

**SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
LIFELINE/LINK UP ADVERTISING/OUTREACH
ANNUAL REPORT
JUNE 1, 2012**

Company: Western Telephote Company
Address: 218 Commercial Ave. SE
PO Box 476
Highmore, SD 57345
Telephone number: 605-852-2224
Company contact: Janelle Jessen / Rod Kusser
Study Area Code: 391688

Lifeline/Link Up Advertising/Outreach Activities:

- Advertise in media of general distribution.* (See attached advertisement(s).)
- Letter to existing and new customers regarding the availability of Lifeline/Link Up.* (See attached letter.)
- Company's Lifeline/Link Up information in directory.
- Company's Lifeline/Link Up information available on Company website.
(www.companywebsiteaddress.com) www.venturcomm.net
- Company's information posted on USAC website.
- Other (describe): _____

*Required

General Lifeline/Link-Up Advertisements



Save up to \$177 EVERY YEAR !

*Spend it, invest it, save it
You make the choice.*

Lifeline—Link-Up is a federally funded program created to provide every customer the opportunity to have affordable telephone service.

You may be able to save \$8.25 EVERY month if you're enrolled in one of the following:

Food Stamps
Low Income Home Energy Assistance
Medicaid
Supplemental Security Income
Federal Public Housing Assistance
Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program
National School Lunch free lunch program

Individuals who live on a federally recognized reservation or trust land may qualify for a discount of \$14.75 EVERY month if they receive assistance from one of the following:

Food Stamps
Low Income Home Energy Assistance
Medicaid
Supplemental Security Income
Federal Public Housing Assistance
Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program
National School Lunch free lunch program
Bureau of Indian Affairs general assistance program
Tribally or State Administered Temporary Assistance for Needy Families
Head Start (meeting income qualifying standards)
Household of 4 living on tribal/trust land w/combined income of \$27,000

Call Venture Communications

1-800-824-7282

Visit with a local, reliable person to get signed up today.

***Car Accidents**
***Personal Injury**
***Criminal Defense**
***Family Law**

**Delaney, Vander Linden,
Delaney & Nielsen**
Attorneys at Law



held for others.

LANDFILL

Randy Deutsch-Landfill Manager met with Commissioners and presented a draft copy of the Landfill Permit he had received from Department of Environment and Natural Resources issued in 2011 with expiration date of 2016. Written response to the permit will be accepted until February 18 and after that period, if no comment, the permit will be issued.

Deutsch discussed that the Landfill revenue increased \$83,000 from 2009 to 2010. The Commissioners and Deutsch will look at increased fees for 2012

Suckian discussed equipment breakdowns.

SURPLUS PROPERTY NOTICE

Motion by DeCoteau, seconded by Zempel to accept and publish the notice for advertisement of former Community Health building. Motion carried 5-0.

WEED & PEST CONFERENCE

Motion by Navratil, seconded by DeCoteau to pay necessary expenses for Eddie Yost-Weed Supervisor and Tim Zemel to attend Weed & Pest Conference in Huron on February 16-18. Motion carried 5-0.

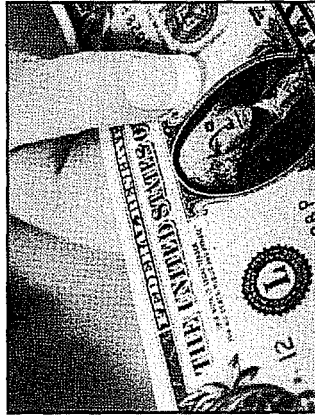
After discussion, motion by Crawford, seconded by Navratil to accept that Mendenhall has met the requirement stated in Resolution 2009-41 and recommends approval. Roll call vote was called/DeCoteau-aye, Navratil-aye, Crawford-aye, Zempel-naye. Motion carried.

PLAT/RESOLUTIONS

Motion by DeCoteau, seconded by Navratil to approve the following plat/resolutions that were previously approved by Planning and Zoning-motion carried 5-0:

RESOLUTION 2011-01

Be it resolved by the Board



SAVE UP TO \$177 EVERY YEAR!

*Spend it, invest it, save it
You make the choice.*

Lifeline - Link-up is a federally funded program created to provide every customer the opportunity to have affordable telephone service.

You may be able to save \$8.25 EVERY month if you're enrolled in one of the following:

- Food Stamps
- Low Income Home Energy Assistance
- Medicaid
- Supplemental Security Income
- Federal Public Housing Assistance
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program
- National School Lunch free lunch program

Individuals who live on a federally recognized reservation or trust land may qualify for a discount of \$14.75 EVERY month if they receive assistance from one of the following:

- Food Stamps
- Low Income Home Energy Assistance
- Medicaid
- Supplemental Security Income
- Federal Public Housing Assistance
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program
- National School Lunch free lunch program
- Bureau of Indian Affairs general assistance program
- Tribally or State Administered Temporary Assistance for Need Families
- Head Start (meeting income qualifying standards)
- Household of 4 living on tribal/trust land w/ combined income of \$27,000

**Call Venture Communications
1-800-824-7282**

Visit with a local, reliable person to get signed up today.

**LETTER/BILL STUFFER INFORMING
EXISTING AND NEW CUSTOMERS OF
AVAILABILITY OF LIFELINE/LINK-UP**

LOW-INCOME ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE

Venture Communications, Inc. is authorized to provide two federal telephone assistance programs that were developed in response to concerns about the affordability of telephone service for low-income citizens.

The **Lifeline** program provides reduced monthly charges to telephone subscribers who qualify.

