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June 10, 2019

Ms. Patricia Van Gerpen
Executive Director
South Dakota Public Utilities Commission
Capitol Building, First Floor
500 E. Capitol Avenue
Pierre, South Dakota 57501

Re: Network Billing Systems, LLC and Birch Communications, LLC
Notice of Filing of Chapter 11 Bankruptcy (Reorganization)

Dear Ms. Van Gerpen:

Network Billing Systems, LLC and Birch Communications, LLC¹ (together, the “Fusion SD Companies”) respectfully submit this letter to notify the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (the “Commission”) that on June 3, 2019, their parent company, Fusion Connect, Inc. and all of its U.S. subsidiaries, including the Fusion SD Companies (collectively, “Fusion”), filed for protection under Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of New York (the “Petition”).²

Fusion filed for Chapter 11 protection in order to restructure its capital structure. Following completion of the proposed restructuring, Fusion expects to emerge financially stronger. **Importantly, the filing of the Petition does not reflect, or result in, any immediate changes to Fusion’s current operations. The Fusion SD Companies continue to serve their customers on an uninterrupted basis and the Chapter 11 filing does not in any way alter the rates, terms and conditions under which they provide those services to their customers. Thus, the bankruptcy filing itself will be transparent to the customers of the Fusion SD**

¹ The Fusion SD Companies are authorized to provide telecommunications services in South Dakota. Network Billing Systems, LLC: Docket No. TC98-195 (January 6, 1999); Birch Communications, LLC: Docket No. TC17-067 (Feb. 14, 2018).

² *In re Fusion Connect, Inc., et al., Debtors*, Case No. 19-11811 (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. Jun. 3, 2019). As a consequence of this filing, the legal status of Fusion is now changed to debtors-in-possession. A complete copy of the Petition and related information is available at <https://CTses.primeclerk.com/Fusion>.

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Companies, as they will not experience any difference in how their service is provided or in the caliber of customer service available to them.

The Fusion SD Companies submit this initial notice for the Commission's information and will follow up with any required filings, including those necessary for the implementation of the reorganization. In the interim, as noted, all Fusion operations continue uninterrupted and contact information for each of the Fusion SD Companies remains unchanged.

Please direct any questions, communications or other correspondence regarding this notice and the Fusion Petition to:

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with a copy to:

James P. Prenetta, Jr.
Executive Vice President and General Counsel
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