

South Dakota

Public Utilities Commission



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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 buyers.

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 2010, the commission offered live audio Web casts of more than two 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, 153 unique users viewed 3,043 pages of the PUC site each day in 2010. 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** includes an overview of how consumers can add their personal phone numbers to the national registry to decrease the amount of telemarketing calls they receive. The site also describes how telemarketing companies doing business in South Dakota need to comply with applicable statutes and rules.

- **www.SDEnergySmart.com** is a guide for South Dakota consumers to become more energy efficient. The site includes links to the state's utility providers that are partners in the South Dakota Energy Smart initiative.
- **www.SDOneCall.com** includes an electronic ticketing system for excavators and others who use the Call Before You Dig notification service and an index of complaints, among other important information. The PUC maintains the site for the One Call Board.
- **www.SDWind.com** relays information from the Wind Resource Assessment Network, a network of 11 stations that record wind speed and other vital information. Data collected by WRAN is interpreted by researchers at SDSU.

COMMISSIONERS

This report includes information about commissioners who served in 2010 through the date of publication.

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

2010 South Dakota Public Utilities Commissioners



Chairman Dusty Johnson, Vice Chairman Steve Kolbeck and Commissioner Gary Hanson



Commissioner Dustin “Dusty” Johnson. *Elected 2004. Term ended 2010.*

When Dusty Johnson was first elected to the Public Utilities Commission, he became the youngest utilities commissioner in the nation. He was the commission’s chairman in 2010, 2009 and 2007. During his time on the commission, he played a role in developing renewable energy resources, expanding broadband and wireless phone capabilities, keeping utility rates low and protecting consumers.

During 2010, Dusty served 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 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.

Dusty was re-elected in November 2010. However, he accepted a position as chief of staff for newly-elected Governor Dennis Daugaard and chose not to serve a second term on the commission.



Commissioner Steve Kolbeck. *Elected 2006. Term ends 2012.*

Steve Kolbeck was elected to the Public Utilities Commission in November 2006. He served as vice chairman in 2009 and 2010. He is currently the commission's chairman.

He is a member of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, serving as co-vice chair of 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, treasurer, vice president and is currently the president of the Mid-America Regulatory Conference. Steve is also the 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 and is the current vice chairman. 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.

(NOTE: Commissioner Nelson's term began in January 2011)



Commissioner Chris Nelson. *Appointed 2011. Term ends 2012.*

Chris Nelson is currently serving as one of three South Dakota Public Utilities Commissioners. Chris was appointed Jan. 8, 2011 by Governor Dennis Daugaard to fill a vacancy on the commission.

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

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

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

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

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

2011 South Dakota Public Utilities Commissioners



Vice Chairman Gary Hanson, Chairman Steve Kolbeck and Commissioner Chris Nelson

STAFF

The PUC's 30 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.

Jennifer Headlee serves as the **communications assistant**. She distributes news releases and assists with meeting and event coordination and 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 in state and federal courts and before federal regulatory agencies. Rolayne's additional specialties are advising about federal regulation and state legislative matters. Greg provides policy and technical consultation and research support regarding major regulatory issues.

Administrative staff members perform a variety of support services including handling incoming phone calls and mail and greeting guests. Each staff member has specific duties that keep the PUC running smoothly. **Tina Douglas** is the Web specialist with primary responsibility for maintaining the PUC's electronic dockets as well as each of the Web sites the commission operates. **Demaris Axthelm** schedules and coordinates meeting logistics, travel and training. **Seanna Regynski** assists with the preparation of legal documents, distributes meeting agendas and weekly filings and coordinates mailings.

Staff analysts are responsible for investigating, analyzing, evaluating and presenting testimony regarding issues and policies related to the electric, natural gas and telecommunications industries as regulated by the commission. Their educational and professional background includes expertise in accounting, economics, research and engineering. **Bob Knadle, Dave Jacobson, Jon Thurber** and **Bobbi Bourk** 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 **Chris Daugaard** 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.

Three staff members joined the PUC in 2010 as a result of funding provided by the **American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA)**. Provisions of the federal funding specify the staff members commit resources to electricity-related activities only and are employed for no longer than a three-year period. These staff members include analysts **Brittany Mehlhaff** and **Ross Pedersen** and staff attorney **Ryan Soye**.

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 **Joshua Williams** 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 Josh inspect and investigate intrastate natural gas pipelines, master meters and propane systems to ensure the public is provided safe and dependable gas service. The two also analyze utility dockets as assigned.

Jim Mehlhaff is the director of the **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. From January to mid-April 2010, Justin was concluding 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.

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, 2010

	BUDGET	ACTUAL EXPENDITURES			ENCUMBRANCE	BALANCE
		By Fund Group				
		GENERAL FUNDS	FEDERAL FUNDS	OTHER FUNDS		
ADMINISTRATION						
Personal Services	\$345,100	\$327,546	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$17,554
Operating Expenses	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL PROGRAM	\$345,100	\$327,546	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$17,554
WAREHOUSE						
Personal Services	\$277,030	\$114,725	\$0	\$89,906	\$0	\$72,399
Operating Expenses	\$77,296	\$52,531	\$0	\$21,929	\$0	\$2,836
TOTAL PROGRAM	\$354,326	\$167,256	\$0	\$111,834	\$0	\$75,236
FIXED UTILITY (Informational Budget)						
Personal Services	\$1,593,102	\$0	\$0	\$1,304,496	\$0	\$288,606
Operating Expenses	\$417,604	\$0	\$4,192	\$257,877	\$4,748	\$150,787
TOTAL PROGRAM	\$2,010,706	\$0	\$4,192	\$1,562,373	\$4,748	\$439,393
FILING FEES (Informational Budget)						
Personal Services	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$225,176	\$0	-\$225,176
Operating Expenses	\$885,466	\$0	\$0	\$437,197	\$0	\$448,269
TOTAL PROGRAM	\$885,466	\$0	\$0	\$662,373	\$0	\$223,093
PIPELINE SAFETY (Informational Budget)						
Personal Services	\$151,048	\$0	\$79,580	\$59,307	\$183	\$11,978
Operating Expenses	\$54,135	\$0	\$54,768	\$1,287	\$183	-\$2,103
TOTAL PROGRAM	\$205,183	\$0	\$134,348	\$60,594	\$366	\$9,875
ONE CALL NOTIFICATION (Informational Budget)						
Personal Services	\$11,307	\$0	\$0	\$12,657	\$0	-\$1,350
Operating Expenses	\$686,985	\$0	\$0	\$711,368	\$0	-\$24,383
TOTAL PROGRAM	\$698,292	\$0	\$0	\$724,025	\$0	-\$25,733
DO NOT CALL LIST (Informational Budget)						
Personal Services	\$26,218	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$26,218
Operating Expenses	\$22,100	\$0	\$0	\$8,119	\$0	\$13,981
TOTAL PROGRAM	\$48,318	\$0	\$0	\$8,119	\$0	\$40,199

Gross Receipts Tax Fund Revenues

Grain and Warehouse Licenses	\$ 103,123	Gross Receipts Tax	\$ 1,879,579
Check Off Audits	\$ 4,176	Application Fees	\$ 3,000
Interest Earned	\$ 8,848	Interest Earned	\$ 108,904
Total Revenue	\$ 116,147	Total Revenue	\$ 1,991,483

2010 YEAR IN REVIEW

2010 Leadership

Dusty Johnson, Chairman; Steve Kolbeck, Vice Chairman; Gary Hanson, Commissioner

2011 Leadership

Steve Kolbeck, Chairman; Gary Hanson, Vice Chairman; Chris Nelson, Commissioner

BROADBAND

- Public Utilities Commissioners Johnson, Kolbeck and Hanson and Gov. Mike Rounds met with members of the Federal Communications Commission in Washington, D.C., to discuss the proposed National Broadband Plan. The group stressed the need for the FCC to fully understand the effect the plan, in its current state, could have on South Dakota. Key points of the discussion focused on ensuring any changes to the current funding structure for small rural carriers will enable the carriers to continue to build on their successes and emphasizing the advantages of working with state commissions to ensure unserved and underserved areas receive access to broadband services.
- Commissioners participated as members of the Broadband Advisory Team that oversees the statewide broadband mapping project.

