# RECIPROCAL INTERCONNECTION, TRANSPORT AND TERMINATION AGREEMENT

This Reciprocal Interconnection, Transport and Termination Agreement ("Agreement") is entered into by and between Interstate Telecommunications Cooperative, Inc. ("Telephone Company") and James Valley Wireless, LLC ("CMRS Provider"). The Telephone Company and the CMRS Provider are each individually a "Party" and are together the "Parties" to this Agreement.

WHEREAS, the Telephone Company is a Local Exchange Carrier in the State of South Dakota;

WHEREAS, the CMRS Provider is licensed by the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC") as a Commercial Mobile Radio Service Provider;

WHEREAS, the Telephone Company and the CMRS Provider desire to establish arrangements between one another for the exchange of telecommunications traffic between their respective networks.

WHEREAS, the Parties wish to put in place an arrangement for the mutual exchange and reciprocal compensation of telecommunications traffic in accordance with Section 251(b)(5) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996.

WHEREAS, the Parties agree that their entry into this Agreement is without prejudice to and does not waive any positions they may have taken previously, or may take in the future, in any legislative, regulatory, judicial or other public forum addressing any matters related to the same types of arrangements covered in this Agreement, and;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the foregoing and the undertakings contained herein, and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, the Telephone Company and the CMRS Provider agree as follows:

This Agreement sets forth the terms, conditions and prices under which the Parties agree to interconnect the networks of the CMRS Provider and the Telephone Company for the purposes of the exchange of telecommunications traffic between the Parties' networks. This Agreement is not intended to establish any terms, conditions or pricing applicable to the provisioning of any transiting service. Should that type of service be provided, it will be covered under a separate Agreement.

Except as otherwise expressly provided for herein, this Agreement does not obligate either Party to provide arrangements or transport or terminate traffic not specifically provided for herein. This Agreement has no effect on the type of End User services that either Party offers to its End User Customers or the services either Party chooses to offer to its respective End User Customers.

By this Agreement, neither Party waives any rights it may have under the Federal Act or rules of the FCC, under state statute, or pursuant to rules of the Commission.

#### 1.0 Definitions

Definitions of the terms used in this Agreement are listed below. The Parties agree that certain terms may be defined elsewhere in this Agreement, as well. Terms not defined shall be construed in accordance with their customary meaning in the telecommunications industry as of the effective date of this Agreement.

"Act" means the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. Section 151 et seq.), as amended.

"Cell Site" means the radio transmitting and receiving facilities associated with the origination and termination of wireless traffic to a wireless End User.

"Commercial Mobile Radio Service" or "CMRS" has the meaning given to the term in the Act.

"Commission" means the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission.

"Conversation Time" means the time (in full second increments) that both Parties' equipment is used for a call, measured from the receipt of answer supervision to disconnect supervision.

"End Office" means a local Telephone Company switching point where the Telephone Company customer station loops are connected for purposes of interconnection to each other and to the network.

"End User" means, whether or not capitalized, any business, residential or governmental Customer of services provided by a Party, and includes the term "Customer" and "Subscriber". More specific meanings of either of such terms are dependent upon the context in which they appear in the Agreement and the provisions of the Act.

"FCC" means the Federal Communications Commission.

"Incumbent Local Exchange Carrier" or "Incumbent LEC" has the meaning given the term in the Act.

"Interconnection" refers to the connection of separate pieces of equipment, facilities, or platforms between or within networks for the purpose of transmission and routing of Telecommunications traffic.

"Interexchange Carrier" or "IXC" means a telecommunications carrier other than a CMRS carrier that provides toll telephone service, as the latter term is defined in the Act.

"InterLATA Service" has the meaning given the term in the Act.

"InterMTA Traffic" means all wireless to wireline calls that originate in one MTA and terminate in another MTA based on the location of the connecting cell site serving the wireless End User, or roamer on the CMRS Provider's network, at the beginning of the call and the location of the End Office serving the wireline End User.

"Local Traffic," for purposes of this Agreement, means: (1) for wireless to wireline calling, traffic exchanged between the CMRS Provider and the Telephone Company that, at the beginning of the call, originates and terminates within the same MTA based on the location of the connecting cell site serving the originating wireless End User, or roamer on the CMRS Provider's network, at the beginning of the call and the location of the End Office serving the terminating wireline End User; and (2) for wireline to wireless calling, traffic exchanged between the Telephone Company and the CMRS Provider that originates in a Telephone Company exchange and terminates to a CMRS Provider NXX within the same MTA based on the location of the connecting cell site serving the terminating wireless End User.

"Mobile Switching Center" or "MSC" means a CMRS Provider's facilities and related equipment used to route and switch commercial mobile radio service traffic to and from and among its End Users and other telecommunications carriers.

"Major Trading Area" or "MTA" has the meaning given to the term in 47 CFR Section 24.202(a).

