

South Dakota
Public Utilities
Commission

2009 Annual
Report



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CONTENTS

About the PUC.....	1
Commisioners	3
Staff	5
Financial Report	7
2009 Year in Review.....	8
Top Priorities	14
Regulated Utility Companies	21
Gross Receipts Tax Assessment	21
2009 Docket Status Register	
Civil Cases.....	35
Consumer Complaints	35
Electric.....	36
Gas and Electric.....	39
Grain Warehouse	39
Hydrocarbon Pipeline.....	39
Miscellaneous.....	39
Natural Gas	40
One Call.....	41
Pipeline Safety.....	42
Rulemaking.....	42
Telecommunications	43
Mission Statement.....	54

ABOUT THE SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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 storage, state public grain warehouses, and grain dealers.

Advocacy and education

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

Information superhighway

The commission's main Web site, www.puc.sd.gov, has a wealth of information ranging from utility company phone numbers to summaries of regulatory filings. In 2009, the commission offered live audio Web casts of more than three dozen proceedings, including commission meetings and hearings. Additionally, recordings of public input hearings and informational meetings held outside the capitol campus were posted on the Web site soon after the event. All audio files are archived for later reference and convenience. The Web site also contains a comprehensive docket system that encompasses thousands of pages frequently used by PUC commissioners, staff and the public.

Web statistics show that on average, 84 unique users viewed 1,422 pages of the PUC site each day from January 2009 through December 2009. More than 97 percent of the users are from outside state government's computer network, indicating the Web site is a valuable resource to utilities, attorneys, consultants and citizens interested in the work of the PUC.

The PUC also maintains four other Web sites:

- **www.SDDoNotCall.com:** 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:** 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:** The site 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:** A major component of this site is information from the Wind Resource Assessment Network, a network of 11 stations that record wind speed and other vital. Data collected by WRAN is interpreted by researchers at SDSU.

COMMISSIONERS

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



Commissioner Dustin "Dusty" Johnson. *Elected 2004. Term ends 2010.*
When Dusty Johnson was elected to the Public Utilities Commission, he became the youngest utilities commissioner in the nation. He was the commission's chairman in 2009, a post he also held in 2007. Since joining the commission, he has played a role in developing renewable energy resources, expanding broadband and wireless phone capabilities, keeping utility rates low and protecting consumers.

Dusty currently serves on the board of directors and the electricity committee of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners and on the Western Interconnection Regional Advisory Board. Prior to joining the PUC, Dusty was Gov. Mike Rounds' senior policy advisor for economic development, energy, corrections and transportation issues. He has also worked for local governments in the Kansas City area and as a Truman Fellow for the U.S. Department of Agriculture in Washington, D.C.

Dusty has a bachelor's degree in political science from the University of South Dakota, a master's degree in public administration from the University of Kansas, and in 1998 was named a Harry S. Truman Scholar. He is on the board of directors for the W.O. Farber Fund and for Abbott House (a residential treatment center for girls), and served on the Attorney General's Open Government Task Force and as an adjunct professor at Dakota Wesleyan University.



Commissioner Steve Kolbeck. *Elected 2006. Term ends 2012.*
Steve Kolbeck served as the vice chairman of the commission in 2009, a role he continued from 2008.

He is a member of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, serving on the association's Committee on Telecommunications. He holds 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 is the state chairman. Steve is also a leader in industry organizations. He has held the offices of secretary and treasurer and is currently the vice 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, AT&T, 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 Bachelors of Science degree from South

Dakota State University and an Associate of Applied Science degree in Telecommunications from Mitchell Technical Institute.



Commissioner Gary Hanson. *Elected 2002 and 2008. Term ends 2014.*

Gary Hanson was elected to the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission in 2003 and re-elected by the citizens of South Dakota in November 2008. He served as chairman in 2005 and 2008. Gary represents South Dakota on the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioner's Committee on Energy Resources and the Environment, and he represents NARUC Commissioners on the steering committee of the National Wind Coordinating Collaborative. He served as chairman of the South Dakota

Underground Pipeline Task Force and as treasurer of the Organization of MISO States.

Gary's service to the state also includes three terms in the South Dakota Senate, where he was chairman of the Senate Government Audit and Operations Committee and vice chairman of the Senate Taxation Committee.

A native of Sioux Falls, Gary was twice elected as Mayor of that city and oversaw the multiple departmental operations of more than 1,200 employees. Prior to that, he was Sioux Falls' Utilities Commissioner for six years and was responsible for the development and day-to-day activities for three municipal utilities.

As a regional and industry leader, Gary has been involved as a co-founder, past president and chairman of the Lewis and Clark Regional Water System; past chairman of the South Dakota Public Assurance Alliance; and past president of the Sioux Falls Board of Realtors. Gary owned small businesses for 16 years and is a licensed Real Estate Auctioneer, Appraiser and Broker.



**South Dakota Public Utilities Commissioners
Dusty Johnson, Steve Kolbeck and Gary Hanson**

STAFF

The PUC's 27 staff members perform a variety of duties on behalf of the citizens of South Dakota and in support of the commissioners.

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 Web sites, outreach materials and news releases 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.

Tina Douglas serves as **communications assistant**. She handles the content management of the agency's Web sites, distributes news releases and assists with the development of educational materials.

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 itself 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 **Demaris Axthelm**, **Anissa Grambhilher** and **Stephanie Harmon** perform a variety of support services including handling incoming phone calls and mail, greeting guests, coordinating mailings, maintaining the docket section of the PUC Web site, making travel arrangements, and disseminating information about weekly filings and meeting agendas to the public.

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. **Bob Knadle**, **Dave Jacobson**, **Terri Labrie Baker** 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. **Brian Rounds** and **Tim Binder** 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.

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.

In all dockets, the staff considers information relative to state laws and rules and presents recommendations to the commissioners.

The **Pipeline Safety Division** is staffed by engineers **Nathan Solem** and **Stacy Splittstoesser** with Nathan handling additional duties as pipeline safety program manager. The PUC administers this program on behalf of the U.S. Department of Transportation. Nathan and Stacy 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 **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 **Ryan Riedy** conduct grain warehouse and grain dealer inspections and investigations. The warehouse staff also performs check-off audits for various grain commissions and councils. Beginning in mid-April 2009, Justin began a year-long deployment in Kuwait with his South Dakota National Guard unit. During this absence, Curtis Aasheim was hired to temporarily fulfill inspection duties until Justin's return home.

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.

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2009

	ACTUAL EXPENDITURES By Fund Group			ENCUMBRANCE	BALANCE
	BUDGET	GENERAL FUNDS	FEDERAL FUNDS		
ADMINISTRATION					
Personal Services	\$345,100	\$327,547	\$0	\$0	\$17,553
Operating Expenses	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL PROGRAM	\$345,100	\$327,547	\$0	\$0	\$17,553
WAREHOUSE					
Personal Services	\$278,917	\$162,356	\$0	\$80,529	\$36,032
Operating Expenses	\$82,576	\$54,203	\$0	\$958	\$27,415
TOTAL PROGRAM	\$361,493	\$216,559	\$0	\$81,487	\$63,447
FIXED UTILITY (Informational Budget)					
Personal Services	\$1,605,984	\$0	\$0	\$1,452,185	\$153,799
Operating Expenses	\$420,292	\$0	\$0	\$350,785	\$69,507
TOTAL PROGRAM	\$2,026,276	\$0	\$0	\$1,802,970	\$223,306
FILING FEES (Informational Budget)					
Personal Services	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$132,764	-\$132,764
Operating Expenses	\$259,991	\$0	\$0	\$69,034	\$190,957
TOTAL PROGRAM	\$259,991	\$0	\$0	\$201,798	\$58,193
PIPELINE SAFETY (Informational Budget)					
Personal Services	\$125,208	\$0	\$73,402	\$73,401	-\$21,595
Operating Expenses	\$45,953	\$0	\$51	\$49,896	-\$3,994
TOTAL PROGRAM	\$171,161	\$0	\$73,453	\$123,297	-\$25,589
ONE CALL NOTIFICATION (Informational Budget)					
Personal Services	\$11,339	\$0	\$0	\$9,635	\$1,704
Operating Expenses	\$657,535	\$0	\$0	\$684,024	-\$26,489
TOTAL PROGRAM	\$668,874	\$0	\$0	\$693,659	-\$24,785
DO NOT CALL LIST (Informational Budget)					
Personal Services	\$24,165	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$24,165
Operating Expenses	\$30,100	\$0	\$0	\$23,695	\$6,405
TOTAL PROGRAM	\$54,265	\$0	\$0	\$23,695	\$30,570

Gross Receipts Tax Fund Revenues

Grain and Warehouse Licenses	\$ 78,003	Gross Receipts Tax	\$ 1,735,905
Check Off Audits	\$ 2,336	Application Fees	\$ 3,500
Interest Earned	\$ 8,973	Interest Earned	\$ 116,206
Total Revenue	\$ 89,312	Total Revenue	\$ 1,855,611

2009 YEAR IN REVIEW

2009 Leadership: Dusty Johnson, Chairman; Steve Kolbeck, Vice Chairman;
and Gary Hanson, Commissioner

BROADBAND

- Participated on a committee that determined South Dakota's broadband priorities and made recommendations to the federal government on the awarding of stimulus funds. SDN Communications was awarded \$20 million in federal funds to provide improved connectivity to rural hospitals, schools, libraries and public safety agencies in South Dakota.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

- Resolved slamming complaints against Reduced Rates Long Distance with refunds and damage payments being made to 14 consumers who contacted the PUC.
- Approved an amended certificate of authority for McCook Cooperative Telephone Company, which merged with other telecommunications companies. The action enables all customers served by McCook to have cooperative status.
- Commissioner Steve Kolbeck participated in discussions and decisions as part of the FCC's Interstate Telecommunications Relay Services Fund Advisory Council and the Federal-State Joint Board on Jurisdictional Separations where he is the state chairman.