RENEWABLE ENERGY

- Approved PrairieWinds SD 1, the state's second-largest wind farm. The 162-megawatt wind farm will spread over parts of Jerauld, Aurora and Brule counties. Developer Basin Electric Power Cooperative is constructing 108 wind turbines and a 13-mile, 230 kilovolt transmission line and other associated facilities.
- Compiled the annual South Dakota Renewable, Recycled and Conserved Energy Objective report and submitted it to the state legislature. Companies reporting for 2009 collectively owned 507 megawatts of renewable generation capacity in South Dakota; retired 7,570 megawatt hours of renewable energy credits; and reported 8,014 MWh in conserved energy and 100 MW of conserved capacity, all in South Dakota.
- Hosted Energy Briefings for legislators in Rapid City, Sioux Falls, Watertown and Pierre. 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.

NEW LEGISLATION

- Shepherded the passage of Senate Bill 58 that revised existing statute to make the first \$50,000 of the assessed value of a small to medium renewable energy property, or 70 percent of the assessed value if that figure is greater, exempt from real property tax. The bill repealed 13 sections of the state tax code related to property tax reductions for small renewable systems.
- Drafted new legislation, Senate Bill 61, that requires electric utilities to file with the PUC their minimum rates for the purchase of electricity generated from renewable resources and produced by a facility that has a capacity of 100 kilowatts or less. Posted the rates on

the PUC Web site, www.puc.sd.gov, to allow the producer to easily review and compare rates to make an informed decision regarding the economics of a small renewable power facility.

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 Beresford, Bristol, Elk Point, Elkton, Hoven, Hurley, Lake Preston, Ludlow, Okreek, Revillo, Rockerville, Sioux Falls and Veblen.
- Monitored the transition between Alltel Wireless and AT&T. Held numerous discussions with AT&T officials throughout the process to advocate on behalf of South Dakota customers. Assisted dozens of consumers with questions related to the differing technologies the companies use, the dates of transition of service and selection of new wireless devices.

ELECTRIC

- Completed an extensive rate case process resulting a 12.7 percent increase in electric rates for retail customers of Black Hills Power. The increase represents about \$17 million less in annual revenues than the company requested. The company asked for a permanent increase of 26.6 percent. A PUC staff team of one attorney and five analysts logged more than 2,600 hours reviewing documents, requesting additional information, conducting meetings and analyzing data prior to the commission's decision. The staff team was assisted by two specialized consulting firms. The analysis included a review of Black Hills Power's integrated resource plan, submitted separately from the company's rate increase application. The plan described the company's course for meeting the future electricity demands of its customers and the resources it intends to use. The Black Hills Power rate case generated considerable public attention. The PUC held four public input meetings at which the commissioners listened to ratepayer concerns and addressed questions about the PUC's authority and the rate case process. Additionally, more than 200 written and verbal comments regarding the case were submitted to the PUC office.
- Approved the 300-megawatt Deer Creek Station power plant near White. Built by Basin Electric Power Cooperative, the plant will use natural gas combined-cycle technology to generate power to serve its member load requirements. Plant construction is expected to cost \$400 million; 30 full-time jobs are to be created by the plant.
- Conditionally approved an approximate 5.5 percent increase over current rates for Xcel Energy, the first base rate increase for the company in 17 years. Xcel requested a 10.7 percent rate increase to current rates. PUC staff and Xcel Energy had previously reached a settlement stipulation for a slightly higher increase, but commissioners unanimously voted to remove costs related to a development fund mandated by the Minnesota Legislature that had been a part of the recommended rate increase.
- Hired three staff members with federal funding provided by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. The two utility analysts and one attorney complete assignments

related to electric issues only, such as rate cases, transmission siting cases and regional transmission projects. The ARRA-funded staff has a three-year employment commitment.

- Commissioners and staff continued active participation in several transmission cost allocation planning groups including:
 - Organization of MISO States' Cost Allocation and Regional Planning workgroup – Had a key role in developing methodology that was approved by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission methodology that was approved by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission for transmission projects that have a regional impact and are part of a regional plan to have a 100 percent regional allocation of costs.
 - Upper Midwest Transmission Development Initiative – Identified six renewable energy transmission corridors aimed at connecting more than 15,000 MW of wind development in the region (South Dakota, North Dakota, Iowa, Minnesota and Wisconsin). If built, the corridors would provide for reliability and transmission congestion relief in addition to renewable energy benefits. The group's proactive approach provided a favorable position for future transmission projects with relation to the cost allocation methodology approved by FERC.
 - Eastern Interconnect States' Planning Council – Continued working with counterparts from 40 states to strategize regional planning and cost allocation efforts.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

- Deemed 42 telecommunications companies as eligible to collectively receive millions of dollars in high cost support from the federal Universal Service Fund for maintaining, upgrading and building out their networks in South Dakota in 2011. The Universal Service Administration Company estimates companies invested more than \$97 million in USF monies for high cost support in South Dakota in 2009.
- Obtained and commenced execution on a default judgment in the amount of \$860,760 against S&S Communications and Les Sumption for customer losses related to S&S's insolvency and cessation of operations. The commission previously obtained \$550,000 in customer loss offsets in the form of cash from bonds and other security required of S&S by the commission and loan and lease forgivenesses from three lending institutions that had loaned money against pre-paid service contracts. Since 2003, the PUC's aggressive action in this case on behalf of consumers has included pursuing bond payments, negotiating loan forgiveness, imposing fines on S&S Communications, prohibiting the company from offering prepaid services, and revoking their certificate of authority.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY

- Motivated 2,460 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 \$1.13 million, 9.4 million kilowatt hours and more than 10 billion Btus.
- Hosted two utility energy efficiency workshops with full participation from investor-owned utilities.

- Approved updated energy efficiency plans by investor-owned utilities that offer cost and energy savings to customers:
 - MidAmerican Energy Co. – Programs for electric and natural gas customers are proposed to save more than 836,000 kilowatt hours and 267,000 therms in 2010 alone.
 - Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. – Natural gas customers participating in the programs are expected to collectively save more than 197,000 therms.
 - Otter Tail Power Co. – The updated plan reflects an 80 percent increase in savings compared to the previous plan and is expected to save more than 2.1 million kilowatt hours by 2011.
- Commissioners and staff participated in an energy-efficiency work project at the home of Kevin and Kelly Nelson in Brookings. The Nelsons represented South Dakota in the 30-60-90 Day Challenge, a national contest to determine which participant conserved the most energy during a three-month period. The work team swapped high-energy-use incandescent light bulbs with energy-efficient compact fluorescent lights, insulated the water heater, added caulk around windows and installed a barrier around a leaking window.
- Participated in the South Dakota Energy Codes Workgroup formed by Gov. Rounds. The workgroup developed recommendations and a compliance plan to satisfy a federal requirement that buildings in South Dakota meet certain commercial and residential energy codes within eight years.

