



September 7, 2007

VIA EMAIL

Patricia Van Gerpen
Executive Director
South Dakota Public Utilities Commission
Capitol Building, First Floor
500 East Capitol Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501

RE: Petition for Exemption from Developing Company-Specific Cost-Based Switched Access Rates for PrairieWave Black Hills, LLC

Dear Ms. Van Gerpen:

Pursuant to ARSD 20:10:27:11 to 20:10:27:13, attached is a request that the Commission exempt PrairieWave Black Hills, LLC ("PrairieWave") from developing company-specific cost-based switched access rates.

If you have any questions, please contact me as indicated below. Thank you.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "William P. Heaston", is written over a horizontal line.

William P. Heaston
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**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA**

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF PRAIRIEWAVE BLACK HILLS, LLC TO BE EXEMPT FROM DEVELOPING COMPANY-SPECIFIC COST-BASED SWITCHED ACCESS RATES.))) Docket No. TC07-)))
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PETITION FOR EXEMPTION

Pursuant to ARSD 20:10:27:11 to 20:10:27:13, PrairieWave Black Hills, LLC (“PrairieWave”) requests that the Commission exempt PrairieWave from developing company-specific cost-based switched access rates. PrairieWave makes this request based on the following:

1. PrairieWave is a fully facilities based provider of local and long distance voice communications in Rapid City and the Northern Hills area. In those locations, it competes with the incumbent carrier, Qwest Corporation (“Qwest”).
2. The Commission previously approved an extension of the exemption, originally granted on October 18, 2001 (TC00-190), from the requirement to develop intrastate switched access rates in Docket No. TC04-207, dated December 10, 2004. The facts and circumstances supporting the initial exemption and the continuation of the exemption have not changed in any material manner.
3. PrairieWave does not have internal expertise or resources necessary to determine cost-based intrastate access rates. It would have to employ the services of outside consultants which would be expensive and would not result in any meaningful benefit to the consumer.
4. The Commission has opened a rulemaking docket (RM05-002) to consider changes to the Commission’s switched access rule. Until that docket is complete, PrairieWave believes it would be prudent and in the customer’s best interests to continue mirroring Qwest rates.

PrairieWave respectfully requests that the Commission grant this Petition.

Submitted this 7th day of September, 2007.



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