NEW LEGISLATION

- With partners and supporters of the South Dakota Energy Smart initiative, wrote separate energy efficiency bills to allow energy efficiency to count toward the state renewable and recycled energy objective and for information regarding the energy efficiency of newly-constructed residential buildings to be disclosed to buyers.
- Developed a suite of legislation to strengthen the commission's oversight of the grain buying and storage industry.
- Drafted a bill requiring the commission receive informational notice in advance of construction of wind turbine projects of over 5 MW. Such notice is beneficial for transmission planning purposes.

WIRELESS

- Continued the advancement of the PUC Wireless Initiative by coordinating with wireless telecommunications providers and community leaders for the construction of 15 new wireless sites in and around Aberdeen, Avon, Boulder Canyon, Custer State Park, Deadwood, Hart Ranch, Hayti, Iroquois, Jefferson, New Underwood, Pine Ridge, Rapid City, Rimrock Highway and Silver City.

- Monitored the ongoing transaction among Verizon Wireless, Alltel and AT&T. Intervened by filing comments with the FCC regarding the Alltel to AT&T transaction. Specific concerns addressed included AT&T's intentions regarding the Universal Service Fund; the buildout to unserved and underserved areas in the state; the transition of Alltel subscribers to the GSM network; the availability of roaming; and the prohibition of wireless handset exclusivity arrangements.

ELECTRIC

- Hosted a public forum, "Carbon Cap and Trade: National Policy, Local Impact," featuring speakers representing electric utilities, the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners and the Environmental Law and Policy Center. Researched and issued a report describing the potential 48 percent increase proposed federal carbon cap and trade legislation could have on South Dakotans' electric bills.
- Commissioner Dusty Johnson testified before the U.S. Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works about the Clean Energy Jobs and American Power Act, also known as the Kerry-Boxer bill. His comments focused on the impact proposed carbon legislation will have on residents of South Dakota and other Midwestern states.
- Approved an application by Xcel Energy for the construction of 6.5 miles of 115 kV transmission lines in Brookings County to carry wind energy from the Buffalo Ridge area.
- Analyzed, negotiated and approved an electric rate case brought by Otter Tail Power Co. Agreed to allow the company an approximate 11.7 percent electric rate increase, collectively saving rate payers \$1 million per year compared to the company's original request to raise rates by approximately 15.3 percent. Otter Tail Power Co.'s last rate increase request was 21 years ago.
- Held a public input hearing in White for Basin Electric Power Cooperative's proposed Deer Creek Station project, a combined-cycle natural gas energy conversation facility.
- Received an application from Black Hills Power requesting a 26.6 percent rate increase. Staff engaged in docket analysis and review. Hosted a public input meeting in Rapid City to hear from company officials and affected ratepayers. Commission decision on rate increase expected near end of first quarter of 2010.
- Received an application from Xcel Energy requesting a 10.7 percent rate increase, the company's first rate request before the commission in 17 years. Staff engaged in docket analysis and negotiation with company. *(2010 update: In January, the Commission approved a 5.5 percent increase over current rates along with additional conditions.)*

- Commissioners and staff actively participated in several transmission cost allocation planning groups including:
 - Eastern Interconnect States' Planning Council to develop a consensus process for identifying renewable resources and other policy options.
 - Organization of MISO States' Cost Allocation and Regional Planning workgroup to review such principles with the intent of impacting existing and potential state and federal renewable standards and carbon reduction legislation.
 - Upper Midwest Transmission Development Initiative to develop regional (South Dakota, North Dakota, Iowa, Minnesota and Wisconsin) generation output plans to meet renewable portfolio standards and cost allocation for those plans.
- Intervened and submitted comments in the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's docket related to the Green Power Express proposed transmission project, addressing the areas of renewable energy policy, cost recovery, cooperation among states, utilities and regional transmission organizations and allocation rationales.
- Participated in negotiations of MISO's Regional Expansion Criteria and Benefits task force to prevent Otter Tail Power Co. and Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. from withdrawing from MISO due to unfair cost allocation related to wind power transmission. FERC instituted a short-term fix acknowledging the companies' concerns. The review and negotiating process continues with another decision expected in July 2010.
- Filed comments with the Western Area Power Administration urging stimulus funding be used for transmission investments related to wind energy development in the area and on tribal lands, in particular.

RENEWABLE ENERGY

- Approved a siting permit for Buffalo Ridge II wind farm in Brookings and Deuel counties. The wind farm has an expected near-term capacity of 210 MW, which would make it the state's largest installation. Developer Iberdrola Renewables expects the wind farm to be in operation in December 2010.
- Instituted new rules that make it easier for small electricity generators such as wind turbines and solar panels to connect to the electric grid, streamlining the interconnection process for these small generators by providing consistent engineering requirements as well as predictable and reasonable fees and timelines among the state's six investor-owned utilities. The statewide rules simplify the process and remove barriers to encourage energy development, particularly renewable energy. Interconnection forms can be downloaded from the PUC's Web site.
- Developed and accepted public comments on the PUC Small Renewable Energy Initiative, a five-part approach to encourage common sense development of distributed generation. The initiative includes components related to taxes, pricing for distributed generators, interconnection and siting. The taxing and pricing components involve proposed legislation; the interconnection element reviews new rules; and the siting portion includes a model ordinance developed for local governments.

- Conducted public education and outreach on alternative energy with emphasis on wind through visits to schools in Alexandria and Brookings; presentations to Black Hills State University students and DakotaFest attendees; discussions with county agents; and meetings with community leaders and residents in Selby, Redfield and Winner.
- Compiled the annual South Dakota Renewable, Recycled and Conserved Energy Objective report and submitted it to the state legislature. Companies reporting for 2008 collectively owned 470 MW of renewable generation capacity in South Dakota; retired 2,034 MWh of renewable energy credits; and reported 1,337 MWh in conserved energy and 89 MW of conserved capacity, all in South Dakota.
- Hosted Wind Energy Briefings for legislators in Rapid City, Sioux Falls and Aberdeen. The forums featured an update about wind energy development in South Dakota, discussion about energy policy issues and the opportunity for legislators to ask pre-session questions.
- Commissioner Gary Hanson worked with his fellow members of the steering committee of the National Wind Coordinating Collaborative and on the Wind Alliance to resolve national and regional wind energy development issues.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY

- South Dakota was named to the most improved category by the American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy for efforts by the PUC and the state's utilities that include the advancement of the South Dakota Energy Smart initiative. The study considered utility efficiency programs, building codes, and appliance and transportation standards in recognizing the state's move from the 47th to the 36th rank.
- Motivated 2,200 South Dakotans to pledge to become more energy efficient by using compact fluorescent lights, weatherizing their homes and performing regular maintenance on heating and cooling systems. In total, the pledgers' efforts will save \$707,000, 6 million kWh and more than 5 billion BTUs.
- Approved a plan by MidAmerican Energy Co. to offer energy efficiency programs to its electric and natural gas customers. The plan is expected to save 564,000 therms of natural gas and more than 1.7 million kilowatt-hours of electricity by 2011.
- Approved a request by Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. to expand and make permanent its energy conservation programs for customers. The programs offer rebates and cash incentives for customers who install energy saving devices. MDU expects the conservation portfolio to collectively save participants approximately \$93,000 the first year while producing an annual energy savings of about 2,200 dekatherms.
- Met with homebuilders to discuss new energy efficient building codes.

PIPELINE SITING, SAFETY AND INSPECTION

- Monitored the construction of the Keystone Pipeline in eastern South Dakota, including regular contacts with landowners, local government officials and company representatives to address concerns as well as compliance with the commission's construction order.
- Held approximately 11 hours of public input hearings in Winner, Philip, Buffalo and Pierre on the proposed TransCanada Keystone XL Pipeline project. Held a three-day formal hearing in Pierre to hear evidence on the application filed with the commission in March 2009.
- Hosted the South Dakota/North Dakota Pipeline Safety Seminar for 70 operators and inspectors. Attendees participated in discussions about regulations, damage prevention, pipe protection and investigations.
- Staff inspector successfully completed training courses to earn required certification by the federal Pipeline Safety Office of Training and Qualifications.
- Pipeline Safety Program manager was named to the PHMSA Distribution Integrity Management Program task group. This association of state pipeline inspectors is developing with PHMSA implementation tools for the new DIMP rule such as an inspection checklist, frequently asked questions Web site and pilot inspections.
- Developed and approved new pipeline safety administrative rules with input from pipeline operators. Rules became effective in October.
- Added a new section to the PUC Web site related to pipeline safety that includes information about pipeline operators, inspections and federal advisories.

PUBLIC OUTREACH AND CONSUMER ASSISTANCE

- Hosted *Crisis or Renaissance? The State of America's Energy*, a comprehensive conference where respected experts shared facts about the state of America's energy covering nearly two dozen renewable and traditional resources including subjects such as environmental issues and climate change. More than 250 attendees heard presentations on wind energy, fossil fuels and global outlooks for energy development. Speakers included Federal Energy Regulatory Commissioner Marc Spitzer, Adrian Heymer of the Nuclear Energy Institute, Clair Moeller of the Midwest Independent System Operator and John Felmy of the American Petroleum Institute.
- Assisted consumers on more than 2,530 occasions with issues and complaints related to electric, natural gas, telecommunications, 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 and an Earth Day event at Citibank in Sioux Falls. Commissioners and staff answered questions about utility issues and promoted energy efficiency, Lifeline and Link-Up telephone assistance programs and the Do Not Call Registry. With respect to the Do Not Call program, the PUC's efforts affected a 13 percent increase in the amount of South Dakota telephone numbers on registry to 536,622.
- Participated in a national effort by state regulatory agencies to increase the use of Lifeline and Link-Up telephone assistance programs. Coordinated a statewide television campaign that resulted in nearly 500 South Dakotans contacting the PUC for information about the programs.

