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May 19, 2005

NEXT DAY DELIVERY

Pamela Bonrud
Executive Director
SD Public Utilities Commission
500 E Capitol Avenue
Pierre SD 57501

RECEIVED
MAY 20 2005
SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC
UTILITIES COMMISSION

**RE: WWC's Responses to the Commission's inquiry into Lifeline Service
TC05-058**

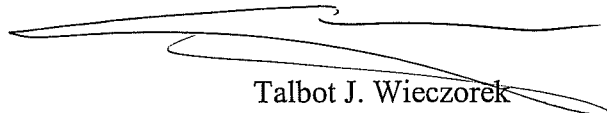
Dear Ms. Bonrud:

Enclosed please find WWC's Comments/Response in the above-entitled matter. The original and three copies have been sent to you by Federal Express. I was informed that at this point, only an original and three copies are needed. If this is incorrect and you need an additional seven copies, please let me know and I will send those immediately.

If you have any questions on the exhibits or the materials, please let me know. Further, the staff may feel free to inquire of Suzie Rao with Western Wireless on any specific questions on the attachments or additional explanation on any of the materials provided. Ms. Rao can be reached directly at 1-425-586-8287 or email at: suzie.rao@wwireless.com.

If you have any questions, please feel free call me.

Sincerely,



Talbot J. Wiczorek

TJW:klw
Enclosures
c: Client

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE REVIEW OF)
IMPLEMENTATION OF FCC)
REQUIREMENTS FOR LIFELINE AND) TC05-058
LINK-UP PROGRAMS AND THE)
DEVELOPMENT OF ADDITIONAL)
OUTREACH EFFORTS)

RESPONSE OF WESTERN WIRELESS CORPORATION

WWC License LLC (“Western Wireless” doing business in South Dakota as Cellular One) hereby provides this response to the Commission’s *Order Opening Docket and Requesting Information* dated April 15, 2005. Western Wireless is an eligible telecommunications carrier (“ETC”) in certain wire centers and study areas of incumbent local exchange carriers (“ILECs”) in South Dakota and on the Pine Ridge Indian reservation.¹ As an ETC, Western Wireless provides eligible low-income consumers with a discount on their basic telephone service (*e.g.*, Lifeline discount) and a reduction on installation/activation costs (*e.g.*, Link-up reduction), consistent with all applicable federal and state requirements.

Western Wireless has been actively promoting and offering Lifeline service and related Link-up discounts to eligible consumers in South Dakota. A significant number of low-income consumers are taking advantage of the Lifeline and Link-up offerings, a testament to the effectiveness of Western Wireless’ outreach efforts. Specifically, in response to the Commission’s request for information, attached are the following:

- Lifeline and Link-up certification forms for the state of South Dakota, including those used on tribal lands and non-tribal lands (Attachments A1 and A2);
- Promotional material (including both tribal and non-tribal documents (Attachments B1, and B2); and
- Examples of advertising include newspaper advertising, public service announcements on local radio stations, website advertising on: (a) the Company’s website (www.cellonewest.com); and (b) through the Universal Service Administrative Company (“USAC”) (Attachments C1, C2, C3 as examples).

¹ The Commission designated Western Wireless as an ETC in certain wire centers and study areas on October 18, 2001 (all non-rural telephone company exchanges), on January 6, 2003 (certain rural telephone companies) and on September 2, 2004 (additional rural companies’ study areas). The Federal Communications Commission (“FCC) designated Western Wireless as an ETC on the Pine Ridge Indian reservation on September 27, 2001, *In the Matter of Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service, Western Wireless Corporation Petition for Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier for the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota*, Memorandum Opinion and Order, CC Docket No. 96-45, FCC 01-283 (released October 5, 2001).

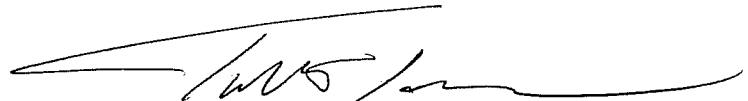
Because South Dakota is a federal default state for purposes of Lifeline implementation, Western Wireless complies with all applicable FCC rules, including the requirement to check the continued eligibility of a statistically valid sample of Lifeline customers and report those results to USAC. Western Wireless will report results to USAC by June 22, 2005.

Western Wireless is committed to serving the universal service needs of rural and low-income consumers. Through the efforts of Western Wireless, many rural and low-income consumers now have access to basic telephone service for the first time or are realizing the benefits of a competitive telecommunication market, including comparability with urban consumers, reduced rates, better service, and access to new and innovative service. South Dakota is at the forefront of the nation in terms of access to telecommunications services because of the forward thinking, pro-consumer policies of The Commission.

