

1000-097

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SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC
UTILITIES COMMISSION

July 24, 2006

Ms. Patricia Van Gerpen
Executive Director
South Dakota Public Utilities Commission
Capitol Building - 1st Floor
500 E. Capitol Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501-5070

Dear Ms. Van Gerpen:

Great Plains Communications, Inc. ("Great Plains") hereby requests a 30 day extension of the due date for filing with the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission ("Commission") the Annual ETC Certification Filing and Submittal Pursuant to ARSD 20:10:32:52 – 20:10:32:54. Great Plains is also filing concurrently a petition seeking a waiver of the annual certification requirements for designated ETCs as required by the Commission.

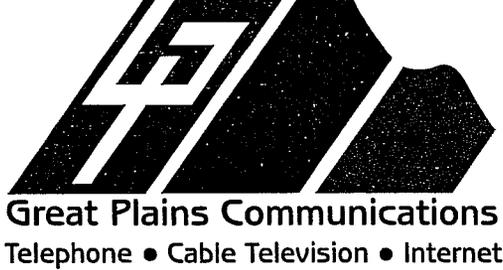
Great Plains' study area is comprised primarily of a geographic area contained within the state of Nebraska. Great Plains has no wire centers located in South Dakota, but small portions of rural territory in South Dakota are served by wire centers located in Nebraska. Those areas are as follows:

North Cody
North Crookston
North Gordon
North Kilgore

If you have any questions, please contact me at 402-426-6433 or by e-mail at rthiemann@gpcom.com.

Sincerely,

Rodney Thiemann
Director of Regulatory Finances
Great Plains Communications, Inc.



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SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC
UTILITIES COMMISSION

July 24, 2006

Patricia Van Gerpen
Executive Director
South Dakota Public Utilities Commission
500 East Capitol Avenue
Pierre SD 57501

RE: In the Matter of a Petition by Great Plains Communications, Inc. Docket No. _____ For a
Waiver of ARSD §§ 20:10:32:52—20:10:32:54

Dear Ms Van Gerpen:

Enclosed is one original and ten copies of a Petition by Great Plains Communications, Inc.

Please feel free to contact me at 402.426.6433 or via e-mail
(rthiemann@gpcom.com) if there are any questions concerning this filing.

Very truly yours,

Rodney Thiemann
Director of Regulatory Finances

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SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC
UTILITIES COMMISSION

**SOUTH DAKOTA
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

**In the Matter of a Petition by Great Plains Communications, Inc.
For a Waiver of ARSD §§ 20:10:32:52 – 20:10:32:54**

Docket No. _____

Pursuant to rule § 20:10:32:56 approved and adopted by the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission on June 6, 2006 in Docket No. RM-06-001, Great Plains Communications, Inc. (Great Plains) hereby seeks a waiver of the annual certification requirements for designated eligible telecommunications carriers as required by ARSD §§ 20:10:32:52, 20:10:32:53, 20:10:32:54.

In support of its petition, Great Plains states:

1. Great Plains is certified as an eligible telecommunications carrier ("ETC") in its South Dakota service area by the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission.
2. Great Plain's service area in South Dakota consists of North Cody, North Crookston, North Gordon and North Kilgore. These are rural portions of exchanges where the larger portion of the exchange and the central office is located in Nebraska.
3. Great Plain's lines that are located in South Dakota comprise approximately .7% of the total access lines in its study area.
4. Great Plain's study area number is 371577. Great Plain's study area is comprised primarily of a geographic area contained within the state of Nebraska.
5. For companies such as ours, who have a very small portion of their overall study area in South Dakota, the requirement of certifying the use of USF monies per the requirements of newly adopted ARSD §§ 20:10:32:52 – 20:10:32:54 is unduly burdensome and unnecessary for the commission in order for the Commission certify that we are using the federal high cost support for the uses it is intended.

6. In its Report and Order released March 17, 2005 in CC Docket N95-45, FCC 05-46, the FCC encourages states...”to avoid duplicative or inapplicable reporting requirements.” The FCC further states, “Individual state commissions are uniquely qualified to determine what information is necessary to ensure that ETCs are complying with all applicable requirements, including state-specific ETC eligibility requirements.”(¶71)
7. Because its study area is largely contained within the state of Nebraska and because it will comply with the Nebraska Public Service Commission requirements for ETC certification, Great Plains requests that it be allowed to file a copy of its Nebraska ETC certification with the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission; and that the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission accept such filing as sufficient to make the determination as to include Great Plains on the list of certified carriers it provides to the FCC on or before October 1 of each year
8. Great Plains requests that it be granted such a waiver from ARSD §§ 20:10:32:52 – 20:10:32:54

Respectfully submitted this 24th day of July 2006,

Great Plains Communications, Inc.



Rodney Thiemann
Director of Regulatory Finances
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402.426.6433