



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

## SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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September 28, 2005

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
Office of the Secretary  
445 12th Street S.W., Room TW-A306  
Washington, DC 20554

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission:  
Office of the Secretary  
9300 East Hampton Drive  
Capitol Heights, MD 20743

Ms. Karen Majcher  
Vice President of the High Cost  
and Low Income Division  
Universal Service Administrative Company  
2000 L Street N.W., Suite 200  
Washington, D.C. 20036

RE: Annual State Certification of Rate Comparability Review for Non-Rural  
Carriers Serving in Rural Areas

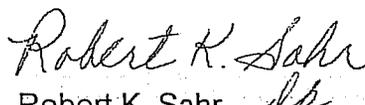
Dear Ms. Dortch and Ms. Majcher:

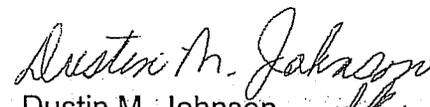
The South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (SDPUC) hereby states that it has reviewed the comparability of residential rates in rural areas of South Dakota served by Qwest, a non-rural incumbent local exchange carrier, to rates nationwide. Pursuant to section 54.316, the SDPUC certifies that the rates are reasonably comparable based on the nationwide urban rate benchmark.

Enclosed is the order issued by the SDPUC with this finding. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us for further information.

Sincerely,

  
Gary Hanson  
Chairman

  
Robert K. Sahr  
Commissioner

  
Dustin M. Johnson  
Commissioner