GRAIN WAREHOUSE

- Issued more than 300 licenses and performed 340 inspections at licensed locations.
- Renegotiated contracts for PUC inspectors to perform check-off audits on behalf of various grain councils and commissions.
- Began using Examhand, a software and audit tool specifically designed for inspections of grain handling facilities. The software enhances proficiency and accuracy of audits performed by staff and assists in converting bushels to dollars to better determine the working capital position of the licensee on the day of the inspection.
- Welcomed home staff member and South Dakota National Guard soldier Justin Blais, who safely returned to the state after serving a year in Kuwait with the 1st Battalion of the 147th Field Artillery out of Watertown.
- Continued monitoring activities related to VeraSun’s bankruptcy. Disseminated information via the PUC Web site about demand for repayment of a bankruptcy preference from VeraSun’s organized debtors.

LEADERSHIP

- Commissioner Steve Kolbeck was named president of the Mid-America Regulatory Conference, an organization comprised of regulatory utility commissioners from a 15-state region.

- In November, Commissioner Steve Kolbeck was voted by his fellow commissioners to serve as commission chairman. Commissioner Gary Hanson was elected vice chairman.
- In December, Gov.-Elect Dennis Daugaard announced the upcoming appointment of Chris Nelson to the PUC. Nelson's appointment fills an expected vacancy on the commission when Commissioner Dusty Johnson announced he would accept a position as Gov.-Elect Daugaard's chief of staff and not serve a second term on the commission.

PIPELINE SITING, SAFETY AND INSPECTION

- Continued monitoring 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. The pipeline was fully operational in June.
- Granted a permit, with 50 conditions, for the construction of the Keystone XL Pipeline in western South Dakota. Among the conditions with which Keystone must comply are filing an emergency response plan and an integrity management program with the commission prior to putting the pipeline into operation; making repair, replacement or compensation to landowners for property damage or loss; filing a \$15.6 million bond with the commission in 2010 and a second \$15.6 million bond in 2011 to ensure road damage beyond normal wear and tear that occurs during construction of the pipeline is repaired; performing reclamation and maintenance of the right-of-way throughout the life of the pipeline; appointing an independent public liaison officer, to be approved by the commission, to work with landowners and the PUC to resolve complaints and share information. The PUC further assisted landowners and others with questions about the proposed pipeline, before and after the commission's decision.
- No reportable pipeline safety incidents occurred on jurisdictional pipelines in the state. Reportable incidents include, but are not limited to, events involving a release of gas from a pipeline where death, injury or \$50,000 or more of property damage occurs. Jurisdictional pipelines typically start at the gas connection to a town and end at the outlet of each individual house meter.
- Participated in a public awareness effort in concert with South Dakota One Call to promote safe digging. Media announcements, consumer education and outreach activities were tools used to remind South Dakotans to call 811 before digging to preserve personal safety and underground utilities.

PUBLIC OUTREACH AND CONSUMER ASSISTANCE

- Assisted consumers on more than 2,800 occasions with issues and complaints related to electric, natural gas, telecommunications (including wireless), energy efficiency and other utility-related topics.
- Conducted personal consumer outreach at home shows in Sioux Falls and Rapid City; and fairs in Aberdeen, Sioux Falls and Huron. Commissioners and staff met with nearly 4,000 consumers to answer questions about utility issues and promote energy efficiency, Lifeline and Link-Up telephone assistance programs and the Do Not Call Registry.

- Affected a 5 percent increase in the amount of South Dakota telephone numbers on Do Not Call registry to 565,167.
- Assisted the state's Emergency Operations Center during the January ice storm that resulted in significant power and telecommunications outages affecting thousands of South Dakotans.
- Aided a group of consumers in negotiating a settlement with their utility provider regarding excessive bills that resulted from meter errors. Discussion and research provided the foundation for staff to open a rule making docket to further study the appropriate allocation of costs for faulty meters.

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.

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, September 2010

- South Dakota: \$8.86
- West North Central Region (Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska , North Dakota, South Dakota): \$9.66
- United States: \$11.60

Measurement, Average Residential Natural Gas Rate, per thousand cubic feet, 2009

- South Dakota: \$9.14
- West North Central Region (Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska , North Dakota, South Dakota): \$10.33
- United States: \$12.14

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, 2010

- Completed dockets: 29
- Uncompleted dockets: 8
- Percentage completed: 78%

(The uncompleted dockets for 2010 include several that typically require a longer, more intensive review such as rate cases (Otter Tail Power Co.), siting (CAPX transmission), and cost recovery (Otter Tail Power Co., Xcel 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 overturned by judicial order is an assessment of the manner in which the commission perceives and uses its regulatory authority.

Measurement, 2010

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 2010 scores compared to National 2009 average

Of the 18 scores provided to the PUC by South Dakota's six investor-owned utilities (three scores provided by each company), 14 ranked below the national average and only four scores were 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 processors and non-storage facilities.

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

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, 2010

Grain warehouse and grain buyer inspections: 340 inspections at 261 licensed locations (130%)

Licenses

The PUC issues two types of licenses for grain buyers/grain warehouses doing business in the state. Each licensed entity is required to apply for renewal annually. As part of the licensing and renewal process, the commission analyzes 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, 2010

- Class A Licenses (entities that use voluntary credit sale contracts or exceed \$10,000,000 in annual purchases): 129 entities with 252 locations
- Class B Licenses (entities that do not use voluntary credit sale contracts and do not exceed \$10,000,000 in annual purchases): 55 entities with 56 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, 2010

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, 2010

Inspections: 122.5 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 2010 is a 50/50 weighted average of the percentage score for the 2008 field audit and the 2010 certification document submittal. The highest possible score is 100 and the lowest score for any state reported in 2010 was 90. This audit score affects the funding South Dakota will receive for calendar year 2011.

Measurement, reported in 2010

Audit score: 98.7 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 through 2010

- Program Manager: Six of six required courses plus eight elective courses completed.
- Inspector: Two of six required courses completed. (A new inspector, hired in July 2010, is enrolled in 11 courses in the first half of 2011.)
- 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 can have underground facilities located by calling 811 to reach the One Call notification center. The center will contact the appropriate facility operators

who are responsible to accurately mark the underground facilities affected. Parties failing to comply with the statutes and administrative rules that govern the 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 it is received. Queue times indicate the capability of the system's representatives to understand and appropriately react to the locate requests, affecting the timeline by which the excavator may proceed with their activity.

Measurement, 2010

Average time in queue: 59.08 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, 2010

Call tickets: 597,423

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, 2010

Complaints: 9

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, 2010

- Completed dockets: 95
- Uncompleted dockets: 8
- Percentage completed: 92%

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, 2010

Overtured dockets: None

Line Count 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, 2009

Line count per population: 1.26

CONSUMER AFFAIRS

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

consumers on the registry and investigating violations against consumers who are on the registry.

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

Complaints Completed within a Month

Consumer complaints are received by the commission via phone, 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, 2010

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, 2010

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, 2010

South Dakota telephone numbers on Do Not Call Registry: 565,167 (5% increase over 2009)

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	\$953,546
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Telecommunications Companies	\$774,056
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The sum of these figures does not correspond with the Gross Receipts Tax Revenues reported on page 8 due to timing issues. Revenues are based on 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.
360networks (USA) inc.