Western Wireless looks forward to continuing to work with the Commission in this docket and other forums and would gladly supplement its responses herein or provide additional information upon request by The Commission.

Dated this 19 day of May, 2005.

GUNDERSON, PALMER, GOODSSELL
& NELSON, LLP



Talbot J. Wiczorek
Attorneys for WWC License LLC
440 Mt. Rushmore Road
PO Box 8045
Rapid City SD 57709
Phone: 605-342-1078
Fax: 605-342-0480

Attachment A1

Federal Lifeline and/or Link-Up Assistance Certification form—
South Dakota (Tribal lands)

Sales Rep Name (Please Print) and Contact Phone Number _____

Customer Cellular One Phone Number _____ SSN# _____

Last Name _____ First Name _____ Middle Initial _____

Street/P.O. Box _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Link Up: If you have no telephone, check here: _____ CellularOneBAN# _____

Are you currently participating in one or more of these programs?

- Medicaid (e.g. TitleXIX/Medical State Supplemental Assistance)
- food stamps
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Federal Public Housing Assistance Program
- Low-Income Home Energy Assistance
- National School Lunch Program's Free Lunch program

In addition to the above criteria, an individual who lives on tribal lands may qualify for Low-Income assistance if the applicant receives benefits from one of the following programs:

- Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) General Assistance
- Tribally Administered Temporary Assistance for Needy Families
- Head Start (only for those meeting its income qualifying standard)
- National School Lunch Program's Free Lunch program

If you are not participating in any of the above-listed programs, is your total monthly gross household income within the 2005 federal poverty guidelines (FPG) listed below? (These figures are 135% of the FPG).

2005 Health and Human Services Poverty Guidelines

Size of Family Unit	48 Contiguous States and D.C. (Annual)	135% Guideline (Annual)	135% Guideline (Monthly)
1	\$9,570	\$12,920	\$1,077
2	12,830	17,321	1,443
3	16,090	21,722	1,810
4	19,350	26,123	2,177
5	22,610	30,524	2,544
6	25,870	34,925	2,910
7	29,130	39,326	3,277
8	32,390	43,727	3,644
For each additional person, add	3,260	4,401	367

Source: *Federal Register*, Vol. 70, No. 33, February 18, 2005, pp. 8373-8375.

Yes _____ No _____ (If yes, circle qualifying family household income.)

I certify under penalty of perjury that:

- I am eligible to receive benefits from the program(s) identified herein;
- The information contained on this form is true and correct to the best of my information and belief;
- I will notify Western Wireless Corporation, doing business as Cellular One, when I no longer participate in any of the qualifying public assistance programs identified herein or when I no longer satisfy the income requirements; and
- I have or will receive telecommunications service at my principle place of residence as listed above.

I have read the information on this application and understand that I must meet the above qualifications in order to received Lifeline assistance on my primary residential line.

Print Applicant Name _____ Date _____

Applicant Signature _____

I have reviewed the necessary documentation as described above, which establishes proof that the applicant is eligible to receive the Lifeline discount. Furthermore, for those applicants who present any document other than a previous year's tribal, federal or state income tax return as evidence of income, I verify that the applicant has presented three consecutive months worth of the same type of statement (e.g. paycheck stub) within the calendar year.

Print Sales Representative's Name _____

Sales Representative's Signature _____

Date _____

Attachment A2

Federal Lifeline and/or Link-Up Assistance Certification form—
 South Dakota (Non-tribal lands)

Sales Rep Name (Please Print) and Contact Phone Number _____

Customer Cellular One Phone Number _____ SSN# _____

Last Name _____ First Name _____ Middle Initial _____

Street/P.O. Box _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Link Up: If you have no telephone, check here: _____ CellularOneBAN# _____

Are you currently participating in one or more of these programs?

- Medicaid (e.g. TitleXIX/Medical State Supplemental Assistance)
- food stamps
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Federal Public Housing Assistance Program
- Low-Income Home Energy Assistance
- National School Lunch Program's Free Lunch program
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)

If you are not participating in one of the above programs, is your total monthly gross household income within the 2005 federal poverty guidelines (FPG) listed below? (These figures are 135% of the FPG).

