

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

**IN THE MATTER OF THE
APPLICATION OF CROWN CASTLE NG
CENTRAL LLC FOR A CERTIFICATE
OF AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE
TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES
WITHIN THE STATE OF SOUTH
DAKOTA**

DOCKET NO. TC14-081

JOINT STIPULATION

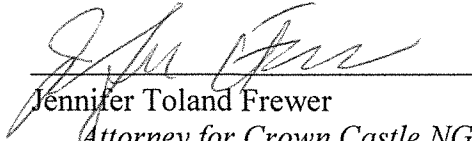
The parties in the above captioned proceeding, the South Dakota Telecommunications Association (“SDTA”) and Crown Castle NG Central, LLC (“Crown Castle”) (collectively, the “Parties”), through their respective counsel, hereby submit this Joint Stipulation as a resolution of all pending issues related to the Crown Castle Application filed herein. Specifically, through execution of this document, each of the parties agrees to the following terms:

1. Crown Castle, as indicated in its Application for a Certificate of Authority (“Application”) filed with this Commission on September 25, 2014, is seeking authority to provide “Non-Switched Local Transport Services in the State of South Dakota.” As indicated in its Application, “Crown Castle acts as a facilities-based wholesale transport carrier for wireless and other large enterprise customers.” The company “typically provides RF transport services using fiber optic technology, including multi-wavelength optical technology over dedicated transport facilities, to provide other service providers with transport options.” Further, as stated in the Application, “Crown Castle does not intend to serve residential or small business customers . . .” and also “does not propose to provide local exchange services” or “offer traditional residential or business local telephone service.”
2. Further, as to the need for interconnection with existing local exchange carriers, Crown Castle states in its Application that its “proposed service offering does not currently require

interconnection with incumbent LECs. Interconnection arrangements with LECs are generally made by Crown Castle's customers, which are the entities that ultimately serve end users."

3. "Crown Castle's Proposed Initial Tariff" (Exhibit F) filed as part of its Application for a Certificate of Authority also describes the services it intends to offer in South Dakota and indicates, specifically, that its service offering is limited to "RF Transport Services."
4. Based on these facts and other facts presented by Crown Castle in this matter, the parties have agreed to the issuance of Crown Castle's requested Certificate of Authority as long as the Order issuing the Certificate of Authority incorporates the following agreed upon terms:
 - (a) The parties agree that the Certificate of Authority granted by the Commission to Crown Castle would be limited to authorizing only the provisioning of its non-switched "RF Transport Services."
 - (b) The certification granted by the Commission would not permit Crown Castle to provide telephone exchange services or switched access services within rural telephone company service areas. In addition, Crown Castle agrees that the offering of its service in South Dakota's rural service areas will not require it to request interconnection services from rural telephone companies.
 - (c) In the future, if Crown Castle chooses to provide telephone exchange services or switched access services within any area served by a rural telephone company, Crown Castle is required to come before the Commission in another proceeding before being able to provide local service in that rural service area pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 253(f). This will allow the Commission to require Crown Castle to meet the requirements in 47 U.S.C. § 214(e)(1) for designation as an eligible telecommunications carrier in a rural service area.
 - (d) The parties agree that the grant of statewide certification to Crown Castle as specified herein will not affect the exemptions, suspensions, and modifications for rural telephone companies found in 47 U.S.C. § 251(f).
5. With this agreement of the parties, the parties request that the Commission approve the requested Certificate of Authority subject to the terms and conditions set forth herein.

AGREED AND STIPULATED to this 30th day of April 2015.



Jennifer Toland Frewer

Attorney for Crown Castle NG Central, LLC

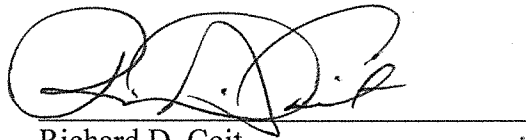
DAVIS WRIGHT TREMAINE LLP

1919 Pennsylvania Avenue NW

Suite 800

Washington, D.C. 20006

Tel: (202) 973-4200



Richard D. Coit

Executive Director and General Counsel

South Dakota Telecommunications Association

320 East Capitol Ave.

P.O. Box 57

Pierre, SD 57501

Tel: (605) 224-7629