

**From:** [Harlan.Best@state.sd.us](mailto:Harlan.Best@state.sd.us)

**To:** [rodb@kennebectelephone.com](mailto:rodb@kennebectelephone.com) ; [rogerb@kennebectelephone.com](mailto:rogerb@kennebectelephone.com)

**Cc:** [Karen.Cremer@state.sd.us](mailto:Karen.Cremer@state.sd.us)

**Sent:** Wednesday, May 21, 2008 12:20 PM

**Subject:** Kennebec Responses to Staff Data Request

Mr. Bowar,

I have attached a copy of Kennebec's responses to my questions. The first answer states that the manufacturer stopped the software upgrade program in 2007. In last year's filing Kennebec was not aware of any needed revisions to its estimated capital expenditures for 2007 (as of the filing date of May 15, 2007).

4. When was Kennebec informed by the manufacturer of the stopped software upgrade program?

Nortel informed Kennebec in October 2007 that the software upgrade program was stopped

5. What does Kennebec plan on doing for switch upgrades to the 895 wire center?

The 895 wire center is a remote switch off of the 869 wire center switch. We have been told by Nortel that the remote will continue to work as we migrate to a soft switch which currently we have planned for 2011 in the 869 wire center. As you can see we have \$80,000.00 budgeted for Switch Upgrades in 2008 for wire center 895. This is for a new generator to replace our old generator and this also includes some miscellaneous shelves and powering investment. Wire center 895 has \$10,000.00 budgeted per year for 2009 and 2010 for replacement of cards (as they fail) and some potential additional alarming equipment.

6. Did the manufacturer explain why it was stopping the switch upgrade program?

No further software development for the DMS10 platform. They are recommending migration to a soft switch.

7. Who is the manufacturer of the 895 wire center switch?

Nortel is the switch manufacturer for both wire centers 869 and 895.

Again, please file your answers using the e-filings so the answers become part of the official docket.

Feel free to contact me should you have any questions regarding the above request.

Harlan Best