

May 17, 2013

Ms. Patty Van Gerpen, Executive Director
South Dakota Public Utilities Commission
500 East Capitol Ave.
State Capitol Building
Pierre, SD 57501

RE: Docket TC13-026 (In the Matter of the Study Area Boundaries for Incumbent Local Exchange Carriers)

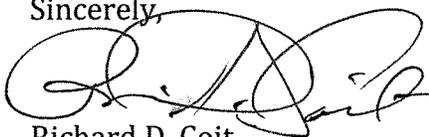
Dear Patty:

Enclosed for filing in the above referenced docket you will find the electronic original of a "SDTA Joint Petition for Approval of Rural ILEC Study Area Boundary Shapefile Map Data."

Please note that this Petition includes two attachments ("Attachment A" including all of the participating rural ILEC electronic "ersi shapefile" data and "Attachment B" including supporting affidavits from the participating companies). In regards to Attachment B, specifically, SDTA is awaiting execution of a number of the affidavits. These remaining supporting affidavits will be filed with the Commission very soon as a supplement to this filing.

Thank you for your assistance in filing and distributing copies of this Petition and the attached related material.

Sincerely,



Richard D. Coit
SDTA Executive Director and General Counsel

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

IN THE MATTER OF STUDY AREA)
BOUNDARIES FOR INCUMBENT) **Docket TC13-026**
LOCAL EXCHANGE CARRIERS)

**SDTA JOINT PETITION FOR APPROVAL OF
RURAL ILEC STUDY AREA BOUNDARY SHAPEFILE MAP DATA**

The Federal Communications Commission (“FCC”) released on November 6, 2012, a Report and Order¹ and on February 26, 2013, an Order on Reconsideration² addressing the collection of service area or “study area” boundary information that is to be used in implementing various regulatory reforms adopted as part of the FCC’s USF and ICC “Transformation Order.” These FCC Orders establish specific study area mapping requirements and indicate that certified study area boundary data may be filed with the FCC by either incumbent local exchange carriers or state commissions.

On April 12, 2013, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (“Commission”) issued in this Docket an “Order Regarding the Certification of Study Area Boundary Data; Order Setting Map Deadline” and also filed with the FCC a notice³ of its intent to submit certified study area boundary data on behalf of all incumbent local exchange carriers (“ILECs”) with operations in South Dakota.

The South Dakota Telecommunications Association (“SDTA”) hereby files this Joint Petition on behalf of its member ILECs and numerous other rural incumbent local exchange carriers

¹ *Connect America Fund; High-Cost Universal Service Support*, WC Docket Nos. 10-90, 05-337, Report and Order, 27 FCC Rcd 13528, (WCB 2012) (*Study Area Boundary Order*).

² *Connect America Fund; High-Cost Universal Service Support*, WC Docket Nos. 10-90, 05-337, Order on Reconsideration, DA 13-282, (WCB rel. Feb. 26, 2013) (*Study Area Boundary Order on Reconsideration*).

³ *See*, Letter from Gary Hanson, Chairman, South Dakota Public Utilities Commission, WC Docket No. 10-90, April 12, 2013.

that have study areas extending into the State of South Dakota. SDTA is requesting that the Commission provide certification to the FCC as to the accuracy of certain ILEC study area boundaries and related data in accord with the Commission's earlier Order of April 12th.

Specifically, this request by SDTA extends to the following listed companies and study areas:

Alliance Communications Cooperative, Inc. -----	391642
Alliance Communications Cooperative, Inc. formerly Hills Telephone -----	391405
Alliance Communications Cooperative, Inc. formerly Splitrock Properties, Inc. -----	391657
Beresford Municipal Telephone Company -----	391649
Cheyenne River Sioux Tribal Telephone Authority -----	391647
Citizens Telecommunications Company of Minnesota, LLC (MN) -----	361123
City of Brookings Municipal Telephone d/b/a Swiftel Communications -----	391650
City of Faith Municipal Telephone -----	391653
Consolidated Telecom (ND) -----	381607
Dickey Rural Telephone Cooperative (ND) -----	381611
Farmers Mutual Telephone Company -----	361389
Fort Randall Telephone Company -----	391660
Golden West Telecommunications Cooperative Inc. Armour Study Area -----	391640
Golden West Telecommunications Cooperative Inc. Golden West Study Area -----	391659
Golden West Telecommunications Cooperative Inc. Kadoka Study Area -----	391667
Golden West Telecommunications Cooperative Inc. Sioux Valley Study Area -----	391677
Golden West Telecommunications Cooperative Inc. Union Study Area -----	391684
Golden West Telecommunications Cooperative Inc. Vivian Study Area -----	391686
Great Plains Communications (NE) -----	371577
Heartland Telecommunications Company of Iowa (IA) -----	351096
Interstate Telecommunications Cooperative, Inc. -----	391654
James Valley Cooperative Telephone Company -----	391664
Jefferson Telephone d/b/a Long Lines -----	391666
Kennebec Telephone Company -----	391668
Midstate Communications, Inc. -----	391670
Northeast Nebraska Telephone Company (NE) -----	371576
Red River Rural Telephone Association (ND) -----	381631
Roberts County Telephone Cooperative Association and RC Communications, Inc. -----	391674
RT Communications, Inc. (WY) -----	512251
Santel Communications Cooperative, Inc. -----	391676
Stockholm-Strandburg Telephone Company d/b/a/ ITC -----	391679
Three River Telco (NE) -----	371525
TrioTel Communications, Inc. - McCook Study Area -----	391669
TrioTel Communications, Inc. - Tri-County Study Area -----	391682
Valley Telecommunications Cooperative Association, Inc. -----	391685
Valley Telephone Company (MN) -----	361495
Venture Communications Cooperative -----	391680
West River Cooperative Telephone Company -----	391689
West River Telecommunications Cooperative -----	391671
West River Telecommunications Cooperative (ND) -----	381637

All of the above referenced rural ILECs have developed study area boundary information consistent with the established FCC requirements and compiled the same into an “ersi shapefile” format. The data provided in each “shapefile” includes study area boundaries, polygonal exchange boundary information, and associated data related to the study areas and exchanges served. All of the rural ILEC developed shapefiles are presented in “Attachment A” included herewith. In their mapping processes, all of the rural ILECs made a reasonable, good faith effort to confirm the accuracy of the provided study area boundaries and associated data. Accordingly, as support for the action requested of this Commission, SDTA provides in “Attachment B,” included herewith, signed affidavits from each of the participating rural ILECs attesting to the accuracy of the developed study area boundaries and other data.

WHEREFORE, SDTA requests that the Commission review the attached study area boundary maps and associated data as set forth in the attached electronic files and that the Commission certify its accuracy and provide all such information to the FCC pursuant to and in accord with the applicable FCC Orders (DA 13-282, released February 26, 2013 and DA 13-456, released March 18, 2013).

Dated this 17th day of May, 2013.

Respectfully submitted,



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