2005 Health and Human Services Poverty Guidelines

Size of Family Unit	48 Contiguous States and D.C. (Annual)	135% Guideline (Annual)	135% Guideline (Monthly)
1	\$9,570	\$12,920	\$1,077
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8	32,390	43,727	3,644
For each additional person, add	3,260	4,401	367

Source: *Federal Register*, Vol. 70, No. 33, February 18, 2005, pp. 8373-8375.

Yes _____ No _____ (If yes, circle qualifying family household income.)

I certify under penalty of perjury that:

- I am eligible to receive benefits from the program(s) identified herein:

- The information contained on this form is true and correct to the best of my information and belief;
- I will notify Western Wireless Corporation, doing business as Cellular One, when I no longer participate in any of the qualifying public assistance programs identified herein or when I no longer satisfy the income requirements; and
- I have or will receive telecommunications service at my principle place of residence as listed above.

I have read the information on this application and understand that I must meet the above qualifications in order to received Lifeline assistance on my primary residential line.

Print Applicant Name _____ Date _____

Applicant Signature _____

I have reviewed the necessary documentation as described above, which establishes proof that the applicant is eligible to receive the Lifeline discount. Furthermore, for those applicants who present any document other than a previous year's federal or state income tax return as evidence of income, I verify that the applicant has presented three consecutive months worth of the same type of statement (e.g. paycheck stub) within the calendar year.

Print Sales Representative's Name _____

Sales Representative's Signature _____

Date _____

Attachment B1

South Dakota Residential Phone Service Rate Plan

\$14.99 per month – unlimited calling in local calling area

Includes detailed billing

For local calling area, please see local calling clusters provided by your Cellular One representative.

Features Available with the RPS Rate Plan

Call Waiting	\$2.00
Call Forwarding	\$2.00
3 Way Calling	\$2.00
3 Feature Package	\$5.00
Voice Mail	\$4.99
Enhanced Voice Mail	\$6.99
International Dialing	\$2.99
CellularOne to the Rescue	\$2.99

Cellular One Advantage

No Credit Check and No Deposits	
No Long Wait for Installation	
Wireless Unit Provided	
Long Distance within 50 states	\$0.10/min
Including Alaska and Hawaii	
Long Distance to Canada	\$0.25/min
International calls	\$0.29/min
International Dialing feature required	

Residential Dial Tone Service from Cellular One is only \$14.99 a month and features a larger local calling area which means you'll have less long-distance charges. A \$6.74 Lifeline rate plan is available for those who qualify.

**Less long-distance charges + Lower monthly service fee =
More money in your pocket every month**

**Special Notes: Activation fee is \$35 per line.
Residential Phone Service is provided to residents of authorized service areas.
Proof of eligibility is required.**

