

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION  
OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA**

<b>IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION BY ) VENTURE VISION, INC. FOR APPROVAL OF A ) CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE ) LOCAL EXCHANGE AND INTEREXCHANGE ) TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES IN THE ) STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA )</b>	<b>ORDER GRANTING CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY  TC21-114</b>
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On October 4, 2021, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a filing from Venture Vision, Inc. (Venture Vision) requesting a Certificate of Authority to provide local exchange and interexchange services in South Dakota. Venture Vision intends to offer its services to customers, through the use of its own facilities, in the census blocks for which it was awarded Rural Digital Opportunity Fund Phase I support.

On October 7, 2021, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of October 22, 2021, to interested individuals and entities on the Commission's PUC Weekly Filings electronic listserv. No petitions to intervene or comments were filed. On October 20, 2021, Venture Vision filed responses to Commission staff's data requests.

At its regularly scheduled meeting on November 12, 2021, the Commission considered this matter. Commission staff recommended granting a certificate of authority with the conditions that, for retail purposes, Venture Vision not offer any prepaid services including prepaid calling cards and not accept or require any deposits or advance payments without prior approval of the Commission, and subject to rural safeguards.

The Commission finds it has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapter 49-31, specifically 49-31-3 and 49-31-69 through 49-31-75, inclusive, as well as ARSD 20:10:24:03 and ARSD 20:10:32:03. The Commission finds that Venture Vision has met the legal requirements established for the granting of a certificate of authority. Venture Vision has, in accordance with 49-31-3 and 49-31-71, demonstrated sufficient technical, financial, and managerial capabilities to offer telecommunications services in South Dakota.

The Commission approves Venture Vision's application for a certificate of authority subject to the conditions that, for retail purposes, Venture Vision not offer any prepaid services including calling cards and not accept or require any deposits or advance payments without prior approval of the Commission, and be subject to rural safeguards. The certificate of authority for Venture Vision shall authorize it to provide interexchange long distance services in South Dakota. The certificate of authority shall also authorize Venture Vision to provide local exchange telecommunications service in South Dakota, except in those areas served by a rural telephone company. In the future, should Venture

Vision choose to provide local exchange services statewide, with respect to rural telephone companies, Venture Vision will have to come before the Commission in another proceeding before being able to provide local service in that rural service area pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 253(f) which allows the Commission to require a company that seeks to provide service in a rural service area to meet the requirements in 47 U.S.C. § 214(e)(1) for designation as an eligible telecommunications carrier. In addition, the granting of statewide certification will not affect the exemptions, suspensions, and modifications for rural telephone companies found in 47 U.S.C. § 251(f). It is therefore

ORDERED, that Venture Vision's request for a certificate of authority to provide local exchange and interexchange long distance services is granted, subject to the conditions that, for retail purposes, Venture Vision not offer any prepaid services including prepaid calling cards and not accept or require any deposits or advance payments without prior approval of the Commission. It is further

ORDERED, that this certificate of authority authorizes Venture Vision to offer its local exchange services in South Dakota, except in those areas served by a rural telephone company. It is further

ORDERED, that this order constitutes Venture Vision's Certificate of Authority as described above.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 16<sup>th</sup> day of November 2021.

<b>CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE</b>
The undersigned hereby certifies that this document has been served today upon all parties of record in this docket, as listed on the docket service list, electronically or by mail.
By: <u>Adam Detrick</u>
Date: <u>11/16/21</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Chris Nelson

CHRIS NELSON, Chairman

Kristie Fiegen

KRISTIE FIEGEN, Commissioner

Gary Hanson

GARY HANSON, Commissioner