

of existing carriers and other suppliers intends to market these local transport services to “wireless providers and other sophisticated enterprise customers” (Application P.3).

3. All of the SDTA member companies operate as “rural telephone companies” for purposes of the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996 and also the state laws enacted in 1998 addressing local exchange competition (SDCL § 39-31-69, et. seq.).

4. SDTA files this Petition to Intervene because based on certain inconsistent statements in ExteNet’s Application it appears the company may in fact be seeking statewide certification to provide certain “local exchange services,” including more specifically “exchange access” services. Accepting this premise, all the SDTA member local exchange carriers (LECs) have an interest in and stand to be impacted by this proceeding. SDTA seeks intervention herein based on the individual interests of each of its member ILECs and based on their common interests to ensure that the rural safeguard provisions contained in federal and state laws are properly considered and applied.

5. ExteNet states in its Application that it “does not seek to operate in areas of the state designated as rural service areas” (p.4). It also, however, states that it is seeking “authority to provide local exchange telecommunications services throughout the State of South Dakota” (p.3). And further, states generally that ExteNet “proposes to serve the entire State of South Dakota where competition has been authorized and customer need arises” (p.4). These varying statements raise questions concerning the actual geographic scope of ExteNet’s request for local exchange service authority.

6. Also, while ExteNet has indicated it “does not provide switched end user services” and that “it will not be competing directly with rural telephone companies to provide end user local exchange services” (pp. 8, 9), no similar descriptive information is provided regarding the company’s wholesale transport services. More information is

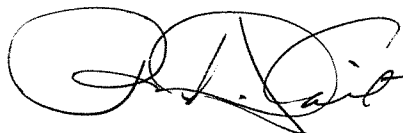
necessary to gauge the span or reach of ExteNet's telecommunications facilities into the public switched network and to determine whether or not its facilities would be used for the provision of "exchange access" services within rural telephone company service areas. Further, the Application fails to draw a clear picture as to how network facility and telecommunications service responsibilities are divided between ExteNet, as a wholesale provider, and its carrier customers.

7. And finally, if ExteNet is seeking statewide authority to offer local exchange services, the provisions of SDCL § 49-31-70 and ARSD 20:10:32:04 are applicable and require that notice of the Application be provided to other, already certified local exchange carriers. SDTA questions whether this notice has in fact been provided. ExteNet has not indicated in its' application that it has complied with this requirement.

8. Based on all of the foregoing, SDTA is an interested party in this matter and seeks intervening party status.

Dated this ~~13th~~ day of April, 2017.

Respectfully submitted:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. D. Coit", written in a cursive style.

Richard D. Coit
Executive Director and General Counsel