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

SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC
UTILITIES COMMISSION

**IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTABLISHMENT) TC04-106
OF SWITCHED ACCESS REVENUE)
REQUIREMENT FOR ALLIANCE) PETITION TO INTERVENE
COMMUNICATIONS COOPERATIVE, INC.)**

Pursuant to ARSD 20:10:01:15.02 AT&T Communications of the Midwest, Inc. ("AT&T"), by its undersigned counsel, petitions the Commission as follows:

1. AT&T is a certificated communications company under the jurisdiction of the Commission.

2. Alliance Communications Cooperative, Inc., ("Alliance") has or will file with the Commission, pursuant to pending staff data requests, supplemental information to justify its revised switched access separations study intended to provide a foundation for the computation of its intrastate switched access revenue requirement to be incorporated into the final LECA access tariff, which has been pending before the Commission for approximately one year.

3. AT&T recognizes this is a late filed petition for intervention. However, nothing of substance has occurred in this docket and in the LECA switched access rate docket, TC04-119. An initial filing was made, followed by an amendment to the filing. The Commission entered an order permitting the rates to go into effect subject to refund. The questions presented by this intervention and AT&T's proposed intervention in the LECA docket constitute a matter of public interest. Overstated switched access rates by the Association as a whole would constitute an undue burden upon Petitioner and Petitioner's customers, thus affecting a substantial segment of telephone traffic in the state.

4. AT&T has a direct interest in the outcome of this proceeding. As a certificated local exchange carrier and long distance carrier, AT&T and its customers are subject to the payment of switched access charges in order to do business with Alliance. Any increase in access rates increases the cost of doing business for AT&T and increases the cost of services that AT&T provides to its customers.

5. AT&T believes that Alliance, like all other carriers in the wire-line industry today, may be experiencing some decrease in traffic due to wireless and internet usage.

6. Alliance loss in traffic may be due, in part, to their own action deploying VoIP service or wireless service. Carriers, such as AT&T, forced to pay ever-increasing access rates to

Alliance should not be subject to the unfairness of paying higher access rates while Alliance or its affiliates also recover revenue for the same alleged traffic loss from their VoIP or wireless services.¹

RELIEF REQUESTED

WHEREFORE AT&T prays that the Commission permit its intervention and participation in this proceeding to examine and cross-examine witnesses, participate in discovery and offer evidence on its own behalf.

Dated this 21st day of September, 2005.

BY: 

**ATTORNEYS FOR AT&T COMMUNICATIONS
OF THE MIDWEST, INC.**

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¹ For example, AT&T will seek through discovery, among other areas, information on proper imputation based upon its belief that LECA members and their affiliates may not, in fact, be properly imputing their own access rates to their services. See "Separated access costs and related access charges must be imputed to all intracompany toll service minutes of usage." ARSD 20:10:27:05

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

John S. Lovald hereby certifies that on the 14th day of September, 2005, he mailed by United States mail, first class postage thereon prepaid, a true and correct copy of the Petition to Intervene in the above-captioned action to the following at their last known addresses, to-wit:

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Public Utilities Commission
500 East Capitol
Pierre, SD 57501

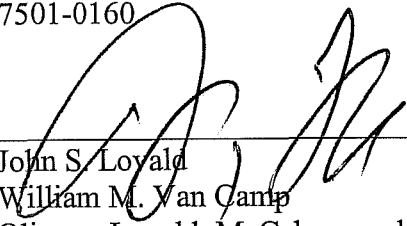
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