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## SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

500 East Capitol Avenue  
Pierre, South Dakota 57501-5070  
[www.puc.sd.gov](http://www.puc.sd.gov)

Capitol Office  
(605) 773-3201  
1-866-757-6031 fax

Warehouse  
(605) 773-5280  
(605) 773-3225 fax

Consumer Hotline  
1-800-332-1782

June 25, 2008

Patricia Van Gerpen, Executive Director  
South Dakota Public Utilities Commission  
500 East Capitol Avenue  
Pierre, SD 57501

Dear Ms. Van Gerpen:

Qwest Corporation (Qwest) has sought, is seeking, or has indicated plans to seek Section 272 relief in South Dakota and the other Qwest states.

The Performance Assurance Plan (PAP) at Section 16.3 states:

Upon Qwest's elimination of its Section 272 affiliate or upon it exiting the interLATA market, Qwest may petition the Commission to phase out the PAP. At that time, a review of the PAP shall be conducted to determine whether a phase-out of the PAP is appropriate.

The Regional Oversight Committee Staff has recommended that Liberty Consulting be contracted to conduct a detailed review and analysis of both the PAP and the performance indicator descriptions. Each Qwest state commission would receive a copy of the analysis and report and then use the data and findings in whatever capacity it sees fit.

SDPUC Staff files this letter to request authorization to join the PAP review and to assist in paying for said review. Payment for the review would come from Tier 2 payments paid to the Commission by Qwest.

Respectfully submitted,

HARLAN BEST  
Utility Analyst