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April 24, 2013

**VIA ELECTRONIC FILING**

Patricia Van Gerpen  
Executive Director  
South Dakota Public Utilities Commission  
Capitol Building, First Floor  
500 East Capitol Ave.  
Pierre, SD 57501

**Re: Ionex Communications North, Inc. d/b/a Birch Communications and  
Covista, Inc. - Notification of Transfer of Customers and Assets**

Dear Ms. Van Gerpen:

On February 1, 2013, Ionex Communications North, Inc. dba Birch Communications (“Ionex”) and Covista, Inc. (“Covista”) (collectively, “Applicants”) filed a Notification with the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (“Commission”) of the transfer of the assets and customers of Covista to Ionex (the “Transaction”). The Applicants hereby notify the Commission that the Transaction was consummated on March 25, 2013.

As stated in the Notification, Covista will make a subsequent filing to cancel Covista’s authorization to provide telecommunications services in South Dakota and any currently effective tariffs it may have on file. The contact person for any future correspondence with Covista is Ron Kuzon, who can be reached at rkuzon@hotmail.com or 914-414-6692, or c/o Douglas D. Orvis, Bingham McCutchen, 2020 K Street, NW, Washington, DC 20006.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,



Angela F. Collins

Counsel for Ionex Communications North,  
Inc. dba Birch Communications