"NXX", "NXX Code", "Central Office Code", or "CO Code" is the 3-digit switch indicator that is defined by the D, E, and F digits of a 10-digit telephone number within the NANP. Each NXX Code contains 10,000 telephone numbers.

"Party" means either the CMRS Provider or the Telephone Company, and "Parties" means the CMRS Provider and the Telephone Company.

"Telecommunications" has the meaning given in the Act.

"Telecommunications Carrier" has the meaning given in the Act.

"Termination" means the switching of Traffic at the terminating carrier's end office switch, or equivalent facilities, and delivery of such traffic to the called End User.

"Third Party Provider" shall mean any facilities-based telecommunications carrier, including, without limitation, independent telephone companies, competitive local exchange carriers, or CMRS Providers, that carries transiting traffic. The term shall not mean resellers of a Local Exchange Carrier's (LEC's) local exchange services or resellers of a CMRS Provider's services.

"Traffic" includes Local Traffic and InterMTA Traffic.

"Transport" means the transmission of traffic from the POI between the two Parties to the Party's switch that directly serves the called End User.

# 2.0 Description of Traffic

2.1 This Agreement applies to intraMTA Traffic originated by the End User of one Party and terminated to End Users of the other Party which shall be delivered over facilities that indirectly interconnect the Parties. All Traffic exchanged herein will be Local Traffic and subject to local Transport and Termination charges as described in Appendix A. CMRS provider has no InterMTA Traffic with all of its tower sites within the Minneapolis MTA.

#### 3.0 Network Interconnection

This Section describes the network architecture with which the Parties to this Agreement may interconnect their respective networks for the Transport and Termination of traffic.

# 3.1 Indirect Interconnection

3.1.1 Both Parties will deliver Traffic from its network to the other Party via a Third Party Provider and thus be indirectly connected for the delivery of Traffic as set forth in Appendix B.

#### 4.0 Transmission and Routing of Traffic

This Section provides the terms and conditions for the exchange of traffic between the Parties' respective networks for the transmission and routing by the Parties of wireless Traffic.

- 4.1 Mobile to Land Indirectly Connected via a Third Party Provider.
  - 4.1.1 CMRS Provider will deliver traffic from its network to the Telephone Company via a Third Party Provider and thus be indirectly connected with the Telephone Company for the delivery of traffic originated on the CMRS Providers' network by the CMRS Providers' End Users.
- 4.2 Land to Mobile Indirectly Connected via a Third Party Provider.
  - 4.2.1 The Telephone Company will deliver traffic from its network to the CMRS Provider via a Third Party Provider and thus be indirectly connected with the CMRS Provider for the delivery of traffic originated on the Telephone Company network by the Telephone Company's End Users.
- 5.0 Transport and Termination Compensation
- 5.1 Rates Local Traffic exchanged between the Parties shall be exchanged on a bill-and-keep basis. Bill-and-keep shall mean that the originating Party has no obligation to pay terminating charges to the terminating Party.

The Parties acknowledge that the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC"), in a Report and Order released November 18, 2011 (the "November 18 Order"), and an Order on Reconsideration released December 23, 2011, has provided that "Non-Access Telecommunications Traffic" exchanged between LECs and CMRS providers, that originates and terminates within the same Major Trading Area, should be exchanged pursuant to a bill-and-keep arrangement and that the bill-and-keep compensation methodology for LEC-CMRS non-access traffic is effective as of July 1, 2012.

The Parties agree that the bill-and-keep arrangement hereby established shall, in all respects, be subject to the provisions of any future stay, revision, reconsideration, change or modification of the related FCC orders, as subsequently issued by the FCC or a court of competent jurisdiction. Any future stay or reversal of the FCC's bill-and-keep requirement shall be effective immediately upon release of the order and the Parties shall cooperate in the development and implementation of a reciprocal compensation rate. Unless otherwise specified in the order(s), the Parties shall apply the reciprocal compensation rate to "Non-Access Telecommunications" traffic exchanged as of the date of the release of the order staying or reversing the FCC's bill-and-keep arrangement.

- 5.1.1 The Telephone Company's access charges apply to the termination of InterMTA Traffic, if any.
- 5.1.2 The rates applicable to Local Traffic and InterMTA Traffic are set forth in Appendix A.
- 5.1.3 The Transport and Termination Services provided hereunder are intended for wireless to wireline or wireline to wireless, but not wireline to wireline communications. Such services will not be used to terminate other types of traffic on Telephone Company's network (such as wireline originated traffic) and services used in violation hereof shall constitute a breach of this Agreement. In addition to any other remedies available, the

Party whose services have been improperly used shall be entitled to recover the appropriate charges for such traffic for the entire period of misuse.