LONG DISTANCE TELEPHONE COMPANIES (cont.)

800 Response Information Services LLC

AccessLine Communications Corp.

Access One Inc.

Access Point Inc.

ACN Communication Services Inc.

Affinity Network Inc. dba QuantumLink Communications
dba HorizonOne Communications

Airespring Inc.

Airnex Communications Inc.

Alliance Communications Cooperative, Inc.

Alliance Global Networks LLC

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

Alticom 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.

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

Caribbean Telephone and Telegraph Inc.

Central Telecom Long Distance Inc.

Ciera Network Systems Inc.

Cincinnati Bell Any Distance Inc. fka BroadWing Telecommunications Inc.

LONG DISTANCE TELEPHONE COMPANIES (cont.)

Coast International Inc.
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.
Crexendo Business Solutions 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.
DSLnet Communications LLC

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.
Enventis 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.

Global Capacity Group Inc.
Global Crossing North American Networks Inc.
Global Crossing Telecommunications Inc.
Global Tel*Link Corp.

LONG DISTANCE TELEPHONE COMPANIES (cont.)

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.
iNetworks Group Inc.
Integra Telecom of South Dakota Inc.
Integrated Services Inc.
Intelepeer 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
Liberty-Bell Telecom LLC dba DISH Network Phone & Internet
Lightyear Network Solutions LLC
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.
Metropolitan Telecommunications of South Dakota Inc.
Midcontinent Communications Inc.
Midstate Communications Inc.

LONG DISTANCE TELEPHONE COMPANIES (cont.)

Midstate Telecom Inc.

Mitel NetSolutions Inc. fka Inter-Tel NetSolutions Inc.

Mobilitie LLC

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.

Netwolves Network Services fka Norstan Network Services Inc.

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.

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.

PaeTec Communications Inc.

LONG DISTANCE TELEPHONE COMPANIES (cont.)

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.

Pulse Telecom LLC

Public Communications Services Inc.

Quantumshift Communications Inc. dba Vcom Solutions

Qwest Communications Corp.

Qwest LD Corp. dba Qwest Long Distance

RC Communications INC dba RC Services

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.

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 North America Inc.

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

Telenational Communications Inc.

Telrite Corp.

Three River Telco dba Three River Long Distance

TON Services Inc.

Total Call International Inc.

Total Holdings dba GTC Communications

Total National Telecommunications Inc. dba Total World Telecom

Touchtone Communications Inc.

LONG DISTANCE TELEPHONE COMPANIES (cont.)

Trans National Communications International Inc.

Transamerica Telecom Inc.

TRI-M Communications Inc. dba TMC Communications

TrioTel Communications Inc.

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

Velocity The Greatest Phone Company Ever Inc.

Verizon Enterprise Solutions LLC fka NYNEX Long Distance Co.

Verizon Long Distance LLC fka Bell Atlantic Communications Inc.

Verizon Select Services Inc.

Voicecom Telecommunications LLC fka Premiere Communications Inc.

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.

Pay Tel Communications Inc.

Reliance Telephone Systems Inc. (correctional facilities)

Securus Technologies Inc.

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.

COMPETITIVE LOCAL EXCHANGE COMPANIES (cont.)

American Fiber Network Inc. dba AFN Inc.
AT&T Communications of the Midwest Inc.
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
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.
Crexendo Business Solutions Inc.
CVC CLEC LLC

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

Entelegent Solutions Inc.
Enventis Telecom 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.
Intelepeer Inc.
Ionex Communications North Inc. dba Birch Communications

COMPETITIVE LOCAL EXCHANGE COMPANIES (cont.)

Kentucky Data Link Inc.

Knology of the Black Hills LLC fka PrairieWave Black Hills LLC

Knology of the Plains Inc. fka PrairieWave Telecommunications Inc.

Level 3 Communications LLC

Liberty-Bell Telecom LLC dba DISH Network Phone & Internet

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.

Metropolitan Telecommunications of South Dakota Inc.

Midcontinent Communications

Midstate Telecom Inc.

Mitel NetSolutions Inc. fka Inter-Tel NetSolutions Inc.

Mobilitie LLC

Momentum Telecom Inc.

Net Talk.Com Inc.

Neutral Tandem-South Dakota LLC

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.

COMPETITIVE LOCAL EXCHANGE COMPANIES (cont.)

UCN Inc.

Vanco Direct USA LLC

VCI Co.

Velocity The Greatest Phone Company Ever LLC

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

Affinity Mobile LLC dba Trumpet Mobile

Alliance Communications Cooperative Inc.

American Messaging Services LLC fka 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.

Conexions LLC dba Conexion Wireless

Golden West Technologies Inc. (paging)

Hills Telephone Company Inc. dba Alliance Communications

Ionex Communications North Inc.

i-Wireless

Iowa Wireless Services LLC dba i Wireless

James Valley Wireless LLC

KDDI America Inc.

Long Lines Wireless LLC

WIRELESS COMPANIES (cont.)

MCIMetro Access Transmission Services LLC dba Verizon Access Transmission Services
Midco Communications Inc. nka Midcontinent Communications
Midwest Wireless Communications LLC
Mitel NetSolutions Inc. fka InterTel NetSolutions Inc.

New Cell Inc.
NYNEX Long Distance Co. dba Verizon Enterprise Solutions

OnStar Corp. dba OEM Telematics Services

Pierre Radio Paging & Telephone Inc.

RCC Minnesota and Wireless Alliance dba RCC Minnesota Inc.
Rural Cellular Corp. aka Glacial Cellular 2000 dba Unicel

Software Cellular Network (North America) dba Truphone
Standing Rock Sioux Tribe dba Standing Rock Telecom

Total Call Mobile Inc
Touchtone Communications Inc.
Triarch Marketing Inc. dba Triarch Communications
tw telecom data services llc

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, RSA 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. dba Credo Long Distance

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 29) in different service areas.

Independents

Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe Telephone Authority

Fort Randall Telephone Co.

Hills Telephone Co. Inc. dba Alliance Communications

Jefferson Telephone LLC dba Long Lines Ltd.

Kennebec Telephone Co.

Knology Community Telephone Inc. fka PrairieWave Community Telephone Inc.

Qwest Corp.

RC Communications Inc. dba RC Services

Splitrock Properties Inc. dba Alliance Communications

Stockholm-Strandburg Telephone Co. dba ITC

Tri-County Telcom Inc.

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

Midstate Communications Inc.

LOCAL TELEPHONE COMPANIES (cont.)

Cooperatives (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

2010 DOCKET STATUS REGISTER

Docketed Consumer Complaints (year end)		
	Opened	Resolved
Telecommunications	0	1
Electric	2	2
Natural Gas	2	3
Total Consumer Contacts for 2010: 2,537		

Docketed Cases (year end)			
	Opened	Closed	Pending
Telecommunications	99	104	4
Civil	2	0	2
Electric	17	21	5
Gas and Electric	1	1	0
Grain Warehouse	0	1	0
Hydrocarbon	0	1	0
Miscellaneous	0	0	0
Natural Gas	11	11	0
One Call	10	10	0
Pipeline Safety	3	7	1
Rulemaking	1	0	1
Total	144	156	13

Dockets closed between Dec. 31, 2010, and the publication date of this report are noted in parentheses.