Attachment B2

Residential Phone Service

Enhanced Lifeline Program for Reservations

Cellular One Locations

Pine Ridge Reservation

Lakota Trade Center, Suite 201

Kyle, SD 57752

605-455-2190

Open: Monday - Friday - 9 am to 5 pm

Saturday & Sunday - Closed

Pine Ridge Reservation

1000 - 8th Street South

PO Box 5032

Pine Ridge, SD 57770

605-867-2880

Open: Monday - Friday - 9 am to 6 pm

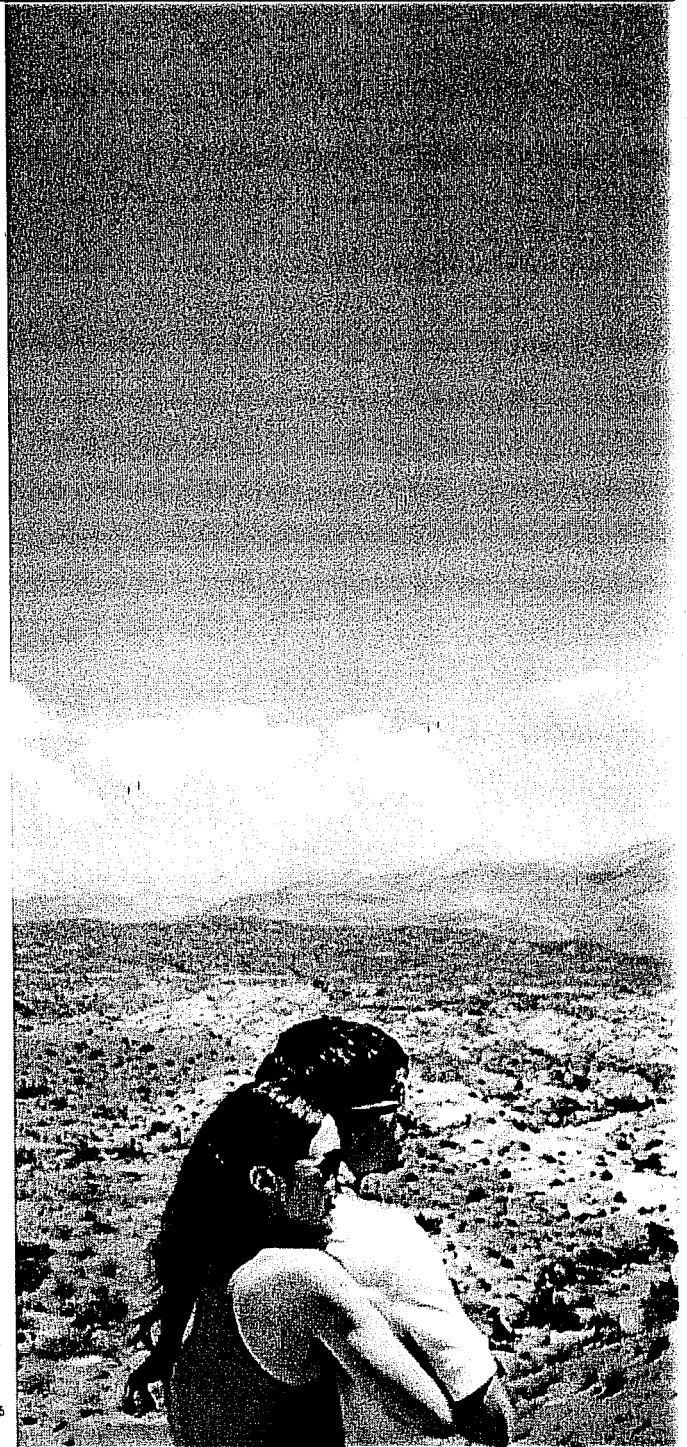
Saturday - 10 am to 4 pm

Sunday - Closed



CellularOne.com

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go one better™ **CELLULARONE**

Residential Phone Service

Enhanced Lifeline Program for Reservations

Monthly Rate	\$1
Activation Fee	\$35*
Install Fee	\$30**
Included minutes	UNLIMITED
Long Distance Rates	LD: 10¢ per minute to all states; 25¢ per minute to Canada

OPTIONAL FEATURES:

Voice Mail	\$4.99 a month
Caller ID	\$2.99 a month
Call Waiting	\$2.00 a month
Cellular One to the Rescue	\$2.99 a month
Call Forwarding	\$2.00 a month

Add a line of service for just \$14.99 per line.
Includes a reduced standard calling area, unlimited minutes,
and a \$35 activation fee.

*\$34.25 - \$33.25 = \$1 for qualifying customers. Monthly rate is reduced to \$1 if the individual qualifies under federal program requirements (Lifeline/Link-Up Program).

**Link-Up fees related to activation installation will be waived for qualifying customers.

Unlimited local calling is subject to a limited home calling area. Calls made to phone numbers outside the home calling area will incur additional toll charges. Roaming is also subject to a restricted home calling area. Calls originating from outside the home calling area will incur additional roaming charges. Contact a sales representative for local calling and roaming details. Initial activation and deposit may apply (deposit may not be applicable if customer selects toll-blocking. Company will provide toll-blocking at no additional charge to the customer). Compatible equipment required; not yet TTY compatible. Incoming and outgoing calls are billed in full minute increments from the time the wireless network begins to process the call (before the call rings or is answered) through its termination of the call; any fraction of a minute of usage is rounded up and charged or deducted from any included minutes at the full minute rate. Service is not available in all areas. Not all features available in all areas. Outside the digital coverage area, service may be analog, and certain digital features may not function.

Unlimited local calling applies to calls from within home calling area only. Outside the home area, additional roaming and long distance charges apply. Prices exclude taxes, assessments, surcharges, operator-assisted calls, credit card and toll charges. Additional charges may apply, including a regulatory and administrative surcharge. Other restrictions may apply. The information contained herein is subject to change.

The applicable rates, terms, and conditions of service are contained in a Service Agreement and any Addendums.

Pine Ridge Enhanced Lifeline customers can call the following cities toll-free.