- 5.2 Conversation Time For purposes of billing compensation, billed minutes will be based upon Conversation Time. Conversation Time will be determined from actual usage recordings by the Parties.
- 5.3 Measuring traffic In order to determine whether traffic exchanged between the Parties' networks is Local or InterMTA Traffic for purposes of determining compensation, the Parties agree to define the customer location as follows: For Telephone Company, the origination or termination point of a call shall be the Telephone Company's End Office which serves, respectively, the calling or called End User. For CMRS Provider, the origination or termination point of a call shall be the connecting cell site, which serves, respectively, the calling or called party at the time the call begins.

# 7.0 Responsibilities of the Parties:

#### 7.1 Verification Reviews

- 7.1.1 The Parties will be responsible for the accuracy and quality of the data as submitted to the other Party. Upon reasonable written notice, either Party or its authorized representative shall have the right to conduct a review and verification of the other Party's data to give assurances of compliance with the provisions of this Agreement. The review will consist of an examination and verification of data involving records, systems, procedures and other information related to the services performed by the Party as related to settlement charges or payments made in connection with this Agreement. Each Party, whether or not in connection with an on-site verification review, shall maintain reasonable records for a minimum of twelve (12) months and provide the other Party with reasonable access to such information as is necessary to determine amounts receivable or payable under this Agreement.
- 7.1.2 Either Party's right to access information for verification review purposes is limited to data not in excess of twelve (12) months in age. Once specific data has been reviewed and verified, it is unavailable for future reviews. Any items not reconciled at the end of a review will, however, be subject to a follow-up review effort. Any retroactive adjustments required subsequent to previously reviewed and verified data will also be subject to follow-up review. Information of the Party involved with a verification review shall be subject to the confidentiality provisions of this Agreement.
- 7.1.3 The Party requesting a verification review shall fully bear its costs associated with conducting a review. The Party being reviewed will provide access to required information, as outlined in this section, at no charge to the reviewing Party. Should the reviewing Party request information or assistance beyond that reasonably required to conduct such a review, the Party being reviewed may, at its option, decline to comply with such request or may bill actual costs incurred in complying subsequent to the concurrence of the reviewing Party.

# 7.2 Billing

- 7.2.1 The initial InterMTA factor to be applied to total minutes of use delivered by the CMRS Provider shall be 0%. The CMRS Providers network would not route any interMTA traffic at the time of this Agreement. However, if that ever changes interMTA factors may be determined by the Parties and adjusted after the effective date of the Agreement and adjusted every six months thereafter during the term of this Agreement, based on a mutually agreed to traffic study analysis. Each of the Parties to this Agreement is obligated to proceed in good faith toward the development of a method of traffic study that will provide a reasonable measurement of terminated InterMTA traffic.
- 7.2.2 The Parties shall pay each other for all charges in accordance with the rates set forth in Appendix A of this agreement. Such payments are to be received within thirty (30) days from the receipt of the billing statement. Undisputed charges, not paid within the thirty (30) days from the receipt of the billing statement may be subject to a late charge at the rate of 1.5% per month or the maximum amount allowed by law. The Party collecting revenues shall be responsible for reporting and remitting all applicable taxes associated therewith.
- 7.2.3 Each Party shall bear its portion of billing and collection fees.
- 7.2.4 If either Party disputes a billing statement issued by the other Party, the disputing Party shall notify the billing Party in writing regarding the nature and the basis of the dispute within thirty (30) days of the receipt of the statement. The Parties shall diligently work toward resolution of all billing issues.

# 8.0 Liability and Indemnification

- 8.1 Except as otherwise expressly provided herein or in specific appendices, each Party shall be responsible only for the Interconnection, functions, products and services which are provided by that Party, its authorized agents, subcontractors, or others retained by such parties, and neither Party shall bear any responsibility for the Interconnection, functions, products and services provided by the other Party, its agents, subcontractors, or others retained by such parties.
- 8.2 Each Party shall be indemnified and held harmless by the other Party against claims, losses, suits, demands, damages, costs, expenses, including reasonable attorney's fees ("Claims"), asserted, suffered, or made by third parties arising from (i) any act or omission of the indemnifying Party in connection with its performance or non-performance under this Agreement; (ii) actual or alleged infringement by the indemnifying Party of any patent, trademark, copyright, service mark, trade name, trade secret or intellectual property right (now known or later developed), and (iii) provision of the indemnifying Party's services or equipment, including but not limited to claims arising from the provision of the indemnifying Party's services to its End Users (e.g., claims for interruption of service, quality of service or billing disputes). Each Party shall also be indemnified and held harmless by the other Party against Claims of persons for services furnished by the indemnifying Party or by any of its subcontractors, under worker's compensation laws or similar statutes.
- 8.3 A Party (the "Indemnifying Party") shall defend, indemnify and hold harmless the other Party ("Indemnified Party") against any claim or loss arising from the Indemnifying Party's use of Interconnection, functions, products and services provided under this Agreement involving:

