



Gary Hanson, Chair  
Steve Kolbeck, Vice Chair  
Dustin Johnson, Commissioner

## 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

September 10, 2008

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
Office of the Secretary  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Washington, DC 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 Long Lines Wireless, LLC (Long Lines) as an eligible telecommunications carrier (ETC) for certain service areas in South Dakota, both rural and nonrural. As explained below, some of the rural designations require redefinition and concurrence by the FCC. In addition, the SDPUC has also certified that Long Lines is eligible to receive federal support as it states it will only use the support for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended.

Long Lines was designated as an ETC for the following non-rural service areas of Qwest Corporation: N. Sioux City, Madison, Whitewood, Sioux Falls, Rapid City, Sturgis, Elk Point, Harrisburg/Tea, Colman, Hill City, Deadwood, Lead, Vermillion, Volga, Madison, Spearfish, Yankton, Belle Fourche, Canton, Flandreau, and Arlington. Long Lines requested immediate designation for these wire centers.

Long Lines 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): Baltic, Crooks, Alcester, and Hudson;
- c. Beresford Municipal Telephone Co.: Beresford;
- d. Brookings Municipal Utilities: Brookings;
- e. Bridgewater-Canistota Independent Telephone Co.: Canistota and Bridgewater;
- f. Citizens Telecom Co. (MN), Frontier Citizens (MN); West Jasper;
- g. Fort Randall Telephone Company: Viborg, Tabor, Centerville, and Tyndall;
- h. Heartland Telecom Company of Iowa d/b/a Hickory Tech: West Hawarden and West Akron;
- i. Hills Telephone Company, Inc: North Larchwood and Valley Springs;
- j. Interstate Telecom Coop Inc.: Wentworth, White, Chester, Nunda, Brookings, West Hendricks, Elkton, and Sinai;
- k. Jefferson Telephone Co.: Jefferson;
- l. Kadoka Telephone Co.: Kadoka;
- m. PrairieWave Community Telephone, Inc. (now known as Knology Community Telephone, Inc.): Hurley, Alsen, Irene, Wakonda, Parker, Worthing, Lennox, Beresford, and Flyger;
- n. RT Communications: East Newcastle;
- o. Sioux Valley Telephone Co.: Humboldt, Dell Rapids, and Colton;
- p. Union Telephone Co.: Hartford.

In addition, Long Lines 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. Fort Randall Telephone Co.: Keystone and Hermosa;
- b. Golden West Telephone Cooperative, Inc.: Wall, Quinn, Oral, Interior, Kyle, Creighton, Milesville, Hot Springs, Maurine, New Underwood, Wicksville, Buffalo Gap, Phillip, Pine Ridge, Enning, Wasta, Ardmore, Oelrichs, and Edgemont;

c. McCook Cooperative Telephone Company: Salem, Spencer, Center, Winfred, and Canova;

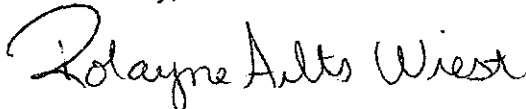
d. Vivian Telephone Co.: Custer, Lesterville, Springfield, Marion, Avon, and Scotland.

For the conditional ETC designations, the SDPUC is submitting a separate 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 Long Lines 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. Long Lines 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 Long Lines. 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: Ms. Kristy McDermott