Allen	Owanka
Ardmore	Parmell
Batesland	Phillip
Belvidere	Pine Ridge
Buffalo Gap	Plainview
Cottonwood	Porcupine
Creighton	Provo
Edgemont	Quinn
Elm Springs	Rapid City
Enning	Red Owl
Fairport	Rural Faith
Farmingdale	Scenic
Hayes	Sharps Corner
Hereford	Slim Butte
Hisle	Smithwick
Hot Springs	Stoneville
Howes	Tuthill
Igloo	Union Center
Interior	Vetal
Kadoka	Wall
Kyle	Wanblee
Long Valley	Wasta
Manderson	White Owl
Marcus	White Clay NE
Martin	White River
Maurine	Wicksville
Midland	Wounded Knee
Milesville	
Mud Butte	
New Underwood	
Norris	
Oelrichs	
Oglala	
Opal	
Oral	

Not all area code and prefix in each city can be dialed toll-free. For a complete listing of cities and their area code and prefix, please contact your local Cellular One sales representative.

Residential Phone Service

Enhanced Lifeline Program for Reservations

Cellular One Locations

Rosebud

266 W 2nd Street
Mission, SD 57555
605-856-2525

Open: Monday - Friday - 9 am to 6 pm
Saturday - 10 am to 4 pm
Sunday - Closed



CellularOne.com

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go one better™ CELLULARONE

Residential Phone Service

Enhanced Lifeline Program for Reservations

Monthly Rate	\$1
Activation Fee	\$35
Install Fee	\$10
Included minutes	UNLIMITED
Long Distance Rates	10¢ per minute 25¢ per minute

OPTIONAL FEATURES:

Voice Mail	\$4.99 a month
Caller ID	\$2.99 a month
Call Waiting	\$2.00 a month
Cellular One to the Rescue	\$2.99 a month
Call Forwarding	\$2.00 a month

Add a line of service for just \$14.99 per line. Includes a reduced standard calling area, unlimited minutes, and a \$35 activation fee.

*\$34.25 - \$33.25 = \$1 for qualifying customers. Monthly rate is reduced to \$1 if the individual qualifies under federal program requirements (Lifeline/Link-Up Program).

**Link-Up fees related to activation installation will be waived for qualifying customers.

Unlimited local calling is subject to a limited home calling area. Calls made to phone numbers outside the home calling area will incur additional toll charges. Roaming is also subject to a restricted home calling area. Calls originating from outside the home calling area will incur additional roaming charges. Contact a sales representative for local calling and roaming details. Initial activation and deposit may apply (deposit may not be applicable if customer selects toll-blocking. Company will provide toll-blocking at no additional charge to the customer). Compatible equipment required; not yet TTY compatible. Incoming and outgoing calls are billed in full minute increments from the time the wireless network begins to process the call (before the call rings or is answered) through its termination of the call; any fraction of a minute of usage is rounded up and charged or deducted from any included minutes at the full minute rate. Service is not available in all areas. Not all features available in all areas. Outside the digital coverage area, service may be analog, and certain digital features may not function.

Unlimited local calling applies to calls from within home calling area only. Outside the home area, additional roaming and long distance charges apply. Prices exclude taxes, assessments, surcharges, operator-assisted calls, credit card and toll charges. Additional charges may apply, including a regulatory and administrative surcharge. Other restrictions may apply. The information contained herein is subject to change.

The applicable rates, terms, and conditions of service are contained in a Service Agreement and any Addendums.

Rosebud Enhanced Lifeline customers can call the following cities toll-free.

Antelope
Bonesteel
Burke
Clearfield
Cody, NE
Colome
Crookston, NE
Dallas
Draper
Gregory
Idea
Keyapaha
Kilgore, NE
Martin
Mission
Mosher
Murdo
Norris
Olsonville
Parmelee
Rapid City
Rosebud
Spring Creek
St. Francis
Tuthill
Valentine, NE
Vetal
Vivian
White River
Winner
Witten
Wood
Wood Lake

Not all area code and prefix's in each city can be dialed toll-free. For a complete listing of cities and their area code and prefix's, please contact your local Cellular One sales representative.