Civil Cases

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

Civ10-651 - The State of South Dakota v. Loewenberg Technologies, Inc.
Date Filed: 02/19/10 Pending (Refer to Docket OC09-005)

Civ10-86 - The State of South Dakota v. Mark Seifkes d/b/a S.P.O.T.
Date Filed: 07/20/10 Pending (Refer to Docket OC09-002)

Consumer Complaints

Electric

CE10-001 - In the Matter of the Complaint Filed by Convenient Loan, Sioux Falls, South Dakota, Against Xcel Energy Regarding a Billing Dispute
Date Filed: 05/06/10 Closed: 10/29/10

CE10-002 - In the Matter of the Complaint Filed by Kathleen Soesbe, Springfield, South Dakota, Against NorthWestern Energy Regarding a Billing Dispute
Date Filed: 07/30/10 Closed: 10/29/10

Natural Gas

CN10-001 - In the Matter of the Complaint filed by Jeff Danz/Zanbroz Variety., Sioux Falls, South Dakota, against MidAmerican Energy Company Regarding a Billing Dispute
Date Filed: 01/11/10 Closed: 04/08/10

CN10-002 - In the Matter of the Complaint filed by Lois Deneui, Lennox, South Dakota, against MidAmerican Energy Company Regarding a Billing Dispute
Date Filed: 01/22/10 Closed: 04/08/10

Electric Dockets

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

EL10-001 - In the Matter of the Application of Black Hills Power, Inc. for Approval of its Electric Cost Adjustment

Date Filed: 01/27/10 Closed: 03/01/10

EL10-002 - In the Matter of the Filing of Xcel Energy for Approval of its 2009 Economic Development Activities and 2010 Budget

Date Filed: 03/22/10 Closed: 05/10/10

EL10-003 - In the Matter of the Request of Xcel Energy to Take Action Prohibiting the Operation of Aggregators of Retail Customers in South Dakota

Date Filed: 03/29/10 Closed: 06/24/10

EL10-004 - In the Matter of the Filing by NorthWestern Corporation, d/b/a NorthWestern Energy for Approval of a Contract with Deviations

Date Filed: 04/20/10 Closed: 05/21/10

EL10-005 - In the Matter of the Petition of Otter Tail Power Company for Extension of Test Period

Date Filed: 05/17/10 Closed: 06/16/10

EL10-006 - In the Matter of the Filing by Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. for Approval of Tariff Revisions

Date Filed: 06/04/10 Closed: 08/12/10

EL10-007 - In the Matter of the Filing by Otter Tail Power Company Regarding Its 2010 and 2011 Energy Efficiency Plan Update

Date Filed: 06/16/10 Closed: 08/02/10

EL10-008 - In the Matter of the Filing by NorthWestern Corporation dba NorthWestern Energy for Approval of Tariff Revisions

Date Filed: 06/29/10 Closed: 08/27/10

EL10-009 - In the Matter of the Filing by MidAmerican Energy Company for Approval of its Tariff Revisions

Date Filed: 07/14/10 Closed: 09/17/10

EL10-010 - In the Matter of the Filing by NorthWestern Corporation dba NorthWestern Energy for a Contract with Deviations

Date Filed: 07/20/10 Closed: 08/02/10

EL10-011 - In the Matter of the Application of Otter Tail Power Company for Authority to Increase Rates for Electric Service in South Dakota

Date Filed: 08/20/10 Pending

Electric Dockets (cont.)

EL10-012 - In the Matter of the Petition of Northern States Power Company dba Xcel Energy Regarding the 2011 Environmental Cost Recovery Rider and 2010 ECR Tracker Report
Date Filed: 09/03/10 Pending

EL10-013 - In the Matter of the Petition of TSP Sioux Falls LLC Requesting a Formal Interpretation and Decision Regarding Metering Requirements for Renovations
Date Filed: 09/22/10 Closed: 09/29/10

EL10-014 - In the Matter of the Petition of Northern States Power Company dba Xcel Energy for Approval of its 2011 Transmission Cost Recovery Eligibility and Rate Adjustment
Date Filed: 10/06/10 Pending

EL10-015 - In the Matter of the Petition of Otter Tail Power Company to Establish a Transmission Cost Recovery Tariff
Date Filed: 11/05/10 Pending

EL10-016 - In the Matter of the Application of Great River Energy and Northern States Power Company d/b/a Xcel Energy for a Permit to Construct a 10.6 Mile, 345 kV Transmission Line (CapX2020) in Brookings County Near White, South Dakota
Date Filed: 11/23/10 Pending

EL10-017 - In the Matter of the Filing by Otter Tail Power Company for Approval of Tariff Revisions
Date Filed: 11/30/10 *(Closed: 01/13/11)*

Gas and Electric Docket

GE10-001 - In the Matter of the Filing by MidAmerican Energy Company for Approval of its Approval of its Reconciliation for 2009 and its Proposed Energy Efficiency Plan for 2010
Date Filed: 02/19/10 Closed: 04/07/10

Natural Gas Dockets

NG10-001 - In the Matter of the Filing by Montana Dakota Utilities Co. for Approval for a Variance of its Purchased Gas Cost Adjustment Rate 88 and Associated Tariff Revisions
Date Filed: 02/02/10 Closed: 02/12/10

NG10-002 - In the Matter of the Filing by MidAmerican Energy Company for Approval of Its 2009 Economic Development Activities and 2010 Proposed Budget
Date Filed: 04/07/10 Closed: 06/23/10

NG10-003 - In the Matter of the Filing by NorthWestern Corporation dba NorthWestern Energy for Approval of a Contract with Deviations
Date Filed: 06/09/10 Closed: 06/16/10

Natural Gas Dockets (cont.)

NG10-004 - In the Matter of the Filing by NorthWestern Corporation dba NorthWestern Energy for Approval of a Contract with Deviations
Date Filed: 06/09/10 Closed: 06/30/10

NG10-005 - In the Matter of the Filing by NorthWestern Corporation dba NorthWestern Energy for Approval of a Contract with Deviations
Date Filed: 06/09/10 Closed: 06/30/10

NG10-006 - In the Matter of the Filing by NorthWestern Corporation dba NorthWestern Energy for Approval of a Contract with Deviations
Date Filed: 06/09/10 Closed: 06/30/10

NG10-007 - In the Matter of the Filing by NorthWestern Energy for Approval of its Tariff Revisions
Date Filed: 08/26/10 Closed: 10/06/10

NG10-008 - In the Matter of the Filing by MidAmerican Energy Company for Approval of Continuation of the Incentive Gas Supply Procurement Plan
Date Filed: 09/03/10 Closed: 11/16/10

NG10-009 - In the Matter of the Filing by Montana Dakota Utilities Co. for Approval of its Revised Conservation Tracking Adjustment
Date Filed: 10/01/10 Closed: 10/29/10

NG10-010 - In the Matter of the Filing by MidAmerican Energy Company for Approval of a Refund Plan
Date Filed: 11/02/10 Closed: 11/30/10

NG10-011- In the Matter of the Filing by Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. for Approval of Tariff Revisions
Date Filed: 12/02/10 *(Closed: 01/05/11)*

One Call Dockets

OC10-001 - In the Matter of a Complaint Filed by Northern Natural Gas Company, Harrisburg, South Dakota, Against Zwak Excavation, Sioux Falls, South Dakota
Date Filed: 02/11/10 Closed: 12/02/10

OC10-002 - In the Matter of the Petition of South Dakota Association of Rural Water Systems for a Declaratory Ruling
Date Filed: 05/19/10 Closed: 10/19/10

One Call Dockets (cont.)

