

August 30, 2021 *Via Electronic Filing* 

Ms. Patricia Van Gerpen SD Public Utilities Commission 500 E. Capitol Ave. Pierre, SD 57501

Re: Interstate Telecommunications Cooperative, Inc. Application for Expanded Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier for Lifeline Only

Dear Ms. Van Gerpen:

On behalf of Interstate Telecommunications Cooperative, Inc. (ITC) we have attached for filing the Application for Expanded Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier (ETC) for Lifeline Only pursuant to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and SDPUC requirements. ITC has been awarded approximately \$5.5 million in South Dakota Connect Grant (Connect Grant) support to extend its broadband services to Lakes Poinsett and Albert and Rural Codington County in South Dakota. ITC plans to leverage and expand its existing FTTP network to provide high speed broadband and voice services, including Lifeline service, in these areas as described in the application.

ITC satisfies all the statutory and regulatory requirements for expanded designation as an ETC in the requested designated service area. As explained in the attached application, the public interest would be served by granting this petition.

Sincerely,

Mikaela Burma

Mikaela Burma Manager of Regulatory and Legal Phone: (605) 995-1742 Mikaela.Burma@Vantagepnt.com

Enclosure(s)

cc: Tracy Bandemer, General Manager/CEO, Interstate Telecommunications Cooperative, Inc.