Residential Phone Service

Enhanced Lifeline Program for Reservations

Cellular One Locations

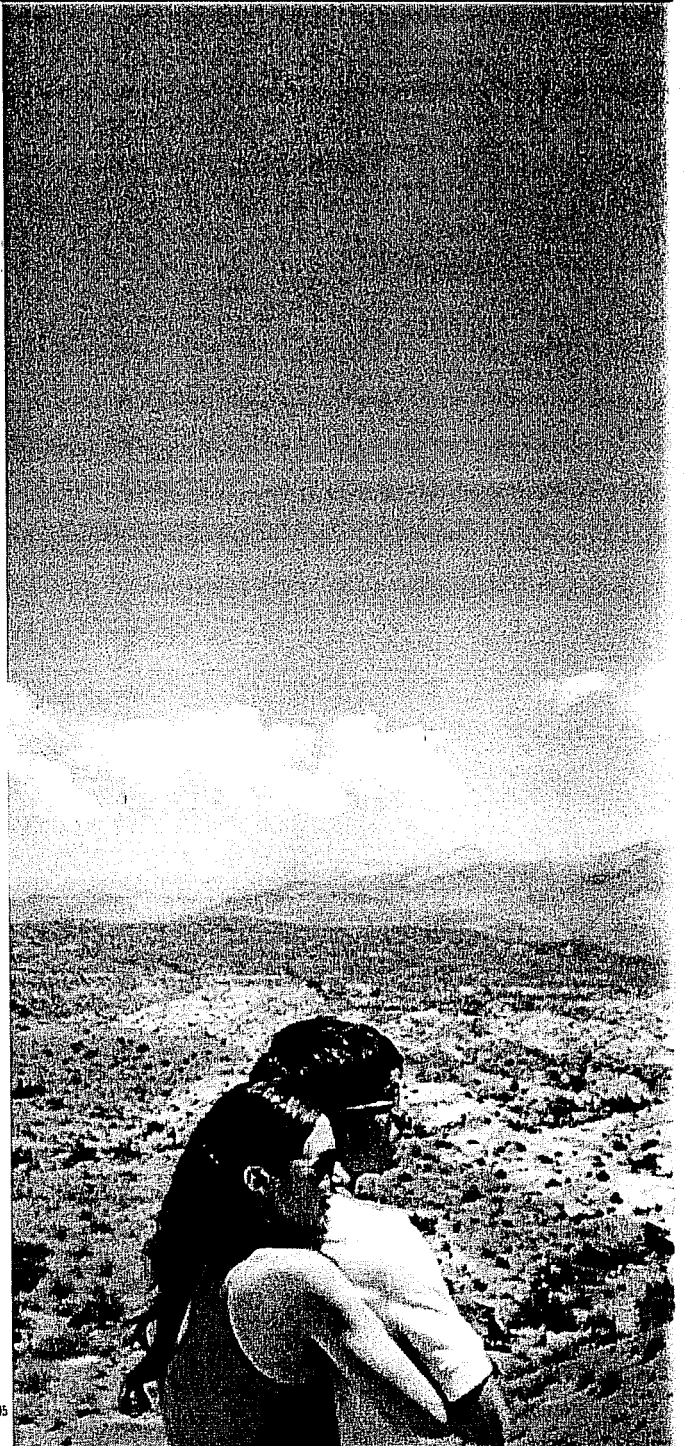
Yankton - Sioux
155 Main Street
Wagner, SD 57380
605-384-4451

Open: Monday - Friday - 9 am to 5 pm
Saturday & Sunday - Closed



CellularOne.com

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go one better™ CELLULARONE

Residential Phone Service

Enhanced Lifeline Program for Reservations

Monthly Rate	\$1
Activation Fee	\$35
Install Fee	\$30
Included minutes	UNLIMITED
Long Distance Rates	10¢ per minute to all states 25¢ per minute to Canada

OPTIONAL FEATURES:

Voice Mail	\$4.99 a month
Caller ID	\$2.99 a month
Call Waiting	\$2.00 a month
Cellular One to the Rescue	\$2.99 a month
Call Forwarding	\$2.00 a month

Add a line of service for just \$14.99 per line.
Includes a reduced standard calling area, unlimited minutes,
and a \$35 activation fee.

*\$34.25 - \$33.25 = \$1 for qualifying customers. Monthly rate is reduced to \$1 if the individual qualifies under federal program requirements (Lifeline/Link-Up Program).

**Link-Up fees related to activation installation will be waived for qualifying customers.

Unlimited local calling is subject to a limited home calling area. Calls made to phone numbers outside the home calling area will incur additional toll charges. Roaming is also subject to a restricted home calling area. Calls originating from outside the home calling area will incur additional roaming charges. Contact a sales representative for local calling and roaming details. Initial activation and deposit may apply (deposit may not be applicable if customer selects toll-blocking. Company will provide toll-blocking at no additional charge to the customer). Compatible equipment required; not yet TTY compatible. Incoming and outgoing calls are billed in full minute increments from the time the wireless network begins to process the call (before the call rings or is answered) through its termination of the call; any fraction of a minute of usage is rounded up and charged or deducted from any included minutes at the full minute rate. Service is not available in all areas. Not all features available in all areas. Outside the digital coverage area, service may be analog, and certain digital features may not function. Unlimited local calling applies to calls from within home calling area only. Outside the home area, additional roaming and long distance charges apply. Prices exclude taxes, assessments, surcharges, operator-assisted calls, credit card and toll charges. Additional charges may apply, including a regulatory and administrative surcharge. Other restrictions may apply. The information contained herein is subject to change.