- 8.3.1 any Claim for libel, slander, invasion of privacy, or infringement of Intellectual Property rights arising from the Indemnifying Party's or its Customer's use.
- 8.3.2 any claims, demands or suits that assert any claim for libel, slander, infringement or invasion of privacy or confidentiality of any person or persons caused or claimed to be caused, directly or indirectly, by the other Party's employees and equipment associated with the provision of any service herein. The foregoing includes any Claims or Losses arising from disclosure of any Customer-specific information associated with either the originating or terminating numbers used to provision Interconnection, functions, products or services provided hereunder and all other Claims arising out of any act or omission of the Customer in the course of using any Interconnection, functions, products or services provided pursuant to this Agreement.
- 8.3.3 any and all penalties imposed on either Party because of the Indemnifying Party's failure to comply with the Communications Assistance to Law Enforcement Act of 1994 (CALEA).
- 8.4 Neither Party makes any warranty, express or implied, concerning either Party's rights with respect to intellectual property (including without limitation, patent, copyright and trade secret rights) or contract rights associated with either Party's right to interconnect. Nothing in this Section will be deemed to supersede or replace any other agreements, if any, between the Parties with respect to either party's intellectual property or contract rights.
- 8.5 Each Party ("Indemnifying Party") shall reimburse the other Party ("Indemnified Party") for damages to the Indemnified Party's equipment, Interconnection trunks, and other property utilized to provide Interconnection hereunder caused by the negligence or willful act of the Indemnifying Party, its agents, subcontractors or Customer or resulting from the Indemnifying Party's improper use of the Indemnified Party's equipment, Interconnection trunks or other property, or due to malfunction of any functions, products, services or equipment of the Indemnifying Party or of any other party that have been provided to the Indemnifying Party. Upon reimbursement for damages, the Indemnified Party will cooperate with the Indemnifying Party in prosecuting a claim against the person causing such damage. The Indemnifying Party shall be subrogated to the right of recovery by the Indemnified Party for the damages to the extent of such payment.

#### 8.6 Indemnification Procedures

- 8.6.1 Whenever a claim shall arise for indemnification, the relevant Indemnified Party, as appropriate, shall promptly notify the Indemnifying Party and request in writing the Indemnifying Party to defend the same. Failure to so notify the Indemnifying Party shall not relieve the Indemnifying Party of any liability that the Indemnifying Party might have, except to the extent that such failure prejudices the Indemnifying Party's ability to defend such claim.
- 8.6.2 The Indemnifying Party shall have the right to defend against such liability or assertion, in which event the Indemnifying Party shall give written notice to the Indemnified Party of acceptance of the defense of such claim and the identity of counsel selected by the Indemnifying Party.
- 8.6.3 Until such time as Indemnifying Party provides written notice of acceptance of the defense of such claim, the Indemnified Party shall defend such claim, at the expense of the Indemnifying Party, subject to any right of the Indemnifying Party to seek

- reimbursement for the costs of such defense in the event that it is determined that Indemnifying Party had no obligation to indemnify the Indemnified Party for such claim.
- 8.6.4 Upon accepting the defense, the Indemnifying Party shall have exclusive right to control and conduct the defense and settlement of any such Claims, subject to consultation with the Indemnified Party. So long as the Indemnifying Party is controlling and conducting the defense, the Indemnifying Party shall not be liable for any settlement by the Indemnified Party unless such Indemnifying Party has approved such settlement in advance and agrees to be bound by the agreement incorporating such settlement.
- 8.6.5 At any time, an Indemnified Party shall have the right to refuse a compromise or settlement, and, at such refusing Party's cost, to take over such defense; provided that, in such event the Indemnifying Party shall not be responsible for, nor shall it be obligated to indemnify the refusing Party against, any cost or liability in excess of such refused compromise or settlement.
- 8.6.6 With respect to any defense accepted by the Indemnifying Party, the Indemnified Party will be entitled to participate with the Indemnifying Party in such defense if the claim requests equitable relief or other relief that could affect the rights of the Indemnified Party, and shall also be entitled to employ separate counsel for such defense at such Indemnified Party's expense.
- 8.6.7 If the Indemnifying Party does not accept the defense of any indemnified claim as provided above, the Indemnified Party shall have the right to employ counsel for such defense at the expense of the Indemnifying Party.
- 8.6.8 In the event of a failure to assume the defense, the Indemnified Party may negotiate a settlement, which shall be presented to the Indemnifying Party. If the Indemnifying Party refuses to agree to the presented settlement, the Indemnifying Party may take over the defense. If the Indemnifying Party refuses to agree to the presented settlement and refuses to take over the defense, the Indemnifying Party shall be liable for any reasonable cash settlement not involving any admission of liability by the Indemnifying Party, though such settlement may have been made by the Indemnified Party without approval of the Indemnifying Party, it being the Parties' intent that no settlement involving a non-monetary concession by the Indemnifying Party, including an admission of liability by such Party, shall take effect without the written approval of the Indemnifying Party.
- 8.6.9 Each Party agrees to cooperate and to cause its employees and agents to cooperate with the other Party in the defense of any such claim and the relevant records of each Party shall be available to the other Party with respect to any such defense, subject to the restrictions and limitations set forth in Section 9.
- 8.7 Apportionment of Fault. Except for losses alleged or claimed by a Customer of either Party and except as otherwise provided in specific appendices, in the case of any loss alleged or claimed by a third party arising out of the negligence or willful misconduct of both Parties, each Party shall bear, and its obligation under this Section shall be limited to, that portion of the resulting expense caused by its own negligence or willful misconduct or that of its agents, servants, contractors, or others acting in aid or concert with it.
  - 8.7.1 The Parties are not liable for any act or omission of other Providers.

