



Bob Sahr, Chair
Dustin Johnson, Vice-Chair
Gary Hanson, Commissioner

SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

500 East Capitol Avenue
Pierre, South Dakota 57501-5070
www.puc.sd.gov

Capitol Office
(605) 773-3201
(605) 773-3809 fax

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

Consumer Hotline
1-800-332-1782

February 28, 2006

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Karen Majcher
Vice President of the High Cost and Low Income Division
Universal Service Administrative Company
2000 L Street, NW – Suite 200
Washington, DC 20036

Universal Service Administrative Company
444 Hoes Lane
RRC 4A1060
Piscataway, NJ 08854

**Re: Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service, CC Docket No. 96-45,
Designation and Certification of Eligible Telecommunications Carriers**

Dear Ms. Dortch and Ms. Majcher:

Pursuant to section 214(e)(2) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended and 47 C.F.R. section 54.210, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (SDPUC) has designated Brookings Municipal Utilities d/b/a Swiftel Communications (Swiftel) as an eligible telecommunications carrier (ETC) for certain service areas in South Dakota, both rural and nonrural. Swiftel's study area code is 399009. As explained below, some of the rural designations require redefinition and concurrence by the FCC.

Swiftel was designated as an ETC for the following non-rural service areas of Qwest Corporation: Colman, Canton, Elk Point, Flandreau, Harrisburg/Tea, Madison, Ortonville, Milbank, North Sioux City, Sioux Falls, Tea, Volga, Vermillion, Watertown, and Yankton.

Swiftel was also designated as a competitive ETC in South Dakota for the following rural telephone companies' service areas located in South Dakota. These rural service areas do not require redefinition and are for immediate designation:

- a. Alliance Communications Cooperative, Inc. (Splitrock): Brandon and Garretson;
- b. Alliance Communications Cooperative, Inc. (Baltic): Alcester, Baltic, Crooks, and Hudson;
- c. Beresford Municipal Telephone Company: Beresford;
- d. City of Brookings Municipal Telephone Company: Brookings;
- e. Jefferson Telephone Company: Jefferson;
- f. Stockholm-Strandburg Telephone Company: Revillo, South Shore, and Stockholm;
- g. Union Telephone Company: Hartford and Wall Lake;
- h. PrairieWave Community Telephone, Inc.: Irene, Worthing, Parker, Hurley/Alsen/Flyger, Wakonda, Flyger, and rural Beresford; and
- i. Sioux Valley Telephone Company: Colton, Dell Rapids, and Humboldt.

In addition, Swiftel was designated as an ETC in additional rural service areas contingent upon the FCC's concurrence in redefinition of those service areas. The conditional ETC designations are for the following rural service areas:

- a. Citizens Telecommunications of Minnesota, Inc.: W. Jasper
- b. Farmers Mutual Telephone Company: West Marietta
- c. Fort Randall Telephone Company: Centerville, Tabor, Tyndall, and Viborg;
- d. Heartland Telecommunications Company of Iowa d/b/a HickoryTech Corporation: West Akron and West Hawarden;
- e. Interstate Telecommunications Cooperative, Inc. (MN): W. Hendricks;
- f. Interstate Telecommunications Cooperative, Inc. (SD): Astoria, Brookings-Rural, Bradley, Brandt, Bryant, Chester, Clear Lake, Clark, Castlewood, Elkton, Estelline, Florence, Gary, Goodwin, Hayti, Lake Norden, Nunda, Sinai, Toronto, White, Willow Lake, and Wentworth;

g. Hills Telephone Company: N. Larchwood and Valley Springs.

For the conditional ETC designations, the SDPUC is submitting a request to the FCC to concur in the SDPUC's redefinitions. If the FCC concurs in the redefinitions, the SDPUC will submit an additional letter regarding certification for these rural service areas.

For the ETC designations listed above that are not subject to redefinition, the SDPUC hereby states that Swiftel has been certified to receive support pursuant to 47 C.F.R. §§ 54.301, 54.305, 54.307 and/or 54.309, and/or part 36, subpart F. Swiftel has shown to the SDPUC that it will use all federal high-cost support provided to it only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended, consistent with section 254(e) of the Act.

Enclosed is the SDPUC's Order granting ETC designation and certification to Swiftel. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us for further information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rolayne Ailts Wiest".

ROLAYNE AILTS WIEST
Commission Attorney

Enclosure

cc: Mr. Richard J. Helsper
Mr. David A. LaFuria and
Ms. B. Lynn F. Ratnavale
Ms. Darla Pollman Rogers
Mr. Richard D. Coit