

BEFORE THE SOUTH DAKOTA  
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION FOR  
APPROVAL OF AN AMENDMENT TO  
THE ACCESS TARIFFS OF INTERSTATE  
TELECOMMUNICATIONS  
COOPERATIVE, INC.

DOCKET NO. \_\_\_\_\_

PETITION FOR APPROVAL OF AN  
AMENDMENT TO THE TARIFF  
OF INTERSTATE  
TELECOMMUNICATIONS  
COOPERATIVE, INC.

COMES NOW the Petitioner, Interstate Telecommunications Cooperative, Inc., a South Dakota cooperative corporation (“ITC”), by and through its undersigned counsel, and, pursuant to SDCL § 49-31-12.2, respectfully requests that the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (the “Commission”) approve amendments, as described below, to those tariffs governing its operations as both an incumbent and a competitive local exchange carrier.

**FACTUAL BACKGROUND**

1. On November 29, 2012, this Commission issued an Order granting Amended Certificates of Authority to ITC and SSTELECOM, Inc. (“SSTI”). Specifically, the Commission approved ITC’s Application to (1) amend its Certificate of Authority to offer local exchange service to the former customers of Stockholm-Strandburg in the Revillo, South Shore and Stockholm local telephone exchanges and (2) amend SSTI’s Certificate of Authority to permit ITC, as the successor by merger, to operate as a competitive local exchange carrier in the exchanges served by SSTI.

2. During the Application process, ITC advised this Commission that it did not intend to consolidate the access tariffs of ITC and SSTI, but rather that it would submit a proposal following the merger to amend ITC’s respective tariffs so as to properly reflect the amendments to

the Certificates of Authority. ITC advised that it would submit its proposal within sixty (60) days of the merger.

3. Effective as of January 1, 2013, SSTI was merged with and into Stockholm pursuant to the provisions of SDCL Chapter 47-1A *et seq.* As of that same date, Stockholm was merged with and into ITC pursuant to the provisions of SDCL Chapter 47-18 *et seq.* As a result of the merger, all business is now conducted under the name of Interstate Telecommunications Cooperative, Inc. or its registered trade name "ITC." Use of the business names SSTELECOM, Inc. and Stockholm-Strandburg Telephone Co. has ceased.

#### **ILEC AND CLEC TARIFFS**

4. ITC participates in the Local Exchange Carriers Association ("LECA") tariff on file with this Commission. See [www.puc.sd.gov/Tariffs/leca.aspx](http://www.puc.sd.gov/Tariffs/leca.aspx). No changes to the terms and conditions governing the provision of ITC's switched access service will be made. ITC will continue to participate in and operate under the LECA tariff.

5. Prior to the merger, SSTI also participated in the LECA tariff, but had a separate tariff on file with this Commission so as to comply with the provisions of A.R.S.D. 20:10:27:02.01. See [www.puc.sd.gov/commission/tariffs/telecommunications/sstelecom.pdf](http://www.puc.sd.gov/commission/tariffs/telecommunications/sstelecom.pdf). As required by A.R.S.D. 20:10:27:02.01, SSTI's rates mirrored the intrastate switched access rate of the Regional Bell Operating Company operating in South Dakota or CenturyLink.

6. Pursuant to the terms, provisions and conditions of the November 29, 2012 Order Granting Amended certificates of Authority and the Order of the Commission in Docket No. TC05-223, ITC now operates as a competitive local exchange carrier in the exchanges served by SSTI. In order to address the merger, ITC proposes amendments to SSTI's tariff as reflected in

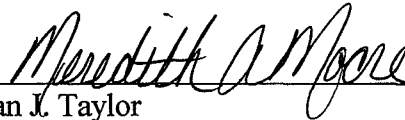
Exhibit A attached hereto. More specifically, ITC will substitute its name for SSTI's wherever SSTI's name appears in the current tariff. ITC will also add a parenthetical reference to the header information on each page, which reference will identify the service area in which the tariff is valid, such that a distinction is drawn between ITC's ILEC and CLEC operations. For greater ease of identification on the Commission's website, ITC proposes that ITC continue to be listed as "Interstate Telecommunications Cooperative, Inc." with a corresponding reference to the LECA Tariff. It further proposes that the existing reference to SSTELECOM be eliminated and replaced with a reference to "Interstate Telecommunications Cooperative, Inc. – CLEC."

With the exception of the above-referenced changes to company identifying information, the rates, terms and conditions under which ITC shall provide competitive local exchange service in the Milbank exchange will not change.

WHEREFORE, Petitioner respectfully requests that the Commission approve its proposed amendments to the existing tariff for SSTELECOM and grant any other relief or approvals necessary or appropriately identify the respective tariffs for ITC's ILEC and CLEC operations.

Dated this 28th day of February, 2013.

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