8.7.2 Failure of either Party to insist on performance of any term or condition of this Agreement or to exercise any right or privilege hereunder shall not be construed as a continuing or future waiver of such term, condition, right or privilege

# 8.8 NO CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES

NEITHER THE TELEPHONE COMPANY NOR THE CMRS PROVIDER SHALL BE LIABLE TO THE OTHER PARTY FOR ANY INDIRECT, INCIDENTAL, CONSEQUENTIAL, RELIANCE, OR SPECIAL DAMAGES SUFFERED BY SUCH OTHER PARTY (INCLUDING. WITHOUT LIMITATION, DAMAGES FOR HARM TO BUSINESS, LOST REVENUES, LOST SAVINGS, OR LOST PROFITS SUFFERED BY SUCH OTHER PARTY), REGARDLESS OF THE FORM OF ACTION, WHETHER IN CONTRACT, WARRANTY, STRICT LIABILITY, OR TORT, INCLUDING, WITHOUT LIMITATION, NEGLIGENCE WHETHER ACTIVE OR PASSIVE, AND REGARDLESS OF WHETHER THE PARTIES KNEW OF THE POSSIBILITY THAT SUCH DAMAGES COULD RESULT. EACH PARTY HEREBY RELEASES THE OTHER PARTY (AND SUCH OTHER PARTY'S SUBSIDIARIES AND AFFILIATES AND THEIR RESPECTIVE OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, EMPLOYEES AND AGENTS) FROM ANY SUCH CLAIM. NOTHING CONTAINED IN THIS SECTION WILL LIMIT EITHER PARTIES LIABILITY TO THE OTHER FOR (i) WILLFUL OR INTENTIONAL MISCONDUCT (INCLUDING GROSS NEGLIGENCE) OR (ii) BODILY INJURY, DEATH, OR DAMAGE TO TANGIBLE REAL OR TANGIBLE PERSONAL PROPERTY TO PROXIMATELY CAUSED BY THE TELEPHONE COMPANY'S OR THE CMRS PROVIDER'S NEGLIGENT ACT OR OMISSION OR THAT OF THEIR RESPECTIVE AGENTS, SUBCONTRACTORS OR EMPLOYEES, NOR WILL ANYTHING CONTAINED IN THIS SECTION LIMIT THE PARTIES' INDEMNIFICATION OBLIGATIONS, AS SPECIFIED HEREIN.

# 8.9 RELEASES

In resolution of the Parties rights, and in further consideration of this Agreement, each Party releases, acquits and discharges the other Party of and from any claim, debt, demand, liability, action or cause of action arising from or relating to the payment of money for the transport and termination of traffic prior to the Effective Date of this Agreement.

# 9.0 Confidentiality and Proprietary Information

- 9.1 For the purposes of this Agreement, Confidential Information ("Confidential Information") means confidential or proprietary technical or business information given by one Party (the "Discloser") to the other (the "Recipient"). All information which is disclosed by one Party to the other in connection with this Agreement, during negotiations and the term of this Agreement will not be deemed Confidential Information to the Discloser and subject to this Section 9, unless the confidentiality of the information is confirmed in writing by the Discloser prior to disclosure. The Recipient agrees (i) to use Confidential Information only for the purpose of performing under this Agreement, (ii) to hold it in confidence and disclose it to no one other than its employees having a need to know for the purpose of performing under this Agreement, and (iii) to safeguard it from unauthorized use or discloser using at least the same degree of care with which the Recipient safeguards its own Confidential Information. If the Recipient wishes to disclose the Discloser's Confidential Information to a third-party agent or consultant, such disclosure must be agreed to in writing by the Discloser, and the agent or consultant must have executed a written agreement of nondisclosures and nonuse comparable in scope to the terms of this section.
- 9.2 The Recipient may make copies of Confidential Information only as reasonably necessary to perform its obligations under this Agreement. All such copies will be subject to the same restrictions and protections as the original and will bear the same copyright and proprietary rights notices as are contained on the original.