WAREHOUSE

- Issued 304 warehouse licenses and performed 329 grain warehouse inspections.

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 listed on the following pages are those that the commission examines to evaluate the fulfillment of its responsibility.

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.

Measurement, Average Residential Electric Rate, per kWh, October 2009

- South Dakota: \$8.97
- West North Central Region (Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota): \$9.20
- United States: \$11.76

Measurement, Average Residential Natural Gas Rate per thousand cubic feet, 2008

- South Dakota: \$11.32
- West North Central Region (Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota): \$12.14
- United States: \$13.68

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 attain an annual completion goal of 85 percent.

Measurement, 2009

- Completed dockets: 26
- Uncompleted dockets: 11*
- Percentage completed: 70%

*The uncompleted dockets for 2009 include several that typically require a longer, more intensive review such as rate cases (Xcel Energy, Black Hills Power), siting (Deer Creek Station combined-cycle natural gas plant), and energy efficiency plans (Otter Tail Power Company, NorthWestern Energy).

Overtured Electric and Natural Gas Dockets

Parties that file requests or applications with the Public Utilities Commission 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.

Measurement, 2009

Overtured 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.

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, South Dakota 2009 scores compared to National 2008 average

Of the 18 scores provided to the PUC by South Dakota's six investor-owned utilities (three scores provided by each company), 17 ranked below the national average and only one score was slightly above 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.

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 brokers, truckers and non-storage facilities.
- grain processors and other end users who purchase grain worth \$300,000 or more directly from producers.

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 the effectiveness of its work 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.

Measurement, 2009

Grain warehouse and grain buyer inspections: 329 inspections of 260 licensed locations (127%)

Licenses

The PUC issues two types of licenses for grain buyers/grain warehouses doing business in the state. Each licensed entity is required to annually apply for renewal. As part of the licensing and renewal process, the commission analyzes the 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.

Measurement, 2009

- Class A Licenses (entities that use voluntary credit sale contracts or exceed \$10,000,000 in annual purchases): 126 entities with 246 locations
- Class B Licenses (entities that do not use voluntary credit sale contracts and do not exceed \$10,000,000 in annual purchases): 56 entities with 58 locations

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.

Measurement, 2009

Failures: None

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 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.

Measurement, 2009

Inspections: 116.5 days (85 days 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 2009 is a 50/50 weighted average of the percentage score for the 2007 field audit and the 2009 certification document submittal. The highest possible score is 100 and the lowest score for any state reported in 2009 was 87. This audit score affects the funding South Dakota will receive for calendar year 2009.

Measurement, reported in 2009

Audit score: 98.5 out of a possible 100

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.

Measurement, training/certification to-date

- Program Manager: Six of six required courses plus seven elective courses completed.
- Inspector: Six of six required courses completed.
- Staff Attorney: One elective course completed.

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 one-call 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 may 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 South Dakota One Call 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.

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 is it 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.

Measurement, 2009

Average time in queue: 21.58 seconds

Call Tickets

The number of locate requests are tracked on a daily, monthly, annual and year-to-date basis. The number of call tickets is an indication of the amount of excavating activity within the state and is also a reflection of the user awareness of the system.

Measurement, 2009

Call tickets: 587,586

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 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.

Measurement, 2009

Complaints: 11

Telecommunications

The commission has regulatory authority over some telecommunications providers and services in South Dakota. For example, 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 telecommunications 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 attain an annual completion goal of 85 percent.

Measurement, 2009

- Completed dockets: 102
- Uncompleted dockets: 14
- Percentage completed: 88%

Overtured Telecommunications Dockets

Parties that file requests or applications with the Public Utilities Commission 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.

Measurement, 2009

Overtured dockets: None

Line Counts per Population

Line count is a valuable measurement tool in the telecommunications industry. It depicts the pervasiveness of telecommunications service by company or within a specific area. The resulting data, when correlated to the state's population, gives a sense of the number of South Dakotans that have telecommunications service. The commission further analyzes specific company information to help determine if the provider is meeting its obligation to offer services to customers in its service territory.

Measurement, 2008

Line counts per population: 1.25

Consumer Affairs

The PUC provides a number of services for consumers. The agency's consumer affairs staff is trained to help resolve disputes between consumers and their investor-owned electric, natural gas or telephone service providers. 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, e-mail 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, 2009

Complaints completed within a month: 97%

Formal Consumer Complaints

When a consumer and utility cannot reach a resolution through 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 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.

Measurement, 2009

Formal consumer complaints: 4

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.

Measurement, 2009

South Dakota telephone numbers on Do Not Call Registry: 536,622 (13% increase over 2008)

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 COMPANIES

Electric and Natural Gas Companies	\$1,048,757.82
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Telecommunications Companies	\$819,928.00
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The sum of these figures does not correspond with the Gross Receipts Tax Revenues reported on page 6 due to timing issues. Revenues are based on a calendar year.

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.
NorthWestern Energy
Northern States Power Co. dba Xcel 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.

@link Networks Inc.

1-800-RECONEX Inc. dba USTel
3U Telecom Inc.

LONG DISTANCE TELEPHONE COMPANIES (cont.)

360networks (USA) inc.

800 Response Information Services LLC

AccessLine Communications Corp.

Access One Inc.

Access Point Inc.

ACN Communication Services Inc.

ACSI Local Switched Services Inc. dba e.spire

Affinity Network Inc. dba ANI Networks

Affinity Network Inc. dba QuantumLink Communications

dba HorizonOne Communications

Airespring Inc.

Airnex Communications Inc.

Alliance Global Networks LLC

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

Alticomm Inc.

Americatel Corp. dba 1010123 Americatel dba AMETEX fka STARTEC Global Operating
CompanyGoSolutions d/b/a Startec

American Fiber Network Inc. dba AFN Inc.

American Telecommunications Systems Inc.

AmeriVision Communications Inc. dba LifeLine Communications dba Affinity 4

Applewood Communications Corp.

Asia Talk Telecom Inc. dba HelloCom Inc.

Associated Network Partners Inc.

AT&T Communications of the Midwest Inc.

Avera Communication LLC

Bandwidth.com CLEC LLC fka Computer Network Technology Corp.

BCN Telecom Inc. fka NUI Telecom Inc.

BEK Communications Cooperative

BellSouth Long Distance Inc. dba AT&T Long Distance Service

BLC Management LLC dba AT&T Long Distance Service

Broadband Dynamics LLC

Broadvox-CLEC LLC

Broadwing Communications LLC

BT Communications Sales LLC

Budget Call Long Distance Inc.

Budget PrePay Inc. dba Budget Phone

BullsEye Telecom Inc.

Business Discount Plan Inc.

Business Network Long Distance Inc.

Business Telecom Inc. dba BTI

LONG DISTANCE TELEPHONE COMPANIES (cont.)

Caribbean Telephone and Telegraph Inc.
Central Telecom Long Distance Inc.
Ciera Network Systems Inc.
Cincinnati Bell Any Distance Inc. fka BroadWing Telecommunications Inc.
Coast International Inc.
Comcast Business Communications LLC dba Comcast Long Distance
Comcast Phone of South Dakota LLC dba Comcast Digital Phone
CommPartners LLC
Communication Access Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Inc.
Communications Network Billing Inc.
COMTECH 21 LLC
Comtel Telecom Assets LP
Consolidated Communications Networks Inc.
Consumer Telecom Inc.
Convergia Inc.
Covista Inc.
CSDVRS LLC
CTC Communications Corp.
Custom Teleconnect Inc.
CVC CLEC LLC

DakotaComm LLC
DelTel Inc. dba AuctionFON
DIECA Communications Inc. dba Covad Communications Co.
Digital Telecommunications Inc.

Embarq Communications Inc.
Embarq Payphone Services Inc. fka Sprint Payphone Services Inc.
Encompass Communications LLC
Enhanced Communications Group LLC dba ECG LLC
EnTelegent Solutions Inc.
Entrix Telecom Inc.
Eventis Telecom Inc.
Express Communications Inc.

FairPoint Carrier Services Inc. fka FairPoint Communications Solutions Corp.
FiberComm LC
First Choice Technology Inc.
First Communications LLC
France Telecom Corporate Solutions LLC
Frontier Communications of America Inc. fka Citizens Telecommunications Co.
dba Citizens Long Distance Co.

LONG DISTANCE TELEPHONE COMPANIES (cont.)

Global Capacity Group Inc.
Global Crossing North American Networks Inc.
Global Crossing Telecommunications Inc.
Global Tel*Link Corp.
Go Solo Technologies Inc.
Gold Line Telemanagement Inc.
Granite Telecommunications LLC
Greenfly Networks Inc. dba Clearly Communications

Hawk Relay LLC
HickoryTech Long Distance fka Crystal Communications Inc.
Horizon Telecom Inc.
Hypercube Telecom LLC fka KMC Data LLC

IDT America Corp.
Incomnet Communications Corp.
Intandem Communications Corp.
Integra Telecom of South Dakota Inc.
Integrated Services Inc.
Ionex Communications North Inc. dba Birch Communications
ITC^DeltaCom Communications Inc. dba ITC^DeltaCom

J D Services Inc. dba American Freedom Network

KDDI America Inc. fka KDD America Inc.
Kentucky Data Link Inc.
Knology of the Black Hills LLC fka PrairieWave Black Hills LLC
Knology of the Plains Inc. fka PrairieWave Telecommunications Inc.