The applicable rates, terms, and conditions of service are contained in a Service Agreement and any Addendums.

**Yankton Sioux Enhanced
Lifeline customers can call
the following cities toll-free.**

Armour
Dante
Delmont
Lake Andes
Marty
Mitchell
Pickstown
Platte
Ravinia
Sioux Falls
Springfield
Tripp
Wagner
Yankton

Not all area code and prefix's in each city can be dialed toll-free. For a complete listing of cities and their area code and prefix's, please contact your local Cellular One sales representative.

Attachment C1

Federal Lifeline Notice

Cellular One customers may be eligible to receive monthly reduced rate telecommunications service under the Federal Lifeline and Link-Up programs if they satisfy federal eligibility criteria. If you think you qualify, contact Cellular One for further information.

CELLULARONE

1095

Attachment C2

my account

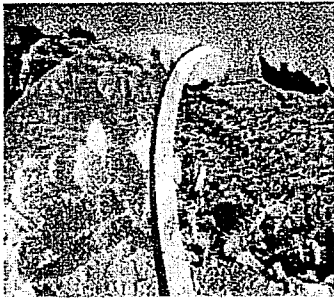
txt message

hello2_fun_pix_txt_web

store locator

shopping cart

CELLULARONE Phones & Accessories Plans & Coverage Features Customer Care Contact Us



plans & coverage

Plans | Coverage

Pick your plan

◀ back next ▶

LOCAL PLANS

REGIONAL PLANS

NATIONAL PLANS

You aren't a road warrior who travels a lot. You don't need a plan that covers you in places you don't go. This plan meets the needs of people mostly on the go near their own backyard.

shop online

Start Here:

1. Pick your Phone
2. Pick your Plan
3. Add Features
4. Add Accessories
5. Review My Cart

57770 Change Zip



Available Plans

Monthly Rate (2 year agreement) - Special!



Anytime Minutes - Special!

Night & Weekend Minutes - Special!

One2One MinutesSM

(Calls between Cellular One customers) - Special!

Additional Airtime (per minute)

US Long Distance (per minute)

US Roaming (per minute)

US Roaming Long Distance (per minute)

Mexico/Canada Roaming (per minute)

Included Features

3-Way Calling

Call Forwarding

Call Waiting

Caller ID

Cellular One Connect Access

Detailed Billing

Hello2Fun (First 15 Data Minutes Included)

	add	add	add	add	add	add
Monthly Rate (2 year agreement) - Special!	\$30.00	\$39.99	\$50.00	\$60.00	\$74.99	\$75.00
Anytime Minutes - Special!	400	1000	1250	1500	unlimited	1850
Night & Weekend Minutes - Special!	3500	unlimited	unlimited	unlimited	unlimited	unlimited
One2One Minutes SM (Calls between Cellular One customers) - Special!	500	unlimited	unlimited	unlimited	unlimited	unlimited
Additional Airtime (per minute)	\$0.39	\$0.39	\$0.39	\$0.39	free	\$0.39
US Long Distance (per minute)	free	free	free	free	free	free
US Roaming (per minute)	\$0.59	\$0.59	\$0.59	\$0.59	\$0.69	\$0.59
US Roaming Long Distance (per minute)	\$0.10	\$0.10	\$0.10	\$0.10	free	\$0.10
Mexico/Canada Roaming (per minute)	\$0.99	\$0.99	\$0.99	\$0.99	\$0.99	\$0.99
3-Way Calling	included	included	included	included	included	included
Call Forwarding	included	included	included	included	included	included
Call Waiting	included	included	included	included	included	included
Caller ID	optional (\$2.99)	included	included	included	included	included
Cellular One Connect Access	included	included	included	included	included	included
Detailed Billing	included	included	included	included	n/a	included
Hello2Fun (First 15 Data Minutes Included)	included	included	included	included	included	included

<u>Ringtone Library Access</u>	included	included	included	included	included	included
<u>Text Messaging (First 50 Incoming Included)</u>	included	included	included	included	included	included
<u>Voice Mail Basic</u>	optional (\$1.99)	included	included	included	included	included

The current online ordering process is for new customers only. If you are an existing Cellular One customer and wish to make changes to your service, please call Customer Service, 1-800-635-0304. By purchasing one of these calling plans, you agree to a 2-year fixed term contract with a \$200 fee for early termination. See restrictions that apply to your purchase.

