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February 6, 2006

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SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

VIA OVERNIGHT DELIVERY

South Dakota Public Utilities Commission 500 East Capitol Avenue, 1st Floor

Pierre, South Dakota 57510-5070

Re: Docket No. TC05-221, Application for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity Comtel Telcom Assets LP

Joint Notice of Asset Transfer

Comtel Telcom Assets LP with VarTec Telecom, Inc., Excel Telecommunications, Inc. and VarTec Solutions, Inc.

To Whom It May Concern:

Transmitted herewith on behalf of Comtel Telcom Assets LP ("Comtel") and VarTec Telecom, Inc., Excel Telecommunications, Inc. and VarTec Solutions, Inc. (together, the "VarTec Companies") are an original and 10 copies of Comtel's surety bond in the amount of \$25,000 as required by the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission to continue VarTec's billing practices upon the consummation of the asset transfer.

Please direct all correspondence regarding these filings to the undersigned directly at (972) 478-3349, the below-referenced address or <u>dnickles@vartec.net</u>. Comtel and the VarTec Companies sincerely appreciate your time and consideration in reviewing this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

Doug Nickles Regulatory Analyst II

Enclosures

cc: Jeffrey Marks, Jessica Hafer, Counsel for Comtel Telcom Assets LP

INDEMNITY BOND To the PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA

Bond. No. <u>K07338995</u>

We, <u>Comtel Telcom Assets LP</u>, the principal and applicant for a CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY, to provide <u>local exchange and interexchange</u> telecommunications services within the State of South Dakota, and <u>Westchester Fire Insurance Company</u>, <u>Philadelphia, Pennsylvania</u>, as an admitted surety insurer, bind ourselves unto the Public Utilities Commission of the State of South Dakota and the consumers of South Dakota as Obligee, in the sum of \$25,000.00.

The conditions of the obligation are such that the principal, having been granted such CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY subject to the provision that said principal purchase this Indemnity Bond, and if said principal shall in all respects fully and faithfully comply with all applicable provisions of South Dakota State Law, and reimburse customers of <u>Comtel Telcom Assets LP</u> for any prepayment or deposits they have made which may be unable or unwilling to return to said customers as a result of insolvency or other business failure, then this obligation shall be void, discharges and forever exonerated, otherwise to remain in full force and effect.

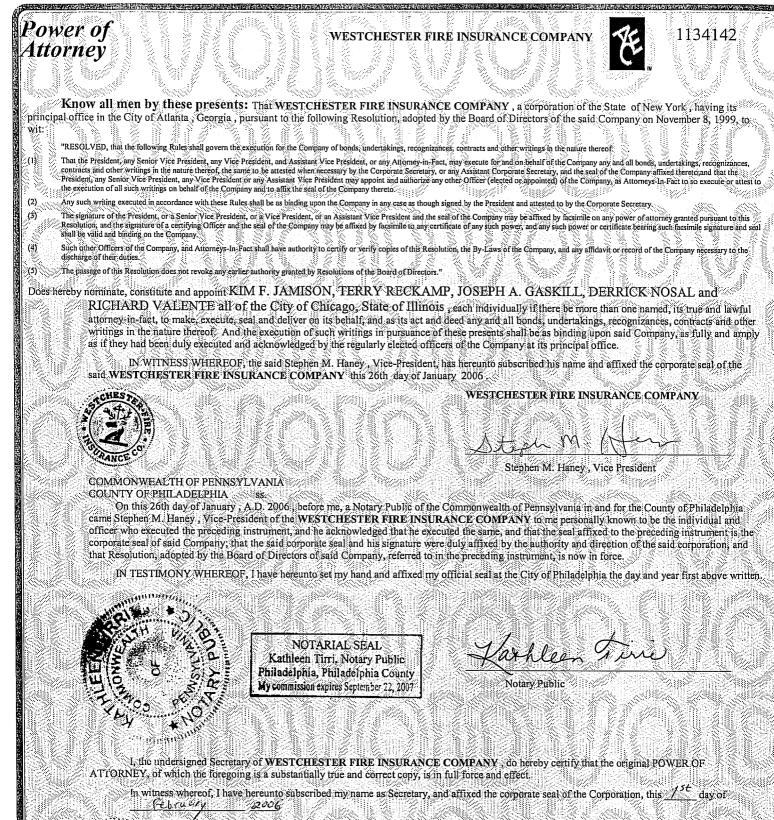
This bond shall take effect as of the date hereon and shall remain in force and effect until the surety is released from liability by the written order of the Public Utilities Commission, provided that the surety may cancel this Bond and be relieved of further liability hereunder by delivering thirty (30) days written notice to the Public Utilities Commission. Such cancellation shall not affect any liability incurred or accrued hereunder prior to the termination of said thirty (30) day period.

Dated this 1^{st} day of <u>February, 2006</u> To be effective this 2^{nd} day of <u>February, 2006</u>

Comtel Teleon Assets I By Comtel Assets Inc., its General Partner Carfollton./Texas Bv John Jenkins, Chief Administrative Officer Westchester Fire Insurance Company Philadelphia, Pennsylvania By Roll VZ Richard Valente, Attorney-In-Fact

Countersigned this _____ day of _____, 20____ Countersigned for South Dakota By _____

Resident Agent





George D. Mulligan , Secretary

THIS FOWER OF A TTORNEY MAY NOT BE USED TO EXECUTE ANY BOND WITH AN INCEPTION DATE AFTER January 26, 2008

SURETY COMPANY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

STATE OF ILLINOIS COUNTY OF COOK

On this <u>1ST</u> day of <u>February</u> in the year <u>2006</u> before me personally came <u>Richard</u> Valente to me known, who, being by me duly sworn, did depose and say that he/she resides in <u>Chicago</u>, <u>Illinois</u>; that he/she is the Attorney-in-Fact of the **WESTCHESTER FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY**, the corporation described in and which executed the above instrument; that he/she knows the seal of said corporation; that the seal affixed to said instrument is such corporate seal; that it was so affixed by order of the board of directors of said corporation and that he/she signed his/her name thereto by like order.

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Notary Public