OC10-003 - In the Matter of the Complaint Filed by Northern Natural Gas Company, Omaha, Nebraska, Against Coastal Technical Service, Virginia Beach, Virginia
Date Filed: 06/11/10 Closed: 10/01/10

OC10-004 - In the Matter of the Complaint Filed by Northern Natural Gas Company, Omaha, Nebraska Against Earthscope, Washington, D.C.
Date Filed: 06/29/10 Closed: 12/02/10

OC10-005 - In the Matter of the Complaint Filed by NorthWestern Energy, Huron, South Dakota, Against Rexwinkle Concrete, Corsica, South Dakota
Date Filed: 09/10/10 (*Closed: 02/18/11*)

OC10-006 - In the Matter of the Complaint Filed by NorthWestern Energy, Huron, South Dakota, Against Scott Olson Digging, Inc., Huron, South Dakota
Date Filed: 09/13/10 (*Closed: 02/18/11*)

OC10-007 - In the Matter of the Complaint Filed by NorthWestern Energy, Huron, South Dakota, Against Scott Olson Digging, Inc., Huron, South Dakota
Date Filed: 09/13/10 (*Closed: 02/18/11*)

OC10-008 - In the Matter of the Complaint Filed by NorthWestern Energy, Huron, South Dakota, Against Scott Olson Digging, Inc., Huron, South Dakota
Date Filed: 09/13/10 (*Closed: 02/18/11*)

OC10-009 - In the Matter of the Complaint filed by Otter Tail Power Company, Fergus Falls, Minnesota, Against Robert Kohl Construction, Peever, South Dakota
Date Filed: 11/29/10 (*Closed: 02/18/11*)

OC10-010 - In the Matter of the Complaint Filed by Watertown Municipal Utilities, Watertown, South Dakota, Against Stromseth Construction, Watertown, South Dakota
Date Filed: 12/03/10 (*Closed: 02/18/11*)

Pipeline Safety Dockets

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

PS10-001- In the Matter of the Filing by Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. for Approval of a Waiver of 49 C.F.R. Sections 192.285(a)(2) and 192.285(c)
Date Filed: 03/23/10 Closed: 06/25/10

PS10-002 - In the Matter of the Filing by Commission Pipeline Safety Staff Regarding Damage Prevention Programs
Date Filed: 06/03/10 Pending

Pipeline Safety Dockets (cont.)

PS10-003 - In the Matter of the Complaint by Pipeline Safety Staff against South Dakota Natural Gas Company for Violations of 49 CFR 192
Date Filed: 09/02/10 Closed: 10/18/10

Rulemaking Docket

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

RM10-001 - In the Matter of the Request to Amend Rules Regarding ARSD Chapter 20:10:17 Gas and Electric Customer Billing
Date Filed: 04/06/10 Pending

Telecommunications Dockets

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

TC10-001 - In the Matter of the Application of IntelPeer, Inc. for a Certificate of Authority to Provide Interexchange Telecommunications Services and Local Exchange Services in South Dakota
Date Filed: 01/08/10 Closed: 02/11/10

TC10-002 - In the Matter of the Filing by Digital Telecommunications Inc. for Approval of its Switched Access Services Tariff No 1
Date Filed: 01/13/10 Closed: 03/26/10

TC10-003 - In the Matter of the Application of Broadview Networks Inc. for a Certificate of Authority to Provide Interexchange Telecommunications Services and Local Exchange Services in South Dakota
Date Filed: 01/13/10 Closed: 03/01/10

TC10-004 - In the Matter of the Application of Enventis Telecom, Inc. for a Certificate of Authority to Provide Local Exchange Telecommunications Services in South Dakota
Date Filed: 01/15/10 Closed: 03/01/10

TC10-005 - In the Matter of Telecare Inc. Failure to Pay the Gross Receipts Tax
Date Filed: 01/20/10 Closed: 03/23/10

TC10-006 - In the Matter of Netlojix Telecom Inc. Failure to Submit a Report and Pay the Gross Receipts Tax
Date Filed: 01/20/10 Closed: 03/23/10

TC10-007 - In the Matter of Ztar Mobile Inc. Failure to Pay the Gross Receipts Tax
Date Filed: 01/20/10 Closed: 03/23/10

TC10-008 - In the Matter of Hawk Relay LLC Failure to Submit a Report and Pay the Gross Receipts Tax
Date Filed: 01/20/10 Closed: 03/23/10

Telecommunications Dockets (cont.)

TC10-009 - In the Matter of New Century Telecom Inc.'s Failure to Submit a Report and Pay the Gross Receipts Tax

Date Filed: 01/20/10 Closed: 03/23/10

TC10-010 - In the Matter of VCI Company's Failure to Submit a Report and Pay the Gross Receipts Tax

Date Filed: 01/20/10 Closed: 03/23/10

TC10-011 - In the Matter of Network US, Inc. d/b/a CA Affinity's Failure to Pay the Gross Receipts Tax

Date Filed: 01/20/10 Closed: 03/26/10

TC10-012 - In the Matter of Global Capacity Group Inc.'s Failure to Pay the Gross Receipts Tax

Date Filed: 01/20/10 Closed: 03/23/10

TC10-013 - In the Matter of Norstan Network Services Inc.'s Failure to Pay the Gross Receipts Tax

Date Filed: 01/20/10 Closed: 03/23/10

TC10-014 - In the Matter of the Investigation of Pricing Regulation for Switched Access Services Provided by Competitive Local Exchange Carriers

Date Filed: 01/27/10 Closed: 05/04/10

TC10-015 - In the Matter of the Filing by IntelePeer, Inc. for Approval of its Switched Access Services Tariff No. 1

Date Filed: 01/27/10 Closed: 05/25/10

TC10-016 - In the Matter of the Filing for Approval of an Interconnection Agreement between Qwest Corporation and Eventis Telecom, Inc.

Date Filed: 02/05/10 Closed: 03/26/10

TC10-017 - In the Matter of the Application of Neutral Tandem-South Dakota, LLC for a Certificate of Authority to Provide Facilities-Based and Resold Local Exchange and Interexchange Telecommunications Services in South Dakota

Date Filed: 02/11/10 Closed: 06/03/10

TC10-018 - In the Matter of the Filing for an Approval of an Interconnection Agreement between Golden West Telecommunications Cooperative, Inc. and Native American Telecom, Inc.

Date Filed: 02/11/10 Closed: 03/26/10

Telecommunications Dockets (cont.)

TC10-019- In the Matter of the Filing by Verizon Long Distance LLC for Approval of Relief of its Certification Requirement to Post Indemnity Bond

Date Filed: 03/05/10 Closed: 04/15/10

TC10-020- In the Matter of the Filing by Verizon Enterprise Solutions LLC for Approval of Relief of its Certification Requirement to Post Indemnity Bond

Date Filed: 03/05/10 Closed: 04/15/10

TC10-021 - In the Matter of the Filing for Approval of an Amendment to an Interconnection Agreement Between Qwest Corporation and AT&T Communications of the Midwest, Inc.