- 9.3 The Recipient agrees to return all Confidential Information in tangible form received from the Discloser, including any copies made by the Recipient, within thirty (30) days after a written request is delivered to the Recipient, or to destroy all such Confidential Information if directed to do so by Discloser except for Confidential Information that the Recipient reasonably requires to perform its obligations under this Agreement; the Recipient shall certify destruction by written letter to the Discloser. If either Party loses or makes an unauthorized disclosure of the Party's Confidential Information, it will notify such other Party immediately and use its best efforts to retrieve the lost or wrongfully disclosed information.
- 9.4 The Recipient shall have no obligation to safeguard Confidential Information: (i) which was in the possession of the Recipient free of restriction prior to its receipt from the Discloser; (ii) after it becomes publicly known or available through no breach of this Agreement by the Recipient; (iii) after it is rightfully acquired by the Recipient free of restrictions on its disclosure; (iv) after it is independently developed by personnel of the Recipient to whom the Discloser's Confidential Information had not been previously disclosed. In addition, either Party will have the right to disclose Confidential Information to any mediator, arbitrator, state or federal regulatory body, or a court in the conduct of any mediation, arbitration or approval of this Agreement, as long as, in the absence of an applicable protective order, the Discloser has been previously notified by the Recipient in time sufficient for the Recipient to undertake all lawful measures to avoid disclosing such confidential information and for Discloser to have reasonable time to seek or negotiate a protective order before or with any applicable mediator, arbitrator, state or regulatory body or a court.
- 9.5 Nothing in this Agreement is intended to limit the ability of either Party to use customer specific information lawfully obtained from End Users or sources other than the Discloser.
- 9.6 Each Party's obligations to safeguard Confidential Information disclosed prior to expiration or termination of this Agreement will survive such expiration or termination.
- 9.7 No license is hereby granted under any patent, trademark, or copyright, nor is any such license implied solely by virtue of the disclosure of any Confidential Information.
- 9.8 Each Party agrees that the Discloser may be irreparably injured by a disclosure in breach of this Agreement by the Recipient or its representatives and the Discloser will be entitled to seek equitable relief, including injunctive relief and specific performance, in the event of any breach or threatened breach of the confidentiality provisions of this Agreement. Such remedies will not be deemed to be the exclusive remedies for a breach of this Agreement, but will be in addition to all other remedies available at law or in equity.

# 10.0 Finality of Disputes

No claims shall be brought for disputes arising from this Agreement more than twenty-four (24) months from the date of occurrence which gives rise to the dispute, or beyond the applicable statute of limitations, whichever is shorter.

#### 11.0 Intervening Law

11.1 The terms and conditions of this Agreement shall be subject to any and all applicable laws, rules, regulations, orders or guidelines that subsequently may be prescribed by any federal or state government authority with jurisdiction. To the extent required or permitted by any such subsequently prescribed law, rule, regulation, order or guideline, the Parties agree to negotiate in good faith toward an agreement to modify, in writing, any affected term or condition of this Agreement to bring them into compliance with such law, rule, regulation, order or guideline. Upon failure to reach agreement to implement a change in laws, rules, regulations, orders or guidelines, either Party may seek arbitration before any regulatory authority with jurisdiction.

- 11.2 Each Party shall comply with all federal, state, and local laws, rules and regulations applicable to its performance under this Agreement.
- 12.0 Miscellaneous Provisions
- 12.1 Effective Date The effective date of this agreement is the date of the approval by the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission. The Parties shall work cooperatively and take all steps necessary and proper to expeditiously prosecute a joint application before the Commission seeking approval of this Agreement pursuant to the provisions of 47 U.S.C. §252. Each Party shall be responsible for its own costs and expenses incurred in obtaining approval of this Agreement from the Commission.