Lattice Inc.
LCR Telecommunications LLC
Least Cost Routing Inc. dba Long Distance Charges
Legacy Long Distance International Inc.
Level 3 Communications LLC
Lightyear Network Solutions LLC
Long Distance of Michigan Inc. dba LDMI Long Distance dba FoneTel
Long Lines Metro fka CommChoice LLC

Main Street Telephone Co.
Matrix Telecom Inc. dba Matrix Business Technology
MCC Telephony of the Midwest Inc. dba Mediacom
MCI Communications Services Inc. dba Verizon Business Services
MCImetro Access Transmission Services LLC dba Verizon Access Transmission
McLeodUSA Telecommunications Services Inc.

LONG DISTANCE TELEPHONE COMPANIES (cont.)

Megapath Inc. fka DSLnet Communications LLC
Metropolitan Telecommunications of South Dakota Inc.
Midcontinent Communications Inc.
Midstate Telecom Inc.
Mitel NetSolutions Inc. fka Inter-Tel NetSolutions Inc.
Momentum Telecom Inc.
Multiline Long Distance Inc.

National Access Long Distance Inc.
National Directory Assistance LLC
Nationwide Long Distance Services Inc.
Navigator Telecommunications LLC
NECC Telecom Inc.
Net One International Inc.
NetLojix Telecom Inc.
NET-tel Corp. dba NET-tel Communications Corp.
Network Billing Systems LLC
Network Communications International Corp. aka Mundo Telecom
and aka 1800Call4Less
Network Innovations Inc.
Network Service Billing Inc.
Network US Inc. dba CA Affinity
NetworkIP LLC
New Edge Network Inc. dba New Edge Networks
New Horizons Communications Corp.
NexUSTel LLC
NobelTel LLC
Norlight Inc.
Norlight Telecommunications Inc.
Norstan Network Services Inc.
North Dakota Long Distance LLC
Northern Valley Communications LLC
NOS Communications Inc. dba International Plus and dba Internet Business Association
and Ivantage Network Solutions (Inetba) and dba 011 Communications
and dba Blueridge Telecom Systems
NOSVA Limited Partnership dba CierraCom Systems
NovaTel Ltd. Inc.

Onvoy Inc. fka Minnesota Independent Interexchange Corp. dba MEANS Telcom
OPCOM Inc. dba WCS Telecom dba WCS Operators
Operator Service Co. dba Excell Services
Opex Communications Inc. fka PremierCom Inc.
OrbitCom fka VP Telecom Inc.

LONG DISTANCE TELEPHONE COMPANIES (cont.)

PaeTec Communications Inc.

Parcel Consultants Inc. dba Minimum Rate Pricing
(answering phone as National Communications)

Pathnet Inc.

PNG Telecommunications Inc. dba PowerNet Global Communications
and dba CrossConnect

POPP Telecom fka Popp.Com Inc.

Primus Telecommunications Inc.

Public Communications Services Inc.

Quantumshift Communications Inc. dba Vcom Solutions

Qwest Communications Corp.

Qwest Corp.

Qwest LD Corp. dba Qwest Long Distance

Reduced Rate Long Distance LLC

Reliance Communications International Inc.

Reliant Communications Inc. fka HJN Telecom Inc.

Ridley Telephone Co. LLC

RRV Enterprises Inc. dba Consumer Access

Sage Telecom Inc.

Sancom Inc. dba Mitchell Telecom

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

Silv Communication Inc.

SmartStop Inc.

SNiP Link LLC

Sprint Communications Co. LP

SSTelecom Inc. dba ITC

Starlink Communications LLC

STi Prepaid LLC fka Dialaround Enterprises Inc.

Talk America Inc. dba Cavalier Telephone also dba Cavalier Business Communications
Telecare Inc.

Telecom Management Inc. dba Pioneer Telephone

Telecom Resources Inc.

TeleCommunications Systems Corp. of Maryland

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

Telenational Communications Inc.

Telrite Corp.

Three River Telco dba Three River Long Distance

TON Services Inc.

Total Call International Inc.

Total Holdings dba GTC Communications

LONG DISTANCE TELEPHONE COMPANIES (cont.)

Total National Telecommunications Inc. dba Total World Telecom
Touchtone Communications Inc.
Trans National Communications International Inc.
Transamerica Telecom Inc.
TRI-M Communications Inc. dba TMC Communications
TTI National Inc.

U.S. Telecom Long Distance Inc. fka Corporate Calling Services Inc.
fka Business Calling Plan Inc.
UCN Inc. fka Buyers United Inc. fka Gyphics Communications Inc. dba BuyersOnline
and dba United Carrier Networks
Uni-Tel Communications Group Inc.
Univance Telecommunications Inc.
USA Digital Communications Inc.

Vanco Direct USA LLC
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.

WDT World Discount Telecommunications Co.
WilTel Communications LLC fka Williams Communications LLC
Windstream Communications Inc. fka ALLTEL Holding Corporate Services Inc.
Working Assets Funding Service Inc. dba Credo Long Distance

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

Yestel USA Inc.

ZENEX Long Distance Inc.
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.

Consolidated Communications Network Services Inc.
dba Consolidated Communications Operator

Evercom Systems Inc. (correctional facilities)

Global Tel*Link Corp.

Inmate Calling Solutions LLC dba ICSolutions

Intellicall Operator Services Inc. dba ILD
ITI Inmate Telephone Inc.

Lattice Inc.

Network Operator Services Inc.

Reliance Telephone Systems Inc. (correctional facilities)

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

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 32) in different service areas. The following CLECs are certified by the PUC to provide telecommunications services in South Dakota.

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

Access Point Inc.
ACN Communication Services Inc.
Alticomm Inc.
American Fiber Network Inc. dba AFN Inc.
AT&T Communications of the Midwest Inc.

COMPETITIVE LOCAL EXCHANGE COMPANIES (cont.)

Aventure Communication Technology LLC
Avera Communication LLC

Bandwidth.com CLEC LLC fka Computer Network Technology Corp.
BEK Communications Cooperative
BellSouth Long Distance Inc. dba AT&T Long Distance Service
BLC Management LLC dba Angles Communication Solutions
BT Communications Sales LLC
Broadvox-CLEC LLC
BT Communications Sales LLC
Budget Prepay Inc. dba Budget Phone
BullsEye Telecom Inc.

CommPartners LLC
COMTECH 21 LLC
Comtel Telcom Assets LP
Covista Inc.
CVC CLEC LLC

DakotaComm LLC
DIECA Communications Inc. dba Covad Communications Co.
Ditigal Telecommunications Inc.

Entelegent Solutions Inc.

FiberComm LC
France Telecom Corporate Solutions LLC

Global Capacity Group Inc.
Granite Telecommunications LLC
Greenfly Networks Inc. dba Clearly Communications

HickoryTech Long Distance fka Crystal Communications Inc.
Hypercube Telecom LLC fka KMC Data LLC

IDT America Corp.
iNetworks Group Inc.
Integra Telecom of South Dakota Inc.
Ionex Communications North Inc. dba Birch Communications

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

COMPETITIVE LOCAL EXCHANGE COMPANIES (cont.)

Level 3 Communications LLC
Long Lines Metro fka CommChoice LLC

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.
Momentum Telecom Inc.

Net Talk.Com Inc.
New Edge Network Inc. dba New Edge Networks
Norlight Telecommunications Inc.
Northern Valley Communications LLC
NOS Communications Inc. dba Blueridge Telecom Systems dba International Plus
dba 011 Communications dba The Internet Business Association (Inetba)
dba iVANTAGE NETWORK SOLUTIONS

OrditCom Inc. fka VP Telecom

Pathnet Inc.

Quantumshift Communications dba Vcom Solutions
Qwest Communications Co. LLC fka Qwest Communications Corp.

RC Communications Inc. dba RC Services

Sage Telecom Inc.
Sancom Inc. dba Mitchell Telecom
Sprint Communications Co. LP
SSTelecom Inc.

Talk America Inc. dba Cavalier Telephone also dba Cavalier Business Communications
Trans National Communications International Inc.

UCN Inc.

COMPETITIVE LOCAL EXCHANGE COMPANIES (cont.)

Vanco Direct USA LLC
VCI Co.

XO Communications Services Inc. fka XO Network Services Inc. dba XO LDS

YMax Communications Corp.

WIRELESS COMPANIES

Known by the Public Utilities Commission to be doing business in South Dakota

American Messaging Services LLC fka Verizon Wireless Messaging Services LLC

Bell Atlantic Communications Inc. dba Verizon Wireless Messaging Services LLC

Cellco Partnership dba Verizon Wireless, as Success-in-Interest to CommNet Cellular Inc.

Managing partner of the following:

Cellular Inc. Network Corp. (MSA 289 B, RSA 634 B, RSA 635 B, RSA 636 B,
RSA 638 B1, RSA 638 B2, RSA 639 B1 and RSA 639 B2)

City of Brookings dba Swiftel Communications (product brand Sprint PSC)

Dakota Systems Inc. fka Sioux Falls Cellular LP (MSA 267 B)

Eastern SD Cellular Inc. fka Eastern S.D. of SD LP (RSA 642 B)

Missouri Valley Cellular Inc. fka SD 7 - Sully LP (RSA 640 B)

Sanborn Cellular Inc. fka SD 8 - Kingsbury LP (RSA 641 B)

Coast to Coast Cellular Inc.

Golden West Technologies Inc. (paging)

Ionex Communications North Inc.

i-Wireless

Iowa Wireless Services LLC dba i Wireless

James Valley Wireless LLC

KDDI America Inc.

Long Lines Wireless LLC

MCIMetro Access Transmission Services LLC dba Verizon Access Transmission Services

Midco Communications Inc. nka Midcontinent Communications

Midwest Wireless Communications LLC

New Cell Inc.