Date Filed: 03/12/10 Closed: 05/21/10

TC10-022 - In the Matter of the Application of South Dakota Network, LLC for a Certificate of Authority to Provide Competitive Local Exchange Service in Qwest Service Areas

Date Filed: 03/26/10 Closed: 04/30/10

TC10-023 In the Matter of the Application of Pay Tel Communications, Inc. for a Certificate of Authority to Provide Alternative Operator Services in South Dakota

Date Filed: 04/08/10 Closed: 08/25/10

TC10-024 - In the Matter of the Filing by Qwest Corporation for Approval of its Request to Consolidate the Spearfish, Lead, Deadwood, and Whitewood Rate Centers

Date Filed: 04/26/10 Closed: 05/25/10

TC10-025 - In the Matter of the Request of Jefferson Telephone Company for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support

Date Filed: 05/04/10 Closed: 09/24/10

TC10-026 - In the Matter of the Complaint Filed by Sprint Communications Company, LP Against Native American Telecom, LLC Regarding Telecommunication Services

Date Filed: 05/04/10 Pending

TC10-027 - In the Matter of Qwest's Performance Assurance Plan Final Report

Date Filed: 05/06/10 Pending

TC10-028 - In the Matter of the Filing for Approval of a Wireless Interconnection Agreement between West River Telecommunications Cooperative and Standing Rock Telecommunications, Inc.

Date Filed: 05/06/10 Closed: 06/16/10

TC10-029 - In the Matter of the Filing for Approval of a Wireline Interconnection Agreement Between MCC Telephony of the Midwest, LLC and Brookings Municipal Utilities, d/b/a Swiftel Communications for the State of South Dakota

Date Filed: 05/14/10 Closed: 06/24/10

Telecommunications Dockets (cont.)

TC10-030 - In the Matter of the Request of Kennebec Telephone Company for Certification Regarding Its Use of Federal Universal Service Support
Date Filed: 05/18/10 Closed: 09/24/10

TC10-031 - In the Matter of the Filing for Approval of a Wireline Interconnection Agreement Between Qwest Corporation and Neutral Tandem, Inc. for the State of South Dakota
Date Filed: 05/19/10 Closed: 06/24/10

TC10-032 - In the Matter of the Filing for Approval of an Opt-in Wireline Interconnection Agreement Between Qwest Corporation and Triarch Marketing, Inc. dba Triarch Communications for the State of South Dakota
Date Filed: 05/19/10 Closed: 06/24/10

TC10-033 - In the Matter of the Request of RT Communications, Inc. for Certification Regarding Its Use of Federal Universal Service Support
Date Filed: 05/19/10 Closed: 09/24/10

TC10-034 - In the Matter of the Filing for Approval of a Wireline Interconnection Agreement Between Qwest Corporation and Greenfly Networks, Inc. dba Clearly Communications for the State of South Dakota
Date Filed: 05/19/10 Closed: 06/24/10

TC10-035 - In the Matter of the Filing for Approval of a Four-Party Transit Traffic Amendment to the Wireline Interconnection Agreement Between Qwest Corporation and Neutral Tandem, Inc. for the State of South Dakota
Date Filed: 05/20/10 Closed: 06/24/10

TC10-036 - In the Matter of the Filing for Approval of an Originated Toll Free Service Jointly Provided Switched Access Amendment to the Wireline Interconnection Agreement Between Qwest Corporation and Neutral Tandem, Inc. for the State of South Dakota
Date Filed: 05/20/10 Closed: 06/24/10

TC10-037 - In the Matter of the Request of Western Telephone Company for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support
Date Filed: 05/24/10 Closed: 09/24/10

TC10-038 - In the Matter of the Request of Venture Communications Cooperative for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support
Date Filed: 05/24/10 Closed: 09/24/10

TC10-039 - In the Matter of the Request of West River Cooperative Telephone Company for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support
Date Filed: 05/24/10 Closed: 09/24/10

Telecommunications Dockets (cont.)

TC10-040 - In the Matter of the Request of Beresford Municipal Telephone Company for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support
Date Filed: 05/24/10 Closed: 09/24/10

TC10-041 - In the Matter of the Request of Golden West Telecommunications Cooperative, Inc. Study Area Codes: 391640, 391659, 391667, 391677, 391684 and 391689 for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support
Date Filed: 05/24/10 Closed: 09/24/10

TC10-042 - 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: 05/24/10 Closed: 09/24/10

TC10-043 - In the Matter of the Request of SSTELECOM, Inc. dba ITC for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support
Date Filed: 05/25/10 Closed: 09/24/10

TC10-044 - In the Matter of the Request of Stockholm-Strandburg Telephone Company dba ITC for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support
Date Filed: 05/25/10 Closed: 09/24/10

TC10-045 - In the Matter of the Request of Interstate Telecommunications Cooperative, Inc. for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support
Date Filed: 05/25/10 Closed: 09/24/10

TC10-046 - In the Matter of the Application of tw telecom data services llc for a Certificate of Authority for Telecommunication Services in South Dakota
Date Filed: 05/25/10 Closed: 07/13/10

TC10-047 - 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: 05/25/10 Closed: 09/24/10

TC10-048 - In the Matter of the Request of Valley Telecommunications Cooperative Association, Inc. for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support
Date Filed: 05/26/10 Closed: 09/24/10

TC10-049 - In the Matter of the Request of Long Lines Wireless, LLC for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support
Date Filed: 05/26/10 Closed: 09/24/10

Telecommunications Dockets (cont.)

TC10-050 - In the Matter of the Request of City of Faith Municipal Telephone Company for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support
Date Filed: 05/27/10 Closed: 09/24/10

TC10-051- In the Matter of the Request of Alliance Communications Cooperative, Inc. for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support
Date Filed: 05/27/10 Closed: 09/24/10

TC10-052 - In the Matter of the Request of Hills Telephone Company, Inc. for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support
Date Filed: 05/27/10 Closed: 09/24/10

TC10-053 - In the Matter of the Request of Splitrock Properties, Inc. for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support
Date Filed: 05/27/10 Closed: 09/24/10

TC10-054 - In the Matter of the Request of RCC Minnesota, Inc. for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support
Date Filed: 05/27/10 Closed: 09/24/10

TC10-055 - In the Matter of the Request of James Valley Cooperative Telephone Company for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support
Date Filed: 05/27/10 Closed: 09/24/10

TC10-056 - In the Matter of the Request of James Valley Wireless, LLC for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support
Date Filed: 05/27/10 Closed: 09/24/10

TC10-057 - In the Matter of the Request of Northern Valley Communications, LLC for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support
Date Filed: 05/27/10 Closed: 09/24/10

TC10-058 - In the Matter of the Request of West River Telecommunications Cooperative (Mobridge) for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support
Date Filed: 05/27/10 Closed: 09/24/10

TC10-059 - In the Matter of the Request of Qwest Corporation for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support
Date Filed: 05/27/10 Closed: 09/24/10

TC10-060 - In the Matter of the Request of McCook Cooperative Telephone Company for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Service Support
Date Filed: 05/27/10 Closed: 09/24/10

Telecommunications Dockets (cont.)

