its Exchange and Network Tariff

Filed: 07/07/11 Completed: 08/24/11

TC11-080 — In the Matter of the Approval of an Amendment to the Type 2 Wireless Interconnection Agreement between Qwest Corporation and Brookings Municipal Utilities Telephone Department dba Swiftel Communications for the State of South Dakota

Filed: 07/14/11 Completed: 08/09/11

TC11-081 — In the Matter of the Application of Spectrotel Inc. dba OneTouch Communications dba Touch Base Communications for a Certificate of Authority to Provide Interexchange Long Distance Services and Local Exchange Services in South Dakota

Filed: 08/10/11 Completed: 09/27/11

TC11-082 — In the Matter of the Petition of Long Lines Wireless LLC of a Partial Relinquishment of its Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier

Filed: 08/26/11 Completed: 10/25/11

TC11-083 — In the Matter of the Joint Application of Hills Telephone Company, Splitrock Properties Inc. and Alliance Communications Cooperative Inc. for an Amendment to Certificate of Authority of Alliance Communications Cooperative Inc.

Filed: 09/08/11 Completed: 11/22/11

TC11-084 — In the Matter of Qwest Corporation and Broadvox-CLEC LLC Request for an Amendment to the Wireline Interconnection Agreement

Filed: 09/09/11 Completed: 10/11/11

TC11-085 — In the Matter of the Approval of a Type 2 Wireless Interconnection Agreement between Qwest Corporation and 365 Wireless LLC for the State of South Dakota

Filed: 09/12/11 Completed: 10/11/11

TC11-086 — In the Matter of the Approval of an Amendment to a Wireless Interconnection Agreement between Qwest Corporation and Verizon Wireless for the State of South Dakota

Filed: 09/27/11 Completed: 10/25/11

- **TC11-087** In the Matter of the Application of Native American Telecom LLC for a Certificate of Authority to Provide Interexchange Telecommunications Services and Local Exchange Services in South Dakota Filed: 10/11/11 Pending
- **TC11-088** In the Matter of the Application of Wide Voice LLC for a Certificate of Authority to Provide Local Exchange Services and Interexchange Long Distance Services in South Dakota

Filed: 10/27/11 (Completed: 03/13/12)

TC11-089 — In the Matter of the Filing by Interstate Telecommunications Cooperative Inc. for Approval of Establishment of Rate Center

Filed: 11/09/11 Completed: 12/06/11

TC11-090 — In the Matter of the Application of Wholesale Carrier Services Inc. for a Certificate of Authority to Provide Interexchange Telecommunications Services and Local Exchange Services in South Dakota Filed: 11/16/11 Pending

TC11-091 — In the Matter of the Application of TC Systems Inc. for a Certificate of Authority to Provide Local Exchange Services in South Dakota

Filed: 11/21/11 (Completed: 01/03/12)

TC11-092 — In the Matter of the Filing by Liberty-Bell Telecom LLC dba DISH Network Phone & Internet for Approval of its Intrastate Switched Access Tariff No. 1

Filed: 11/28/11 (Completed: 01/17/12)

TC11-093 — In the Matter of the Filing by MCImetro Access Transmission Services LLC dba Verizon Access Transmission Services for Approval of its Access Services Tariff No. 2

Filed: 12/09/11 (Completed: 01/17/12)

TC11-094 — In the Matter of the Filing by Sprint Communications Company, LP for Approval of its Access Services Tariff No. 3

Filed: 12/16/11 (Completed: 01/17/12)

TC11-095 — In the Matter of the Application of 1 800 Collect Inc. for a Certificate of Authority to Provide Interexchange Long Distance Services

Filed: 12/20/11 (Completed: 01/30/12)

TC11-096 — In the Matter of the Filing by 360networks (USA) inc. for Approval of its Access Services Tariff No. 1

Filed: 12/20/11 (Completed: 01/17/12)

TC11-097 — In the Matter of the Filing by McLeodUSA Telecommunications Services LLC dba PAETEC Business Services for Approval of its Access Services Tariff No. 3

Filed: 12/21/11 (Completed: 01/17/12)

TC11-098 — In the Matter of the Filing by OrbitCom Inc. for Approval of its Access Services Tariff No. 2

Filed: 12/21/11 (Completed: 01/17/12)

TC11-099 — In the Matter of the Filing by Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink QC for Approval of its Access Services Tariff

Filed: 12/21/11 (Completed: 01/17/12)

TC11-100 — In the Matter of the Filing by Fort Randall Telephone Company for Approval of its Intrastate Switched Access Services and Facilities Tariff

Filed: 12/28/11 Pending

TC11-101 — In the Matter of the Filing by Local Exchange Carrier Association Inc. (LECA) for Approval of its Access Services Tariff 1

Filed: 12/29/11 Pending

TC10-076 — In the Matter of the Petition of Qwest Corporation for Waiver of Utilization Threshold Requirement in Mitchell, South Dakota, Rate Center

Filed: 06/02/10; Closed: 07/12/10 Re-opened: 02/24/11; Completed: 03/04/11

MISSION STATEMENT

The South Dakota Public Utilities Commission will serve and protect South Dakota's consumers by ensuring safe, reliable and high quality utility services. The commission will exercise its authority and influence to ensure that residential and business consumers have access to utility services at fair and reasonable rates. The commission will be proactive and solutions-oriented in striving to maximize consumer utility value and education while working to enhance the economic and environmental well-being for citizens of the state of South Dakota.



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