NYNEX Long Distance Co. dba Verizon Enterprise Solutions

WIRELESS COMPANIES (cont.)

OnStar Corp. dba OEM Telematics Services

Pierre Radio Paging & Telephone Inc.

Qwest Wireless LLC

RCC Minnesota and Wireless Alliance dba RCC Minnesota Inc.

Rural Cellular Corp. aka Glacial Cellular 2000 dba Unicel

TeleCommunications Systems Corp. of Maryland

Total Call Mobile Inc

Touchtone Communications Inc.

Vantek Communications fka McLeodUSA Wireless Systems Inc.

fka Dakota Wireless Systems Inc. (DTG)

Verizon Wireless

Wagner Mobile Phone Inc.

Western Communications Inc.

Western Wireless

Managing partner of the following:

Cellular Corp. of Sioux Falls dba Cellular One (MSA 267 A)

GCC License LLC (MSA 289 A, RSA 638 A, RSA 639 A, RSA 635 A, A 637 A, RSA 641 A, RSA 640 A, RSA 642 A, RSA 634 A, RSA 636 A)

Wireless Alliance - PSC dba Unicel

Working Assets Funding Services Inc.

Ztar Mobile Inc.

LOCAL TELEPHONE COMPANIES

Also known as Incumbent Local Exchange Carriers, the 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 28) in different service areas.

Independents

Armour Independent Telephone Co. dba Golden West Telecommunications

Bridgewater-Canistota Independent Telephone dba Golden West Telecommunications

Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe Telephone Authority

Fort Randall Telephone Co.

LOCAL TELEPHONE COMPANIES (cont.)

Hills Telephone Co. Inc. dba Alliance Communications

Jefferson Telephone LLC dba Long Lines Ltd.

Kadoka Telephone Co. dba Golden West Telecommunications

Kennebec Telephone Co.

Knology Community Telephone Inc. fka PrairieWave Community Telephone Inc.

Mount Rushmore Telephone Co.

Qwest Corp.

RC Communications Inc. dba RC Services

Sioux Valley Telephone Co. dba Golden West Telecommunications

Splitrock Properties Inc. dba Alliance Communications

Stockholm-Strandburg Telephone Co. dba ITC

Tri-County Telcom Inc.

Union Telephone Co. dba Golden West Telecommunications

Vivian Telephone Co. dba Golden West Telecommunications

Western Telephone Co.

Municipals

Beresford Municipal Telephone Co.

City of Brookings Utilities Telephone Division dba Swiftel Communications

City of Faith Municipal Telephone Co. dba Faith Municipal Telephone Co.

Cooperatives

Alliance Communications Cooperative Inc.

Golden West Telecommunications Cooperative dba Golden West Telecommunications

Interstate Telecommunications Cooperative (ITC)

James Valley Telecommunications

McCook Cooperative Telephone Co.

Midstate Communications Inc.

LOCAL TELEPHONE COMPANIES (cont.)

Roberts County Telephone Cooperative Association

Santel Communications Cooperative

Valley Telecommunications Cooperative Association Inc.
Venture Communications Cooperative Inc.

West River Cooperative Telephone Co.

Foreign Exchange Carriers

Citizens Telecommunications of Minnesota Inc.
Consolidated Telcom

Dickey Rural Communications Inc.
Dickey Rural Telephone Cooperative

Farmers Mutual Telephone Co.

Great Plains Communications

Heartland Telecommunications Company of Iowa dba Hickory Tech Corp.

Northeast Nebraska Telephone Co.

Qwest Corp. - Iowa
Qwest Corp. - Minnesota
Qwest Corp. - Nebraska

Red River Rural Telephone Association
RT Communications Inc.

Three River Telco dba Three River Long Distance

Valley Telephone Co.

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

2009 DOCKET STATUS REGISTER

Docketed Consumer Complaints (year end)		
	Opened	Resolved
Telecommunications	2	13
Electric	0	1
Natural Gas	2	1
Total Consumer Contacts for 2009: 2,537		

Docketed Cases (year end)			
	Opened	Closed	Pending
Telecommunications	103	122	10
Civil	1	1	1
Electric	30	36	11
Gas and Electric	1	0	1
Grain Warehouse	2	1	1
Hydrocarbon	2	0	2
Miscellaneous	1	1	0
Natural Gas	10	13	1
One Call	11	7	7
Pipeline Safety	6	4	5
Rulemaking	2	2	1
Total	169	187	40

Dockets closed between Dec. 31, 2009, and the publication date of this report are noted in parentheses.

Civil Case

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

Civ09-483 - Wegner Auto Co. Inc. a South Dakota Corporation, and the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission, an agency of the State of South Dakota v. Les Sumption dba S&S Communications and S&S Communications, as South Dakota General Partnership.

Date Filed: 11/18/09 Pending

Consumer Complaints

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

Natural Gas

CN09-001 - In the Matter of the Complaint filed by Tyler McFarland, Sioux Falls, S.D., against MidAmerican Energy Co. Regarding a Billing Dispute.

Date Filed: 06/08/09 Closed: 10/08/09

CN09-002 - In the Matter of the Complaint filed by Mark Pyle, A Plus Towing and Repair, Sioux Falls, S.D., against MidAmerican Energy Co. Regarding a Billing Dispute.

Date Filed: 12/22/09 Pending

Telecommunications

CT09-001 - In the Matter of the Complaint filed by Brian Hankel, Hartford, S.D., against Sprint Communications Co. LP, Zone Telecom Inc. and Express Communications Inc. Regarding Unauthorized Switching of Services.

Date Filed: 06/04/09 Closed: 07/21/09

Consumer Complaints (cont.)

CT09-002 - In the Matter of the Complaint filed by Eunice Caldwell, Pierre, S.D., against Email Discount Network Regarding Unauthorized Billing.
Date Filed: 09/29/09 Closed: 11/03/09

Electric Dockets

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

EL09-001 - In the Matter of the Filing by Otter Tail Corp. dba Otter Tail Power Co. for Approval to Update its Rates for Small Power Production and Cogeneration.
Date Filed: 01/12/09 Closed: 03/04/09

EL09-002 - In the Matter of the Application of Black Hills Power Inc. for Approval of its Electric Cost Adjustment.
Date Filed: 01/30/09 Closed: 03/04/09

EL09-003 - In the Matter of the Filing by Xcel Energy for Approval of its Revised Rate Sheets for its Occasional Delivery Energy Service and Time of Delivery Energy Service.
Date Filed: 02/03/09 Closed: 06/24/09

EL09-004 - In the Matter of the Filing by NorthWestern Corp. dba NorthWestern Energy for Approval of Tariff Revisions.
Date Filed: 03/31/09 Closed: 05/28/09

EL09-005 - In the Matter of the Filing by Xcel Energy for Approval of its 2008 Economic Development Annual Report and 2009 Economic Development Plan.
Date Filed: 04/02/09 Closed: 06/30/09

EL09-006 - In the Matter of the Filing by Otter Tail Power Co. for Approval of Tariff Revisions.
Date Filed: 04/13/09 Closed: 06/24/09

EL09-007 - In the Matter of the Filing for an Extension of an Electric Service Agreement for the Supply of Bulk Interruptible Power between Otter Tail Power Co. and Valley Queen Cheese Factory Inc.
Date Filed: 06/01/09 Closed: 06/24/09

EL09-008 - In the Matter of the Application of Black Hills Power Inc. for an Order Authorizing it to Issue an Additional \$180 Million in First Mortgage Bonds.
Date Filed: 06/12/09 Closed: 07/21/09

EL09-009 - In the Matter of the Application of Northern States Power Co. dba Xcel Energy for Authority to Increase its Electric Rates.
Date Filed: 06/30/09 *(Closed: 01/14/10)*

Electric Dockets (cont.)

EL09-010 - In the Matter of the Filing by Black Hills Power Inc. for Approval of Tariff Revisions.

Date Filed: 06/30/09 Closed: 08/04/09

EL09-011 - In the Matter of the Filing by Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. for Approval of Tariff Revisions.

Date Filed: 07/01/09 Closed: 08/19/09

EL09-012 - In the Matter of the Petition of MidAmerican Energy Co. for Approval of a Fuel Clause Rider Tariff Change.

Date Filed: 07/01/09 Closed: 08/04/09

EL09-013 - In the Matter of the Filing by Otter Tail Power Co. for Approval of Tariff Revisions.

Date Filed: 07/07/09 Closed: 08/19/09

EL09-014 - In the Matter of the Filing by Otter Tail Power Co. for Approval of its Updated Customer Rate Schedule Brochures.

Date Filed: 07/24/09 Closed: 08/19/09

EL09-015 - In the Matter of the Application by Basin Electric Power Cooperative Inc. for an Energy Conversion Facility Siting Permit for the Deer Creek Station Project Combined-Cycle Natural Gas Energy Conversion Facility and Associated Infrastructure, Including a Water Supply System and Electric Transmission System.

Date Filed: 07/28/09 Pending

EL09-016 - In the Matter of the Filing by Otter Tail Power Co. for Approval to Levelize the Fuel Adjustment Clause Rider Rate for September 2009 through December 2009.

Date Filed: 08/27/09 Closed: 09/15/09

EL09-017 - In the Matter of the Joint Request for an Electric Service Rights Exception between Nebraska Public Power District and Northwest Rural Public Power District.

Date Filed: 09/29/09 Closed: 12/03/09

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

Date Filed: 09/30/09 Pending

EL09-019 - In the Matter of the Joint Request for an Electric Service Rights Exception between Central Electric Cooperative Inc. and Southeastern Electric Cooperative Inc.

Date Filed: 10/02/09 Closed: 11/18/09

Electric Dockets (cont.)