# 12.2 Term and Termination

- 12.2.1 This Agreement shall remain in effect for two (2) years after the effective date. Thereafter, the Agreement shall automatically renew for additional one (1) year terms, unless either Party gives the other Party written notice of intent to terminate at least sixty (60) days prior to the expiration date of the initial or renewed term.
- 12.2.2 Upon termination or expiration of this agreement in accordance with this Section, above:
  - (a) Each Party shall continue to comply with its obligations set forth in Section 9, Confidentiality and Proprietary Information.
  - (b) Each Party shall promptly pay all amounts (including any late payment charges) owed under this Agreement; and upon termination or expiration of this Agreement, each Party shall promptly pay all amounts (including any late payment charges) owed under this Agreement or place disputed amounts into an escrow account.
  - (c) Each Party's indemnification obligations shall survive.
- 12.2.3 Either Party may terminate this Agreement in whole or in part in the event of a default by the other Party, provided however, that the non-defaulting Party notifies the defaulting Party in writing of the alleged default and that the defaulting Party does not cure the alleged default within thirty (30) days of receipt of written notice thereof.
- 12.3 Binding Effect This Agreement will be binding on and inure to the benefit of the respective successors and permitted assigns of the Parties.
- 12.4 Assignment Neither Party may assign, subcontract, or otherwise transfer its rights or obligations under this Agreement except under such terms and conditions as are mutually acceptable to the other Party and with such Party's prior written consent, which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld, delayed, or conditioned; provided, that either Party may assign its rights and delegate its benefits, and delegate its duties and obligations under this Agreement without the consent of the other Party to a parent, one hundred (100) per cent owned affiliate or subsidiary of that Party for the continued provisioning of the telecommunications service under this Agreement.
- 12.5 Third Party Beneficiaries This Agreement shall not provide any non-party with any remedy, claim, cause of action or other right.

- 12.6 Force Majeure - Neither Party shall be responsible for delays or failures in performance resulting from acts or occurrences beyond the reasonable control of such Party, regardless of whether such delays or failures in performance were foreseen or foreseeable as of the date of this Agreement, including, without limitation: fire, explosion, power failure, acts of God, war, revolution, civil commotion, or acts of public enemies; any law, order, regulation, ordinance or requirement of any government or legal body; or labor unrest, including, without limitation strikes, slowdowns, picketing or boycotts; or delays caused by the other Party or by other service or equipment vendors; or any other circumstances beyond the Party's reasonable control. In such event, the Party affected shall, upon giving prompt notice to the other Party, be excused from such performance on a day-to-day basis to the extent of such interference (and the other Party shall likewise be excused from performance of its obligations on a day-for-day basis to the extent such Party's obligations relate to the performance so interfered with). The affected Party shall use its reasonable commercial efforts to avoid or remove the cause of non-performance and both Parties shall proceed to perform with dispatch once the causes are removed or cease.
- DISCLAIMER OF WARRANTIES THE PARTIES MAKE NO REPRESENTATIONS OR WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO ANY WARRANTY AS TO MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR INTENDED OR PARTICULAR PURPOSE WITH RESPECT TO SERVICES OR FACILITIES PROVIDED HEREUNDER. ADDITIONALLY, NEITHER PARTY ASSUMES ANY RESPONSIBILITY WITH REGARD TO THE CORRECTNESS OF DATA OR INFORMATION SUPPLIED BY THE OTHER PARTY WHEN THIS DATA OR INFORMATION IS ACCESSED AND USED BY A THIRD PARTY.
- 12.8 Survival of Obligations Any liabilities or obligations of a Party for acts or omissions prior to the cancellation or termination of this Agreement, any obligation of a Party under the provisions regarding indemnification, Confidential Information, limitations on liability, and any other provisions of this Agreement which, by their terms, are contemplated to survive (or to be performed after) termination of this Agreement, will survive cancellation or termination thereof.
- 12.9 Waiver The failure of either Party to enforce or insist that the other Party comply with the terms or conditions of this Agreement, or the waiver by either Party in a particular instance of any of the terms or conditions of this Agreement, shall not be construed as a general waiver or relinquishment of the terms and conditions, but this Agreement shall be and remain at all times in full force and effect.

# 12.10 Patents, Trademarks and Trade Names

- 12.10.1 With respect to claims of patent infringement made by third persons, the Parties shall defend, indemnify, protect and save harmless the other from and against all claims arising out of the improper combining with or use by the indemnifying Party of any circuit, apparatus, system or method provided by that Party or its End Users in connection with the Interconnection arrangements furnished under this Agreement.
- 12.10.2 No license under patents is granted by either Party to the other, or shall be implied or arise by estoppel with respect to any circuit, apparatus, system, or method used by either Party in connection with any Interconnection Arrangements or services furnished under this Agreement.
- 12.10.3 Nothing in this Agreement will grant, suggest, or imply any authority for one Party to use the name, trademarks, service marks, or trade names of the other for any purpose whatsoever, absent prior written consent of the other Party.