TC10-061 - In the Matter of the Request of Tri-County Telecom, Inc. for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Service Support
Date Filed: 05/28/10 Closed: 09/24/10

TC10-062 - In the Matter of the Request of Knology Community Telephone, Inc. for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support
Date Filed: 05/28/10 Closed: 09/24/10

TC10-063 - 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: 05/28/10 Closed: 09/24/10

TC10-064 - In the Matter of the Request of Citizens Telecommunications Company of Minnesota, LLC for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support
Date Filed: 05/28/10 Closed: 09/24/10

TC10-065 - In the Matter of the Request of Midstate Communications, Inc. for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support
Date Filed: 05/28/10 Closed: 09/24/10

TC10-066 - In the Matter of the Request of Midstate Telecom, Inc. for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support
Date Filed: 05/28/10 Closed: 09/24/10

TC10-067 - In the Matter of the Request of WWC License LLC d/b/a Alltel Communications, LLC for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support
Date Filed: 05/28/10 Closed: 09/29/10

TC10-068 - 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: 05/28/10 Closed: 09/24/10

TC10-069 - In the Matter of the Request of Midcontinent Communications for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support
Date Filed: 06/01/10 Closed: 09/24/10

TC10-070 - In the Matter of the Request of City of Brookings Municipal Telephone for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support
Date Filed: 06/01/10 Closed: 09/24/10

TC10-071 - In the Matter of the Request of Brookings Municipal Utilities dba Swiftel Communications for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support
Date Filed: 06/01/10 Closed: 09/24/10

Telecommunications Dockets (cont.)

TC10-072 - In the Matter of the Request of Farmers Mutual Telephone Company for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support
Date Filed: 06/01/10 Closed: 09/24/10

TC10-073 - In the Matter of the Request of Red River Rural Telephone Association for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support
Date Filed: 06/01/10 Closed: 09/24/10

TC10-074 - In the Matter of the Request of Fort Randall Telephone Company for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support
Date Filed: 06/01/10 Closed: 09/24/10

TC10-075 - In the Matter of the Request of Valley Telephone Company for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support
Date Filed: 06/01/10 Closed: 09/24/10

TC10-076 - In the Matter of the Petition of Qwest Corporation for Waiver of Utilization Threshold Requirement in Mitchell, South Dakota, Rate Center
Date Filed: 06/02/10 Closed: 07/12/10
(Reopened: 02/24/11) (Reclosed: 03/04/11)

TC10-077 - In the Matter of the Filing for Approval of a Reciprocal, Transport and Termination Agreement between Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe and Alltel Communications, LLC
Date Filed: 06/02/10 Closed: 08/13/10

TC10-078 - In the Matter of the Filing by MCC Telephony of the Midwest, LLC for Approval of its Initial Access Services Tariff and Waivers and Exemptions
Date Filed: 06/02/10 Closed: 07/12/10

TC10-079 - In the Matter of the Request of Santel Communications Cooperative for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support
Date Filed: 06/07/10 Closed: 09/24/10

TC10-080 - In the Matter of the Application of TDS Long Distance Corporation for a Certificate of Authority to Provide Interexchange Telecommunications Services in South Dakota
Date Filed: 06/18/10 Closed: 08/12/10

TC10-081 - In the Matter of the Application of Liberty-Bell Telecom, LLC for a Certificate of Authority to Provide Facilities-Based Local Exchange, Exchange Access, and Interexchange Service in South Dakota
Date Filed: 06/22/10 Closed: 08/02/10

Telecommunications Dockets (cont.)

TC10-082 - In the Matter of the Filing by Qwest Corporation for Approval of Its Request to Consolidate the Morristown and McIntosh Rate Centers

Date Filed: 06/23/10 Closed: 08/02/10

TC10-083 - In the Matter of the Filing by Qwest Corporation for Approval of Its Request to Consolidate the Colman and Flandreau Rate Centers

Date Filed: 06/23/10 Closed: 08/02/10

TC10-084 - In the Matter of the Filing for Approval of a Transit Traffic Update Amendment to Interconnection Agreement Between Qwest Corporation and XO Communications Services, Inc. for the State of South Dakota

Date Filed: 06/29/10 Closed: 08/02/10

TC10-085 - In the Matter of the Application of Easton Telecom Services, L.L.C. for a Certificate of Authority for Telecommunication Services in South Dakota

Date Filed: 07/13/10 Closed: 10/20/10

TC10-086 - In the Matter of the Application of Midstate Telecom, Inc., for a Waiver of ARSD 20:10:32:06.01

Date Filed: 08/06/10 *(Closed: 01/25/11)*

TC10-087 - In the Matter of the Filing for Approval of a DC Power Reduction, Restoration and Deactivation Amendment to Interconnection Agreement between Qwest Corporation and MCI Metro Access Transmission Services LLC for the State of South Dakota

Date Filed: 08/11/10 Closed: 09/17/10

TC10-088 - In the Matter of the Application of Crexendo Business Solutions, Inc. for a Certificate of Authority to Provide Interexchange Telecommunications Services and Local Exchange Services in South Dakota

Date Filed: 08/30/10 Closed: 11/16/10

TC10-089 - In the Matter of Filing for Approval of a Wireline Interconnection Agreement between Qwest Corporation and Liberty Bell Telecom, LLC for the State of South Dakota

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

TC10-090 - In the Matter of the Petition of Cellco Partnership and its Subsidiaries and Affiliates to Amend and Consolidate Eligible Telecommunications Carrier Designations in the State of South Dakota and to Partially Relinquish ETC Designation

Date Filed: 09/03/10 Pending

TC10-091 - In the Matter of the Application of Mobilitie, LLC for a Certificate of Authority to Provide Interexchange Telecommunications Services and Local Exchange Services in South Dakota

Date Filed: 09/22/10 Closed: 11/16/10

Telecommunications Dockets (cont.)

TC10-092 - In the Matter of the Approval of an Interconnection Agreement By and Between Interstate Telecommunications Cooperative and MCC Telephony of the Midwest, LLC
Date Filed: 09/30/10 Closed: 10/29/10

TC10-093 - In the Matter of the Filing for Approval of an Amendment No. 2 to the Reciprocal Transport and Termination Agreement Between Venture Communications Cooperative, Inc. and Commnet Cellular
Date Filed: 10/19/10 Closed: 11/12/10

TC10-094 - In the Matter of the Filing by Entelegent Solutions, Inc. for Approval of its Switched Access Tariff
Date Filed: 10/26/10 Closed: 11/30/10

TC10-095 - In the Matter of the Approval of a Wireline Interconnection Agreement between Qwest Corporation and Broadview Networks, Inc. for the State of South Dakota
Date Filed: 10/27/10 Closed: 11/30/10

TC10-096 - In the Matter of the Complaint Filed by Midcontinent Communications, Knology of the Plains, Inc., and Knology of the Black Hills, LLC, Against MCI Communications Services, Inc. d/b/a Verizon Business Services for Unpaid Access Charges
Date Filed: 10/27/10 Pending

TC10-097 In the Matter of the Application of Pac-West Telecomm, Inc. for a Certificate of Authority to Provide Facilities Based and Resold Local Exchange and Interexchange Services in South Dakota
Date Filed: 10/29/10 *(Closed: 01/21/11)*

TC10-098 - In the Matter of the Filing for Approval of a Type 2 Wireless Interconnection Agreement between Qwest Corporation and T-Mobile, USA, Inc. for the State of South Dakota
Date Filed: 11/08/10 Closed: 12/08/10

TC10-099 - In the Matter of the Application by Midcontinent Communications for Eligible Telecommunications Carrier Designation within Certain Additional Qwest Service Areas
Date Filed: 11/12/10 *(Closed: 02/23/11)*



MISSION STATEMENT

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

South Dakota

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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