EL09-020 - In the Matter of the Joint Request for an Electric Service Rights Exception between Otter Tail Power Co. and Whetstone Valley Electric Cooperative Inc.
Date Filed: 10/16/09 Closed: 11/03/09

EL09-021 - In the Matter of the Joint Request for an Electric Service Territory Boundary Change between Xcel Energy and Southeastern Electric Cooperative Inc.
Date Filed: 10/23/09 Closed: 12/03/09

EL09-022 - In the Matter of the Filing by Otter Tail Power Co. for Approval of its Energy Efficiency Partnership Plan for 2010.
Date Filed: 10/26/09 Pending

EL09-023 - In the Matter of the Filing by Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. for Approval of Tariff Revisions.
Date Filed: 10/29/09 Closed: 12/11/09

EL09-024 - In the Matter of the Filing by Otter Tail Power Co. for Approval to Use Deferred Accounting for Costs Incurred During its Participation in the Big Stone II Project.
Date Filed: 12/14/09 *(Closed: 02/11/10)*

EL09-025 - In the Matter of the Application by Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. for Authority for Deferred Accounting.
Date Filed: 12/17/09 *(Closed: 02/11/10)*

EL09-026 - In the Matter of the Filing by Otter Tail Corp. dba Otter Tail Power Co. for Approval to Update its Rates for Small Power Production and Cogeneration.
Date Filed: 12/18/09 Pending

EL09-027 - In the Matter of the Filing by NorthWestern Corp. dba NorthWestern Energy for Approval of a Contract with Deviations.
Date Filed: 12/23/09 *(Closed: 02/11/10)*

EL09-028 - In the Matter of the Application by PrairieWinds SD1 Inc., a subsidiary of Basin Electric Power Cooperative, for a Wind Energy Facility Permit for the PrairieWinds SD1 Wind Farm and Associated Facilities.
Date Filed: 12/30/09 Pending

EL09-029 - In the Matter of the Petition of Xcel Energy for Approval of a Fuel Clause Rider Tariff Change.
Date Filed: 12/31/09 Pending

Electric Dockets (cont.)

EL09-030 - In the Matter of the Petition of Xcel Energy for Approval to Establish a Demand Side Management Program and Cost Recovery Tariff and for Approval of its 2010 Planned Costs to be Included in its Rates.

Date Filed: 12/31/09 Pending

Gas and Electric Docket

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

GE09-001 - In the Matter of the Filing by NorthWestern Corp. dba NorthWestern Energy for Approval of its South Dakota Demand Side Management Plan.

Date Filed: 10/01/09 Pending

Grain Warehouse Dockets (fka Grain Dealer/Buyer Dockets)

GD09-001 - In the Matter of the Request of Glacial Lakes Corn Processors for Approval of a Waiver of ARSD 20:10:12:15.

Date Filed: 06/03/09 *(Closed: 01/13/10)*

GD09-002 - In the Matter of the Filing by H & I Grain Co. for Approval of a Waiver of ARSD 20:10:12:14.

Date Filed: 06/29/09 Closed: 07/10/09

Hydrocarbon Pipeline Dockets

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

HP09-001 - In the Matter of the Application by TransCanada Keystone Pipeline LP for a Permit Under the S.D. Energy Conversion and Transmission Facilities Act to Construct the Keystone XL Project.

Date Filed: 03/12/09 Pending

HP09-002 - In the Matter of the Application by Basin Electric Power Cooperative Inc. for an Energy Conversion Facility Siting Permit for a Natural Gas Pipeline to Support the Deer Creek Station Project.

Date Filed: 07/28/09 Pending

Miscellaneous Docket

MS09-001 - In the Matter of the Petition to Terminate the Ongoing Information Requirement in Docket F-3661.

Date Filed: 04/03/09 Closed: 05/08/09

Natural Gas Dockets

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

NG09-001 - In the Matter of the Filing by Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. for Approval of its Natural Gas Conservation Programs and Conservation Tracking Adjustment.

Date Filed: 03/02/09 Closed: 11/05/09

NG09-002 - In the Matter of the Filing by MidAmerican Energy Co. for Approval of Tariff Revisions.

Date Filed: 03/20/09 Closed: 05/08/09

NG09-003 - In the Matter of the Filing by MidAmerican Energy Co. for Approval of its 2008 Economic Development Report and its 2009 Economic Development Plan.

Date Filed: 03/27/09 Closed: 06/24/09

NG09-004 - In the Matter of the Filing by MidAmerican Energy Co. for Approval of Tariff Revisions.

Date Filed: 06/05/09 Closed: 08/04/09

NG09-005 - In the Matter of the Filing by NorthWestern Energy for Approval of Tariff Revisions.

Date Filed: 08/28/09 Closed: 10/15/09

NG09-006 - In the Matter of the Consideration of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007.

Date Filed: 09/25/09 Closed: 12/18/09

NG09-007 - In the Matter of the Filing by NorthWestern Corp. dba NorthWestern Energy for Approval of a Contract with Deviations with NuGen Energy LLC.

Date Filed: 10/14/09 Closed: 11/03/09

NG09-008 - In the Matter of the Filing by MidAmerican Energy Co. for Approval of a Refund Plan.

Date Filed: 10/28/09 Closed: 12/09/09

NG09-009 - In the Matter of the Filing by Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. for Approval of a Contract with Deviations with Countertops Inc.

Date Filed: 10/30/09 Closed: 12/04/09

NG09-010 - In the Matter of the Filing by MidAmerican Energy Co. for Approval of Tariff Revisions.

Date Filed: 12/16/09 Closed: 01/29/10

One Call Dockets

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

OC09-001 - In the Matter of the Complaint filed by NorthWestern Energy, Huron, S.D., against Arden Lemke dba Lemke Digging and Geo Thermo Drilling, Mitchell, S.D.

Date Filed: 01/15/09 Pending

OC09-002 - In the Matter of the Complaint filed by Larry Englerth, Sioux Falls, S.D., against Mark Seifkes dba S.P.O.T., De Smet, S.D.

Date Filed: 03/03/09 Closed: 07/30/09

OC09-003 - In the Matter of the Complaint filed by Southeastern Electric Cooperative Inc., Marion, S.D., against Loewenberg Technologies Inc., Sioux Falls, S.D.

Date Filed: 06/05/09 Closed: 07/21/09

OC09-004 - In the Matter of the Complaint filed by Northern Hills Transport LLC/South Dakota Network LLC, Sioux Falls, S.D., against Haywire Fencing, Belle Fourche, S.D.

Date Filed: 06/30/09 Closed: 11/16/09

OC09-005 - In the Matter of the Complaint filed by Nustar Pipeline Operating Partnership LP, Wichita, Kan., against Loewenberg Technologies, Sioux Falls, S.D.

Date Filed: 07/20/09 (Closed: 02/19/10)

OC09-006 - In the Matter of the Complaint filed by Crooks Municipal Utilities, Crooks, S.D., against Hagen Grading, Sioux Falls, S.D.

Date Filed: 08/19/09 Closed: 12/15/09

OC09-007 - In the Matter of the Complaint filed by South Dakota Network LLC, Sioux Falls, S.D., against Larry's Electric Inc., Pierre, S.D.

Date Filed: 09/02/09 Pending

OC09-008 - In the Matter of the Complaint filed by South Dakota Network LLC, Sioux Falls, S.D., against Sharpe Enterprises Inc., Fort Pierre, S.D.

Date Filed: 09/08/09 Pending

OC09-009 - In the Matter of the Complaint filed by Crooks Municipal Utilities, Crooks, S.D., against Kappas Fencing, Crooks, S.D.

Date Filed: 10/05/09 Pending

OC09-010 - In the matter of the Complaint filed Watertown Municipal Utilities, Watertown, S.D., against Grangaard Construction Inc., Watertown, S.D. (Big Sioux River).

Date Filed: 12/11/09 Pending

One Call Dockets (cont.)

OC09-011 - In the matter of the Complaint filed Watertown Municipal Utilities, Watertown, S.D., against Grangaard Construction Inc., Watertown, S.D. (Willow Creek).

Date Filed: 12/11/09 Pending

Pipeline Safety Dockets

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

PS09-001 - In the Matter of the Filing of the Investigation of the Natural Gas Incident of March 14, 2009, on Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.'s System in Rapid City, S.D.

Date Filed: 03/16/09 (Closed: 02/01/10)

PS09-002 - In the Matter of the Petition of the Commission Pipeline Safety Program Manager for Declaratory Ruling Regarding whether a Pipeline Operator's Documented Maximum Allowable Operating Pressure can Exceed the Limits in SDCL 49-41B-2.1 Without a Siting Permit.

Date Filed: 04/20/09 Pending

PS09-003 - In the Matter of the Filing by NorthWestern Corp. dba NorthWestern Energy for Approval of a Waiver of 49 C.F.R. Section 192.625(a).

Date Filed: 07/07/09 Closed: 11/13/09

PS09-004 - In the Matter of the Filing by the Commission Acting Pipeline Safety Program Manager Regarding South Dakota Intrastate Pipeline Co. Compliance Issues.

Date Filed: 08/12/09 (Closed: 01/04/10)

PS09-005 - In the Matter of the Petition of the Commission Pipeline Safety Program Manager for a Declaratory Ruling Regarding Whether the Crooks Municipal Utilities Gas Line should be Classified as a Transmission or Distribution Line for Pipeline Safety Purposes.

Date Filed: 10/09/09 Pending

PS09-006 - In the Matter of Pipeline Safety Enforcement against Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.

Date Filed: 12/21/09 Pending

Rulemaking Dockets

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

RM09-001 - In the Matter of the Adoption of Rules Regarding Pipeline Safety.

Date Filed: 03/09/09 Closed: 10/19/09

Rulemaking Dockets (cont.)

RM09-002 - In the Matter of the Adoption of Rules Regarding Renewable, Recycled and Conserved Energy.