The **Link-up** program provides reduced connection charges to telephone subscribers who qualify.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

Subscribers must participate in at least one of the following public assistance programs to be eligible:

- Food Stamps
- Federal Housing Assistance
- Low Income Home Energy Assistance
- Medicaid
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

WHAT DO THE PROGRAMS PROVIDE?

Lifeline provides eligible subscribers with a credit of \$8.25 each month on the basic service portion of their phone bill. The credit applies on the main home telephone line listed in the name of the eligible telephone company subscriber. **Lifeline** subscribers may also receive blocking of long distance calls on their telephone line at no charge.

Link-up provides eligible subscribers with reduced connection charges for their basic home telephone service. This reduction is 50% of the applicable charges or \$30.00, whichever is less. **Link-up** also provides for deferred payment of the connect charges without interest. It does not cover the cost of wiring inside your home and is limited to one time- per home address -per subscriber.

HOW DO I APPLY?

If you meet the eligibility requirements, **completely fill out and sign** the application form provided in this brochure and mail it to: Venture Communications, Inc., PO Box 157, Highmore, SD 57345.

COULD I BECOME INELIGIBLE?

When you no longer participate in any of the qualifying public assistance programs, you are no longer eligible for **Lifeline** or **Link-up**. You are obligated by law to notify Venture Communications, Inc. and advise the company that you are no longer eligible for **Lifeline & Link-up**.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

If you have questions about **Lifeline** or **Link-up**, the application form or your telephone service, contact Venture Communications, Inc. at 1-800-824-7282 for more information.

Lifeline Link-up Advertisement in Company Directory

venture vision

Video TV Areas Served *

- ◆ Service in Town and Rural Areas
Agar, Blunt, Cresbard, Faulkton, Gettysburg, Harrold, Highmore, Hitchcock, Hoven, Onaka, Onida, Orient, Polo, Ree Heights, Seneca, Tolstoy, Tulare, Wessington and Wessington Springs
- ◆ Service in Town Only
Britton, Eden, Langford, Pierpont, Rosholt and Sisseton
- ◆ Service in Rural Area Only
Bowdle and Roscoe

*For video trouble, including closed caption trouble, please call 1-800-824-7282.

Channel Listings Include (Channels Vary by Service Area)

- ◆ All major networks (ABC, NBC, CBS, FOX and Public Broadcasting)
- ◆ ESPN, USA, Disney, CNN, Nickelodeon, American Movie Classics, The Weather Channel, TNN, Discovery, WGN (Chicago) and much more
- ◆ Movie, HD and Pay-Per-View Channels Available (optional for an additional fee)
- ◆ Go to www.venturecomm.net for a complete channel lineup.

Additional Features

- ◆ Local Channel available in most areas.
 - 1) provides local weather information.
 - 2) provides community service advertisements free of charge.
 - 3) other messages or advertisements may be placed on the local channel for a small fee.
- ◆ DVR & Whole Home DVR Service
- ◆ One Bill – Video charges are included in your monthly telephone bill, leaving you only one bill to pay.

Lifeline/Linkup and Enhanced Lifeline/Linkup Discounts

Venture Communications offers a program to its low-income subscribers that results in a rate reduction on installation and monthly services. Subscribers who participate in any of the following programs also qualify for participation in our Lifeline/Linkup programs:

- Medicaid (e.g. Title XIX/Medical, State Supplemental Assistance)
- Food Stamps program
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Federal Public Housing Assistance (Section 8)
- Low Income Home Energy Assistance
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program
- National School Lunch (NSL) free lunch program

In addition, a subscriber may qualify for this program if their household income is at or below 135 percent of the Federal Poverty Guidelines.

Participation in any of the above programs as well as some tribal assistance programs will qualify a subscriber living on tribal lands for the Enhanced Lifeline program.

For additional information and applications forms, please contact our office at 800-824-7282.

**Lifeline Link-up Information on
Company Website**

Venture Communications Cooperative

- [view bill / pay bill](#)
- [check webmail](#)

- [home](#)
- [packages](#)
- [voice](#)
- [video](#)
- [internet](#)
- [wireless](#)
- [business](#)
- [about us](#)
- [my venture](#)

- [Voice](#)
- [Calling Features & Guide](#)
- [Venture Calling Plans](#)
- [Long Distance Carriers](#)
- [Telephone Assistance Programs](#)

Quick Links

- [Sign Up Now! Sign up for our services.](#)
- [Contact Us Get in touch.](#)
- [FAQs Get answers to common questions.](#)

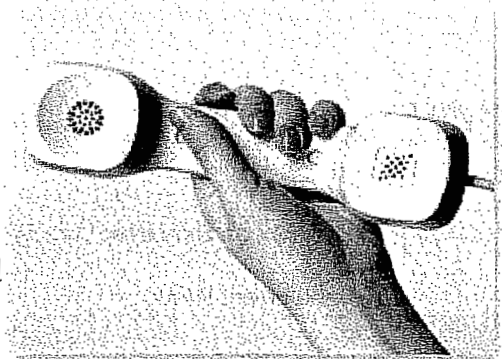
Telephone Assistance Programs

LINKUP AND LIFELINE

Government assistance programs are available that offer qualified consumers discounts on activation fees, installation and monthly telephone billing. Contact Venture Communications today at 1-800-824-7282 for further information regarding these programs. To sign up, click on the appropriate link below, fill out the application online, print and mail to the address on the form.

[Lifeline/Linkup Application](#)

[Lifeline/Linkup Tribal Application](#)



Clear Connections

© 2012 Venture Communications Cooperative, Inc. | 1-800-824-7282 | venture@venturecomm.net