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December 31, 2007

Patty Van Gerpen Executive Director SD Public Utilities Commission 500 E Capitol Pierre SD 57501

Re: Docket #TC07-104

Dear Patty:

WADE A. REIMERS WILLIAM M. VAN CAMP

Attached please find a Response to Amended Petition for Exemption regarding this docket. Please note that I am filing this Response electronically pursuant to Rule while serving PrairieWave by mail.

If you have any questions, please feel free to let me know.

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WVC:lsd

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enclosures

cc: William Heaston Isabelle Salgado

# BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA

In the Matter of the Filing by PrairieWave	)		
Community Telephone, Inc., for an	)		
Exemption from Developing Company	)	Docket No. TC07-104	
Specific Cost-Based Switched Access	)		
Rates	)		
	)		

#### RESPONSE TO AMENDED PETITION FOR EXEMPTION

On September 17, 2007, PrairieWave Community Telephone, Inc.,

("PrairieWave") filed a petition pursuant to ARSD 20:10:27:11 to 20:10:27:13,

requesting that the Commission exempt PrairieWave from developing company-specific cost-based switched access rates. On October 10, 2007, AT & T Communications of the Midwest, Inc. ("Petitioner" or "AT&T"), petitioned to intervene. On October 23, 2007, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission granted AT & T's petition for intervention. On December 14, 2007, PrairieWave filed what is apparently an Amended Petition for Exemption from developing company-specific cost-based switched access rates. Petitioner hereby responds to the amended petition of Prairie Wave and asks leave of the commission to amend its intervention accordingly. To the extent that this response and amendment is stipulated to by PrairieWave or allowed by the Commission, Petitioner would consent to the amended petition of PrairieWave.

Pursuant to its December 14, 2007, Amended Petition, PrairieWave dropped its initial request for an open-ended exemption from developing intrastate switched access rates based on company-specific costs as is required in ARSD 20:10:27:11, subject to any change brought about through modification of how switched access rates are determined and regulated at either the local or national level.

Rather, as it has done in Docket TC07-118, (in which Petitioner has also filed a petition of intervention) PrairieWave has requested an exemption from filing the required cost studies for a period of not more than three (3) years, subject to any change brought about through modification of how switched access rates are determined and regulated at either the local or national level.

As was stated in its initial petition to intervene in this docket as well as in Docket TC07-118, Petitioner does not object to the requested exemption for 2007. However, AT & T believes that if PrairieWave would request an exemption for 2008 or any subsequent year, it should be required to file such a request for an exemption at that time. Petitioner would be willing to waive any objection to subsequent exemption requests of PrairieWave if it adopted a switched access rate at or below the Qwest rate.

Petitioner herein would also state and amend its initial petition to intervene, as was stated in its Petition to Intervene in Docket TC07-118, that according to ARSD 20:10:27:11, the burden is on PrairieWave to establish that it lacks the necessary financial, technical or managerial resources to determine its switched access rates based on company-specific costs or that the costs of such an exercise outweigh any benefit to consumers or customers of PrairieWave services. The cursory statement of PrairieWave in its amended petition of December 14, 2007, does not meet the requirements of the Commission's rules as they apply to the granting of an exemption from filing such cost studies. PrairieWave conducted a cost study in 2004 in Docket TC04-097. PrairieWave has produced nothing that would indicate its financial, technical or managerial position has diminished to warrant an exemption from the cost study rules, or that the consuming

public benefits from a failure to follow the current switched access rules. Certainly, nothing in the December 14, 2007 Amended Petition substantiates that position.

WHEREFORE, AT & T as a party to Docket TC07-104, requests that its Petition for Intervention and Limited Opposition to PrairieWave's Petition for Exemption be amended as herein described.

Respectfully submitted this 28th day of December, 2007.

OLINGER, LOVALD, MCCAHREN & REIMERS, PC

/s/ filed electronically
William M. Van Camp
PO Box 66
Pierre, SD 57501
Telephone: (605) 224-8851

Attorneys for AT&T Communications of the Midwest, Inc.

## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

William M. Van Camp hereby certifies that on the 28th day of December 2007, he mailed by United States mail, first class postage thereon prepaid, a true and correct copy of AT & T's Response to Amended Petition for Exemption in the above-captioned action to the following at their last known addresses, to-wit:

Mr. William P. Heaston 5100 South Broadband Lane Sioux Falls, SD 57108 (605) 965-9894 wheaston@,prairiewave.com

/s/ filed electronically

William M. Van Camp Olinger, Lovald, McCahren, and Reimers P.C. PO Box 66 Pierre, South Dakota 57501