Date Filed: 12/14/09 Pending

Telecommunications Dockets

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

TC09-001 - In the Matter of the Filing by AT&T Communications of the Midwest Inc. for Approval of Revisions to its Access Services and Network Interconnection Services Tariff.

Date Filed: 01/08/09 Closed: 02/05/09

TC09-002 - In the Matter of the Filing for Approval of an Amendment to an Interconnection Agreement between Qwest Corp. and McLeodUSA Telecommunications Services Inc.

Date Filed: 01/15/09 Closed: 03/04/09

TC09-003 - In the Matter of the Filing for Approval of an Interconnection Agreement between Qwest Corp. and BLC Management LLC dba Angles Communication Solutions.

Date Filed: 01/15/09 Closed: 03/04/09

TC09-004 - In the Matter of the Filing by AT&T Communications of the Midwest Inc. for Approval of its Intrastate Access Services Tariff and for an Exemption from Developing Company Specific Cost-Based Switched Access Rates.

Date Filed: 01/15/09 Closed: 03/18/09

TC09-005 - In the Matter of the Application of iNetworks Group Inc. for a Certificate of Authority to Provide Interexchange Telecommunications Services and Local Exchange Services in South Dakota.

Date Filed: 02/03/09 Closed: 03/18/09

TC09-006 - In the Matter of the Filing for Approval of an Interconnection Agreement between Qwest Corp. and DSLnet Communications LLC nka MegaPath Inc.

Date Filed: 02/20/09 Closed: 03/31/09

TC09-007 - In the Matter of the Application of EnTelegent Solutions Inc. for a Certificate of Authority to Provide Interexchange Telecommunications Services and Local Exchange Services in South Dakota.

Date Filed: 02/24/09 Closed: 03/31/09

TC09-008 - In the Matter of the Application of Norlight Inc. for a Certificate of Authority to Provide Interexchange Telecommunications Services in South Dakota.

Date Filed: 02/25/09 Closed: 03/31/09

Telecommunications Dockets (cont.)

TC09-009 - In the Matter of the Filing by Midstate Telecom Inc. for an Extension of an Exemption from Developing Company Specific Cost-Based Switched Access Rates.
Date Filed: 03/02/09 Pending

TC09-010 - In the Matter of the Filing for Approval of an Interconnection Agreement between Qwest Corp. and 321 Communications Inc.
Date Filed: 03/13/09 Closed: 04/14/09

TC09-011 - In the Matter of the Filing for Approval of an Amendment to an Interconnection Agreement between Qwest Corp. and McLeodUSA Telecommunications Services Inc.
Date Filed: 03/20/09 Closed: 05/22/09

TC09-012 - In the Matter of the Application by Broadvox-CLEC LLC for a Certificate of Authority to Provide Interexchange Telecommunications Services and Local Exchange Services in South Dakota.
Date Filed: 03/26/09 Closed: 06/24/09

TC09-013 - In the Matter of the Filing for Approval of an Amendment to an Interconnection Agreement between Qwest Corp. and MCImetro Access Transmission Services LLC.
Date Filed: 03/31/09 Closed: 05/22/09

TC09-014 - In the Matter of the Filing by SSTELECOM Inc. for an Extension of an Exemption from Developing Company Specific Cost-Based Switched Access Rates.
Date Filed: 04/03/09 Pending

TC09-015 - In the Matter of the Application of CVC CLEC LLC for a Certificate of Authority to Provide Interexchange Telecommunications Services and Local Exchange Services in South Dakota.
Date Filed: 04/06/09 Closed: 06/24/09

TC09-016 - In the Matter of the Filing for Approval of a Resale Agreement between Qwest Corp. and Virtual Network Solutions Inc.
Date Received: 04/01/09 Date Filed: 04/08/09 Closed: 05/08/09

TC09-017 - In the Matter of the Filing by Qwest Corp. for Approval of Submission of its Annual PAP Payment Cap Calculation under Qwest's Performance Assurance Plan (PAP), Section 12.1.
Date Filed: 04/08/09 Closed: 05/28/09

TC09-018 - In the Matter of the Filing by Qwest Corp. for Approval of Revisions to its Exchange and Network Services Tariff No. 1.
Date Filed: 04/17/09 Closed: 06/24/09

Telecommunications Dockets (cont.)

TC09-019 - In the Matter of the Filing for Approval of an Interconnection Agreement between Midstate Communications Inc. and Native American Telecom LLC.

Date Filed: 04/20/09 Closed: 05/22/09

TC09-020 - In the Matter of the filing by Wireless Alliance LLC dba Unicel for Relinquishment of Eligible Telecommunications Carrier Designation.

Date Filed: 04/28/09 Closed: 06/24/09

TC09-021 - In the Matter of the Filing by AT&T Communications of the Midwest Inc. for Approval of Revisions to its Access Services and Network Interconnection Services Tariff.

Date Filed: 05/01/09 Closed: 06/24/09

TC09-022 - In the Matter of the Filing by RC Communications Inc. for an Extension of an Exemption from Developing Company Specific Cost-Based Switched Access Rates.

Date Filed: 05/13/09 Pending

TC09-023 - In the Matter of the Filing by Northern Valley Communications LLC for Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier.

Date Filed: 05/14/09 Closed: 11/05/09

TC09-024 - In the Matter of the Filing by James Valley Wireless LLC for Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier.

Date Filed: 05/14/09 Closed: 11/05/09

TC09-025 - In the Matter of the Request of Kennebec Telephone Co. Inc. for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support.

Date Filed: 05/19/09 Closed: 09/25/09

TC09-026 - In the Matter of the Request of Interstate Telecommunications Cooperative Inc. for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support.

Date Filed: 05/20/09 Closed: 09/25/09

TC09-027 - In the Matter of the Request of SSTELECOM Inc. dba ITC for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support.

Date Filed: 05/20/09 Closed: 09/25/09

TC09-028 - In the Matter of the Request of Stockholm-Strandburg Telephone Co. dba ITC for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support.

Date Filed: 05/20/09 Closed: 09/25/09

Telecommunications Dockets (cont.)

TC09-029 - In the Matter of the Request of Midcontinent Communications for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support.
Date Filed: 05/20/09 Closed: 09/25/09

TC09-030 - In the Matter of the Request of West River Cooperative Telephone Co. for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support.
Date Filed: 05/21/09 Closed: 09/25/09

TC09-031 - In the Matter of the Filing by Northern Valley Communications LLC for an Extension of an Exemption from Developing Company Specific Cost-Based Switched Access Rates.
Date Filed: 05/21/09 Pending

TC09-032 - In the Matter of the Filing for Approval of a Type 2 Wireless Interconnection Agreement between Qwest Corp. and Standing Rock Telecommunications Inc.
Date Filed: 05/21/09 Closed: 06/30/09

TC09-033 - In the Matter of the Request of Venture Communications Cooperative for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support.
Date Filed: 05/26/09 Closed: 09/25/09

TC09-034 - In the Matter of the Request of Western Telephone Co. for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support.
Date Filed: 05/26/09 Closed: 09/25/09

TC09-035 - In the Matter of the Request of Tri-County Telcom Inc. for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support.
Date Filed: 05/26/09 Closed: 09/25/09

TC09-036 - In the Matter of the Request of RT Communications Inc. for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support.
Date Filed: 05/26/09 Closed: 09/25/09

TC09-037 - In the Matter of the Request of West River Telecommunications Cooperative (Mobridge) for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support.
Date Filed: 05/26/09 Closed: 09/25/09

TC09-038 - In the Matter of the Request of Jefferson Telephone Co. for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support.
Date Filed: 05/26/09 Closed: 09/25/09

Telecommunications Dockets (cont.)

TC09-039 - In the Matter of the Request of Valley Telecommunications Cooperative Association Inc. for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support.

Date Filed: 05/26/09 Closed: 09/25/09

TC09-040 - In the Matter of the Request of McCook Cooperative Telephone Co. for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support.

Date Filed: 05/26/09 Closed: 09/25/09

TC09-041 - In the Matter of the Filing for Approval of a Resale Agreement between Qwest Corp. and NSW Telecom Inc.

Date Received: 05/13/09 Date Filed: 05/27/09 Closed: 06/30/09

TC09-042 - In the Matter of the Filing for Approval of an Interconnection Agreement between Qwest Corp. and Greenfly Networks Inc. dba Clearly Communications Inc.

Date Received: 05/18/09 Date Filed: 05/27/09 Closed: 08/19/09

TC09-043 - In the Matter of the Filing for Approval of an Interconnection Agreement between Qwest Corp. and Digital Telecommunications Inc.

Date Received: 05/21/09 Date Filed: 05/27/09 Closed: 07/21/09

TC09-044 - In the Matter of the Request of James Valley Wireless LLC for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support.

Date Filed: 05/27/09 Closed: 09/25/09

TC09-045 - In the Matter of the Request of James Valley Cooperative Telephone Co. for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support.

Date Filed: 05/27/09 Closed: 09/25/09

TC09-046 - In the Matter of the Request of Alliance Communications Cooperative Inc. for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support.

Date Filed: 05/27/09 Closed: 09/25/09

TC09-047 - In the Matter of the Request of Hills Telephone Co. Inc. for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support.

Date Filed: 05/27/09 Closed: 09/25/09

TC09-048 - In the Matter of the Request of Splitrock Properties Inc. for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support.

Date Filed: 05/27/09 Closed: 09/25/09

TC09-049 - In the Matter of the Request of Midstate Communications Inc. for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support.

Date Filed: 05/28/09 Closed: 09/25/09

Telecommunications Dockets (cont.)

TC09-050 - In the Matter of the Request of Midstate Telecom Inc. for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support.

Date Filed: 05/28/09 Closed: 09/25/09

TC09-051 - In the Matter of the Request of RC Communications Inc. dba RC Services for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support.