Western Wireless has been designated an eligible telecommunications Carrier (ETC) in certain localities. As such, the company will provide additional service offerings for local consumers. These offerings include a "Basic Universal Service" plan whereby a customer receives service for \$14.99 per month and a Lifeline/Link-Up monthly offering, which allows consumers to receive a reduced rate monthly plan if the consumer satisfies certain federal eligibility criteria. For more information about these and other rate plans, please contact a sales representative at 1 800 CELL-ONE.

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[About](#) | [Site Map](#) | [Legal Notices](#) | [Business Solutions](#)

Attachment C3

Graphic: 01



The Universal Service Administrative Company

Low Income

Overview

- Previous Statement
- Consumer Eligibility
- Telecommunications
- Consumer Eligibility
- Low Income Appendices
- Related Links

LI Main > Lifeline Support > South Dakota

Pick a State

Lifeline and Link-Up for Western Wireless Customers in South Dakota



QUICK LINKS

- Lifeline Support
- 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines
- Federal Tribal and Native Lands Directory

Components

- Lifeline
- Link Up
- Toll Free Number Service

Consumers

- Lifeline Support
- State Plans, Services & Utility Providers
- Indian Reservation Customers
- Li Estate

Telecom Carriers

- New Carrier Checklist
- Link Requirements

Forms

- FCC Form 487

Lifeline is a government program that offers qualified people a discount on their monthly local telephone bill. Each state has its own guidelines to qualify.

A. How much can I save on my phone bill?

You will save up to \$8.25. These benefits apply to your local telephone service charges that you purchase as a flat rate service or measured service, including usage.

B. How do I know if I'm eligible?

You're eligible for Lifeline if you participate in any of the following programs:

- ▶ Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
- ▶ Medicaid
- ▶ Food Stamps
- ▶ Federal Public Housing Assistance (Section 8)
- ▶ Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- ▶ Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
- ▶ National School Lunch free lunch program
- ▶ Income at or below 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines

C. Are there any restrictions?

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Lifeline can only be used for the main telephone line in a household. Lifeline customers may purchase Residential Phone Service unlimited calling plan and one specific measured rate service plan with 60 minutes of use per month. The name on your phone bill must match the name of the participant who is eligible for the program.

D. How do I apply?

Applications are available at Western Wireless stores, or you can email Western Wireless at suzie.rao@wwireless.com. You will be asked to provide proof of your eligibility by providing a copy of a document that verifies that you participate in any of the programs mentioned above and a form signed under penalty of perjury stating that you receive benefits from one of the above programs. If you qualify based on the income guidelines, you will be asked to provide a copy of your most recent tax return. Your Lifeline benefits will take effect when proof of eligibility is received.

E. How do I continue to receive Lifeline benefits?

Lifeline eligibility is reviewed periodically. Your benefits will be discontinued when you no longer meet eligibility requirements or when proof of eligibility is not received.

F. Other Useful information

There are other options that can help you save money, including free toll

money, including toll blocking and waived deposit with toll blocking.

Link-Up helps households pay the installation charge for telephone service. This program pays some of the cost of installing local service in your home, but Link-Up does not cover the cost of wiring inside your home.

A. How much will I save by using Link-Up?

Link-Up will pay 50% of your installation charges. The maximum benefit is \$30.

B. How do I know if I am eligible?

If you qualify for Lifeline, you also qualify for Link-Up.

C. Does Link-Up have any restrictions?

In order to receive Link Up, you must provide proof of eligibility before service is activated. The Link Up benefit does not apply to activation charges incurred before you applied for Link Up.

D. How do I apply for Link-Up?

To apply for Link-Up you will follow the same application process as Lifeline and the same proof of eligibility as Lifeline.

Being a Lifeline or Link-Up customer does not protect you from being disconnected if you fail to pay your telephone bill.

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Need help? You can contact us at (888) 641-8722 for consumer questions and (866) 873(USF)-4727 for telephone carrier questions.
Our hours of operation are 9AM to 6PM, Eastern Time, Monday through Friday.

Aware of fraud, waste, and abuse, report it to our Whistleblower Hotline!