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*South Dakota*

**PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

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April 8, 2016

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

Ms. Van Gerpen,

This letter is to serve as a request to open a docket to set the gross receipts tax levy for fiscal year 2017.

Each public utility as defined in SDCL 49-34A-1 (12) and telecommunications company as defined in SDCL 49-31-1 (28) is to report their previous calendar year's (2015) intrastate revenue by April 1 (SDCL 49-1A-4). By May 1 of each year, the commission must establish the rate and assess the tax (SDCL 49-1A-3). The assessments along with the gross receipts cash balance cannot exceed the commission's current fiscal year budget along with next year's budget (SDCL 49-1A-4). That maximum cash balance for the fiscal year 2017 levy is \$3,998,714 .

The large number of charge-back dockets that the PUC has received over the past couple of years has increased our cash balance. To ensure that the PUC will remain under the maximum cash balance for fiscal year 2017, I am requesting that the gross receipts tax levy be set at .00135 or \$250 per company, whichever amount is greater.

Respectfully,

Cindy Kemnitz  
Finance Manager