Date Filed: 05/29/09 Closed: 09/25/09

TC09-052 - 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.

Date Filed: 05/29/09 Closed: 09/25/09

TC09-053 - In the Matter of the Request of Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe Telephone Authority for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support.

Date Filed: 05/29/09 Closed: 09/25/09

TC09-054 - In the Matter of the Request of Santel Communications Cooperative Inc. for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support.

Date Filed: 05/29/09 Closed: 09/25/09

TC09-055 - In the Matter of the Request of Armour Independent Telephone Co. for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support.

Date Filed: 05/29/09 Closed: 09/25/09

TC09-056 - In the Matter of the Request of Bridgewater-Canistota Independent Telephone Co. for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support.

Date Filed: 05/29/09 Closed: 09/25/09

TC09-057 - In the Matter of the Request of Golden West Telecommunications Cooperative Inc. for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support.

Date Filed: 05/29/09 Closed: 09/25/09

TC09-058 - In the Matter of the Request of Kadoka Telephone Co. for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support.

Date Filed: 05/29/09 Closed: 09/25/09

TC09-059 - In the Matter of the Request of Sioux Valley Telephone Co. for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support.

Date Filed: 05/29/09 Closed: 09/25/09

Telecommunications Dockets (cont.)

TC09-060 - In the Matter of the Request of Union Telephone Co. for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support.

Date Filed: 05/29/09 Closed: 09/25/09

TC09-061 - In the Matter of the Request of Vivian Telephone Co. for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support.

Date Filed: 05/29/09 Closed: 09/25/09

TC09-062 - In the Matter of the Request of Beresford Municipal Telephone Co. for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support.

Date Filed: 06/01/09 Closed: 09/25/09

TC09-063 - In the Matter of the Filing by Citizens Telecommunications Co. of Minnesota LLC for a Waiver of ARSD 20:10:32:56.

Date Filed: 06/01/09 Closed: 09/25/09

TC09-064 - In the Matter of the Request of Farmers Mutual Telephone Co. for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support.

Date Filed: 06/01/09 Closed: 09/25/09

TC09-065 - In the Matter of the Request of Fort Randall Telephone Co. for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support.

Date Filed: 06/01/09 Closed: 09/25/09

TC09-066 - In the Matter of the Request of Red River Rural Telephone Association for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support.

Date Filed: 06/01/09 Closed: 09/25/09

TC09-067 - In the Matter of the Request of Valley Telephone Co. for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support.

Date Filed: 06/01/09 Closed: 09/25/09

TC09-068 - In the Matter of the Request of WWC License LLC dba Alltel Communications LLC for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support.

Date Filed: 06/01/09 Closed: 09/25/09

TC09-069 - In the Matter of the Request of Knology Community Telephone Inc. for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support.

Date Filed: 06/01/09 Closed: 09/25/09

TC09-070 - In the Matter of the Request of Knology of the Black Hills LLC for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support.

Date Filed: 06/01/09 Closed: 09/25/09

Telecommunications Dockets (cont.)

TC09-071 - In the Matter of the Request of RCC Minnesota Inc. for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support.
Date Filed: 06/01/09 Closed: 09/25/09

TC09-072 - In the Matter of the Request of the City of Brookings Municipal Telephone for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support.
Date Filed: 06/01/09 Closed: 09/25/09

TC09-073 - In the Matter of the Request of Brookings Municipal Telephone dba Swiftel Communications for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support.
Date Filed: 06/01/09 Closed: 09/25/09

TC09-074 - In the Matter of the Request of Qwest Corp. for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support.
Date Filed: 06/02/09 Closed: 09/25/09

TC09-075 - In the Matter of the Request of the City of Faith Municipal Telephone Co. for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support.
Date Filed: 06/03/09 Closed: 09/25/09

TC09-076 - In the Matter of the Filing for Approval of an Amendment to an Interconnection Agreement between Qwest Corp. and Level 3 Communications LLC.
Date Filed: 06/05/09 Closed: 07/21/09

TC09-077 - In the Matter of the Request of Long Lines Wireless LLC for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support.
Date Filed: 06/08/09 Closed: 09/25/09

TC09-078 - In the Matter of the Application of Digital Telecommunications Inc. for a Certificate of Authority to Provide Interexchange Telecommunications Services and Local Exchange Services in South Dakota.
Date Filed: 06/08/09 Closed: 07/21/09

TC09-079 - In the Matter of the Application of Black Hills Communications LLC for a Certificate of Authority to Provide Local Exchange Services in South Dakota.
Date Filed: 06/16/09 Pending

TC09-080 - In the Matter of the Filing for Approval of an Interconnection Agreement between Qwest Corp. and Ionex Communications North Inc. dba Birch Communications.
Date Filed: 06/18/09 Closed: 07/21/09

Telecommunications Dockets (cont.)

TC09-081 - In the Matter of the Filing for Approval of a Resale Agreement between Qwest Corp. and Easton Telecom Services LLC.

Date Filed: 07/01/09 Closed: 10/06/09

TC09-082 - In the Matter of the Filing for Approval of an Interconnection Agreement between Qwest Corp. and Matrix Telecom Inc.

Date Filed: 07/15/09 Closed: 09/15/09

TC09-083 - In the Matter of the Application of WideVoice Communications Inc. for a Certificate of Authority to Provide Interexchange Telecommunications Services and Local Exchange Services in South Dakota.

Date Filed: 08/12/09 *(Closed: 02/11/10)*

TC09-084 - In the Matter of the Filing for Approval of an Interconnection Agreement between Qwest Corp. and EnTelegent Solutions Inc.

Date Filed: 08/13/09 Closed: 10/15/09

TC09-085 - In the Matter of the Filing for Approval of an Opt-in Interconnection Agreement between Qwest Corp. and CVC CLEC LLC.

Date Filed: 08/13/09 Closed: 10/15/09

TC09-086 - In the Matter of the Filing by Sprint Communications Co. LP for Approval of its Access Service Tariff.

Date Filed: 08/20/09 Closed: 10/15/09

TC09-087 - In the Matter of the Filing for Approval of a Resale Agreement between Qwest Corp. and iNetworks Group Inc.

Date Filed: 08/28/09 Closed: 11/03/09

TC09-088 - In the Matter of the Application of Greenfly Networks Inc. dba Clearly Communications for a Certificate of Authority to Provide Interexchange Telecommunications Services and Local Exchange Services in South Dakota.

Date Filed: 09/18/09 Closed: 11/18/09

TC09-089 - In the Matter of the Application of Lattice Inc. for a Certificate of Authority to Provide Interexchange Telecommunication Services in South Dakota.

Date Filed: 09/21/09 Closed: 11/03/09 Reopened: 11/17/09 *(Reclosed: 01/15/10)*

TC09-090 - In the Matter of the Filing for Approval of an Interconnection Agreement between Qwest Corp. and Northern Valley Communications LLC.

Date Filed: 09/29/09 Closed: 11/18/09

TC09-091 - In the Matter of the Application of McCook Cooperative Telephone Co. for an Amended Certificate of Authority.

Date Filed: 10/06/09 Closed: 12/01/09

Telecommunications Dockets (cont.)

TC09-092 - 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.

Date Filed: 10/08/09 Closed: 11/18/09

TC09-093 - In the Matter of the Application of Comcast Phone of South Dakota LLC dba Comcast Digital Phone for a Certificate of Authority to Provide Interexchange Telecommunications Services in South Dakota.

Date Filed: 10/13/09 Closed: 11/18/09

TC09-094 - In the Matter of the Filing for Approval of an Opt-in Wireline Interconnection Agreement between Qwest Corp. and MCC Telephony of the Midwest Inc. dba Mediacom.

Date Filed: 10/14/09 Closed: 12/09/09

TC09-095 - In the Matter of the Filing by Bandwidth.com CLEC LLC for Approval of its Intrastate Access Services Tariff.

Date Filed: 10/14/09 Pending

TC09-096 - In the Matter of the Filing by Ionex Communications North Inc. for Approval of its Access Service Tariff.

Date Filed: 10/16/09 Pending

TC09-097 - In the Matter of the Filing by Sprint Communications Co. LP for Approval of Revisions to its Access Service Tariff.

Date Filed: 10/20/09 Closed: 12/04/09

TC09-098 - In the Matter of the Complaint filed by South Dakota Network LLC against Sprint Communications Co. LP Regarding Failure to Pay Intrastate Centralized Equal Access Charges and to Immediately Pay Undisputed Portions of SDN's Invoices.

Date Filed: 10/29/09 Pending

TC09-099 - In the Matter of the Filing for Approval of an Interconnection Agreement between and Alliance Communications Cooperative Inc. and Midcontinent Communications.

Date Filed: 11/18/09 Closed: 12/09/09

TC09-100 - In the Matter of the Application of Velocity The Greatest Phone Company Ever Inc. for a Certificate of Authority to Provide Interexchange Telecommunications Services and Local Exchange Services in South Dakota.

Date Filed: 12/02/09 (Closed: 02/02/10)

Telecommunications Dockets (cont.)

TC09-101 - In the Matter of the Filing for Approval of a Wireless Type 2 Interim Agreement between Qwest Corp. and T-Mobile USA Inc.

Date Filed: 12/09/09 (Closed: 01/15/10)

TC09-102 - In the Matter for the Approval of Amendment to an Interconnection Agreement between Qwest Corp. and Sprint Communications LP.

Date Filed: 12/18/09 (Closed: 01/27/10)

TC09-103 - In the Matter for the Approval of Amendment to an Interconnection Agreement between Qwest Corp. and Bandwidth.com CLEC LLC.

Date Filed: 12/22/09 (Closed: 01/27/10)



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.

South Dakota

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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