

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA**

**IN THE MATTER OF THE APPROVAL OF A)
WIRELINE INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT)
BETWEEN QWEST CORPORATION DBA)
CENTURYLINK QC AND MATRIX TELECOM,)
LLC DBA EXCEL TELECOMMUNICATIONS (FKA)
COMTEL))**

**ORDER APPROVING
AGREEMENT**

TC18-003

On January 26, 2018, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a filing pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 252 for approval of a wireline interconnection agreement between Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink QC and Matrix Telecom, LLC dba Excel Telecommunications (fka Comtel).

On February 1, 2018, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing of the agreement to interested individuals and entities on the Commission's PUC Weekly Filings electronic listserv. The notice stated that any person wishing to comment on the parties' request for approval had until February 15, 2018, to do so. No comments were filed.

At its regularly scheduled meeting of February 22, 2018, the Commission considered whether to approve the negotiated agreement between Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink QC and Matrix Telecom, LLC dba Excel Telecommunications. Commission staff recommended approval.

The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapter 49-31 and the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996. In accordance with 47 U.S.C § 252(e)(2), the Commission found that the agreement does not discriminate against a telecommunications carrier that is not a party to the agreement and the agreement is consistent with the public interest, convenience, and necessity. The Commission unanimously voted to approve the agreement. It is therefore

ORDERED, that the Commission approves the Wireline Interconnection Agreement between Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink QC and Matrix Telecom, LLC dba Excel Telecommunications.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 28th day of February 2018.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE
The undersigned hereby certifies that this document has been served today upon all parties of record in this docket, as listed on the docket service list, electronically or by mail.
By: <u>Karen E. Cremer</u>
Date: <u>02/28/18</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Kristie Eiegen
KRISTIE EIEGEN, Chairperson

Gary Hanson
GARY HANSON, Commissioner

Chris Nelson
CHRIS NELSON, Commissioner