

GIL GJERE [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

August 3, 2014

South Dakota Public Utilities Commission
500 E. Capitol Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501

RECEIVED

AUG 06 2014

**SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC
UTILITIES COMMISSION**

Dear Sirs:

The attached notice appeared in our local Viborg Enterprise /Hurley Leader newspaper this week.

Since we have moved to Viborg in the fall of 2000 (14 years ago) , we have experienced five changes in ownership of our telephone, cable and internet service; essentially a change every two-three years. And EACH TIME, the cost of their services has gone up and up over the fourteen years.

When we moved here in 2000, we contracted with DTG (Dakota Telephone; a local company based in Irene, after a short while, that firm was sold to Mc Cloud; then, the previous owner of DTG bought it back and formed Prairie Wave Communication. Next, Prairie Wave was sold to Knology; then WOW. Now, we are facing another buy-out again. At least, when I read the attached notice, it appears this will be a more "LOCAL" company... not like the past few "out of the area" corporations.

Recently, I was told by a knowledgeable person that these short-time changes in ownership occur by INVESTORS who "buy" these companies, THEN raise the prices to recoup their investment; then sell the company to another CROOKED investor and the same scenario just repeats itself.

I think the Public Utilities Commission should investigate these former transfers of ownership in these five public utilities and do what is right for the citizens of SD, and the surrounding area alluded in the notice.

My cable, phone and internet bill has gone up exponentially since we moved here to Viborg, and I am seriously considering "cutting back" on some of their non-essential services/bundles. This is WHERE THEY MAKE THEIR MONEY AND RECOUP THEIR INVESTMENT..... PRICE GOUGING!!!!

This application needs to receive SERIOUS DISCUSSION by your Commission before being approved. Within fourteen years, the resale of these five former telecommunication companies in our community needs addressing! It's time the former investors are exposed for what they are----- CHEATS AND SCOUNDRILS ----who are ripping off the subscribers of our area for their own benefit.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gil Gjere". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Gil Gjere

GG:gg

on with Mount Marty's College
Softball team.

program, please visit www.mmtlancers.com or email head coach, Al-
bert Fernandez at afernandez@mtmc.edu.

NOTICE BY THE SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE PROPOSED SALE OF LOCAL TELEPHONE EXCHANGES

On July 15, 2014, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a joint application to approve the sale of certain local telephone exchanges from Kite Parent Corp.

(a subsidiary of WideOpenWest Finance, LLC ("WOW!")), on behalf of itself and its subsidiaries Knology of the Plains, Inc.; Knology of the Black Hills, LLC; Knology Community Telephone, Inc.; Knology of South Dakota, Inc.; and Black Hills Fiber Systems, Inc. (collectively referred to as "WOW! South Dakota") and Clarity Telecom, LLC ("Clarity"). WOW! South Dakota proposes to sell its local telephone exchanges to Clarity. The proposed sale affects a number of local telephone exchanges and includes the following communities: Alsen, Belle Fourche, rural Beresford, Black Hawk, Box Elder, Canton, Centerville, Central City, Chancellor, Colman, Davis, Deadwood, Elk Point, Flandreau, Flyger, Gayville, Harrisburg, Hurley, Irene, Lead, Lennox, Madison, Monroe, North Sioux City, Parker, Piedmont, Rapid City, Sioux Falls, Spearfish, St. Onge, Sturgis,

Summerset, Tea, Vermillion, Viborg, Volin, Wakonda, Watertown, Whitewood, Worthing, and Yankton. The application states that the sale is in the public interest for the following reasons: 1) while under the previous two owners many operational functions were completed out of state, Clarity's focus will solely be the operation and expansion of the networks located in South Dakota, Minnesota, and Iowa; 2) Clarity plans to upgrade the network infrastructure; 3) there will be no change in rates for local telephone services offered in the telephone exchanges resulting from the purchase;

4) Clarity will continue to provide enhanced 911; 5) there will be no reduction in tax revenues to the state of South Dakota resulting solely from the purchase and sale of the telephone exchanges; 6) Clarity is committed to providing modern state-of-the-art telecommunications services; and 7) and there will be no discontinuance, reduction, or impairment of any of the services presently offered.

The public is invited to participate by providing written comments to the Commission within 15 days of publication of this notice. Any member of the public may petition for intervention as a formal party in the proceeding by following the procedure set forth in ARSD 20:10:01:15.02, which is available at <http://legis.sd.gov/rules/DisplayRule.aspx?Rule=20:10:01:15.02> or which may be obtained by contacting the Commission. Petitions for intervention must be received by the Commission within 15 days of publication of this notice. If sufficient public interest is demonstrated or if requested by a party, the Commission may schedule a public hearing on the application. The Commission shall issue a final decision on the application in accordance with SDCL 49-31-59.

The public may offer comments or obtain copies of the application and other non-confidential filings in the case by contacting the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission, 500 E. Capitol Avenue, Pierre, SD 57501; phone 1-800-332-1782 or (605) 773-3201; fax 1-866-757-6031; e-mail: puc@state.sd.us. The application is also available on the Commission's website at: <http://puc.sd.gov/Dockets/Telecom/2014/TC14-073.aspx>.

Published once at an approximate cost of \$87.75

POSTED BY JAY SE

In November 2013, I had the idea to create a website blocking out the negative news and media.

He began by teaming up for Lifted Logic, which would become FeelGoodVideos.com, seeking out and creating videos featuring inspiring people.

By the spring of 2014, I was in the fall, and ready to launch. After almost a year of hard work, his site was finally a profit.

The goal of the site is to feature "stars" who are featured in this will be made possible by sponsors. He also hopes to have people willing to match the costs of attending their events.

"My ultimate goal is to grow the website and expose the website to as many people as possible. Then it'll really take off."

FeelGoodVideos.com features seven hours of independent films, similar to the films shown at the festival.

"I definitely want to see the future," Faulconer said, ranging from 5Ks to 10Ks.

Faulconer will be a senior year of college. To learn more, you can visit FeelGoodVideos.com.

Editor's Note:

Luke Faulconer is a senior who is a native of Yankton.



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