#### 12.11 Relationship of the Parties

- 12.11.1 This Agreement is for the sole benefit of the Parties and their permitted assigns, and nothing herein express or implied shall create or be construed to create any third-party beneficiary rights hereunder.
- 12.11.2 Except for provisions herein expressly authorizing a Party to act for another, nothing in this Agreement shall constitute a Party as a legal representative or agent of the other Party, nor shall a Party have the right or authority to assume, create or incur any liability or any obligation of any kind, express or implied, against or in the name or on behalf of the other Party unless otherwise expressly permitted by such other Party.
- 12.11.3 Except as otherwise expressly provided in this Agreement, no Party undertakes to perform any obligation of the other Party, whether regulatory or contractual, or to assume any responsibility for the management of the other Party's business.
- 12.11.4 Each Party is an independent contractor, and has and hereby retains the right to exercise full control of and supervision over its own performance of its obligations under this Agreement and retains full control over the employment, direction, compensation and discharge of its employees assisting in the performance of such obligations. Each Party and each Party's contractor(s) shall be solely responsible for all matters relating to payment of such employees, including the withholding or payment of all applicable federal, state and local income taxes, social security taxes and other payroll taxes with respect to its employees, as well as any taxes, contributions or other obligations imposed by applicable state unemployment or workers' compensation acts and all other regulations governing such matters. Each Party has sole authority and responsibility to hire, fire and otherwise control its employees.
- 12.11.5 Nothing contained herein shall constitute the Parties as joint venturers, partners, employees or agents of one another, and neither Party shall have the right or power to bind or obligate the other. Nothing herein will be construed as making either Party responsible or liable for the obligations and undertakings of the other Party. Except for provisions herein expressly authorizing a Party to act for another, nothing in this Agreement shall constitute a Party as a legal representative or agent of the other Party, nor shall a Party have the right or authority to assume, create or incur any liability or any obligation of any kind, express or implied, against or in the name or on behalf of the other Party unless otherwise expressly permitted by such other Party.
- 12.12 Services Each Party is solely responsible for the services it provides to its End Users and to other Telecommunications Carriers.
- 12.13 Notices Any notice to a Party required or permitted under this Agreement shall be in writing and shall be deemed to have been received on the date of service if served personally; on the date receipt is acknowledged in writing by the recipient if delivered by regular mail; or on the date stated on the receipt if delivered by certified or registered mail or by a courier service that obtains a written receipt. Notice may also be provided by facsimile, which shall be effective on the next Business Day following the date of transmission as reflected in the facsimile confirmation sheet. Any notice shall be delivered using one of the alternatives mentioned in this section and shall be directed to the applicable address indicated below or such address as the Party to be notified has designated by giving notice in compliance with this section.

For James Valley Wireless:

James Valley Wireless Attn: James Groft 235 East First Avenue PO Box 320 Groton, SD 57445-0320

Fax: (605) 397-2350

For Interstate Telecommunications

Cooperative, Inc.:

Interstate Telecommunications Cooperative, Inc.

Attn: Jerry Heiberger 312 Fourth Street West Clear Lake, SD 57226 Fax: (605) 874-2014

- 12.14 Expenses Except as specifically set out in this Agreement, each Party will be solely responsible for its own expenses involved in all activities related to the subject of this Agreement.
- 12.15 Headings The headings in this Agreement are inserted for convenience and identification only and will not be considered in the interpretation of this Agreement.
- 12.16 Governing Law For all claims under this Agreement, that are based upon issues within the jurisdiction of the FCC or governed by federal law, the Parties agree that the remedies for such claims shall be governed by the FCC and the Act. For all claims under this agreement that are based upon issues within the jurisdiction of the Commission or governed by state law, the Parties agree that the jurisdiction for all such claims shall be with such Commission, and the remedy for such claims shall be as provided for by such Commission. In all other respects, this Agreement shall be governed by the domestic laws of the State of South Dakota without reference to conflict of law provisions.
- 12.17 Multiple Counterparts This Agreement may be executed in multiple counterparts, each of which will be deemed an original but all of which will together constitute but one and the same document.
- 12.18 Complete Terms This Agreement together with its appendices and exhibits constitutes the entire agreement regarding the exchange and compensation for Local Traffic between the Parties and supersedes all prior discussions, representations or oral understandings reached between the Parties. Appendices and exhibits referred to herein are deemed attached hereto and incorporated by reference. Neither Party shall be bound by any amendment, modification or additional terms unless it is reduced to writing and signed by authorized representatives of both Parties.
- 12.19 This Agreement is the joint work product of the Parties and has been negotiated by the Parties and their respective counsel and shall be fairly interpreted in accordance with its terms and, in the event of any ambiguities, no inferences shall be drawn against either Party.
- 12.20 No provision of this Agreement shall be deemed amended or modified by either Party unless such an amendment or modification is in writing, dated, and signed by an authorized representative of both Parties.
- 12.21 Neither Party shall be bound by any preprinted terms additional to or different from those in this Agreement that may appear subsequently in the other Party's form documents, purchase orders, quotations, acknowledgments, invoices or other communications.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties have executed this Agreement through their duly authorized representatives.

| Interstate Telecommunications Cooperative, Inc.  BY: Lety Leberger | James Valley Wireless  BY:  |
|--|-----------------------------|
| (Signature)  | (Signature)                 |
| NAME: Jerry Heberger (Printed)                                     | NAME: James Groft (Printed) |
| TITLE: General Manager   | TITLE: CEO                  |
| DATE: 8/15/12  | DATE: 8/17/12               |