

NOTICE OF FURTHER COMMENT PERIOD

The Public Utilities Commission held a public hearing on January 20, 2011, to consider the adoption and amendment of proposed rules numbered 20:10:27:01, 20:10:27:02, 20:10:27:02.01, 20:10:27:02.02, 20:10:27:04, 20:10:27:07, 20:10:27:11, and 20:10:27:12. At its March 18, 2011, meeting, the Public Utilities Commission adopted final rules regarding switched access rates for competitive local exchange carriers. On March 29, 2011, the Legislative Rules Review Committee considered the rules. The Legislative Rules Review Committee voted to revert back to the comment period to allow additional comments on the rules as adopted by the Commission.

The effect of the rules will be to establish and revise rules to determine switched access rates charged by competitive local exchange carriers. Switched access rates are the rates that are charged to other telecommunications carriers to complete calls. The proposed rules would allow a competitive local exchange carrier to charge a rate not to exceed the switched access rate of the Regional Bell Operating Company operating in the state. *See* 20:10:27:02:01. In the alternative, a competitive local exchange carrier may file a cost study that would be a factor in determining the rate. *See* 20:10:27:02.02. In addition, a competitive local exchange carrier would have the opportunity to use generally accepted accounting principles instead of the uniform system of accounts when conducting a cost study. *See* 20:10:27:04.

The reason for the proposed rules is to set forth the rules for the determination of switched access rates charged by competitive local exchange carriers.

Persons interested in presenting data, opinions, and arguments for or against the proposed rules may do so by sending them to the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission, State Capitol, 500 East Capitol, Pierre, South Dakota 57501-5070. Material sent by mail must reach the Public Utilities Commission by April 13, 2011, to be considered.

Copies of the proposed rules may be obtained without charge from the

South Dakota Public Utilities Commission
State Capitol
500 East Capitol
Pierre, SD 57501-5070

The proposed rules may also be found on the Public Utilities Commission's home page at the following address: <http://puc.sd.gov/commission/dockets/rulemaking/2005/rm05-002/finalrules.pdf>