

# Exhibit A

## Oglala Sioux Tribal Utilities Commission

In the Matter of }  
Native American Telecom – Pine Ridge, LLC }  
Request To Provide Telecommunications }  
Service, Including Local Telephone and }  
Broadband Service Within The Exterior }  
Boundaries of the Pine Ridge Reservation }

### **Order Granting Approval To Provide Telecommunications Service, Including Local Telephone and Broadband Service On The Pine Ridge Reservation**

Native American Telecom – Pine Ridge, LLC (“Native Telecom – Pine Ridge”), a telecommunications carrier that is 51% owned by the Oglala Sioux Tribe, is hereby granted authority to provide telecommunications service, including local telephone and broadband service, on the Pine Ridge reservation.<sup>1</sup>

Under the Constitution and By-Laws of the Oglala Sioux Tribe of the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation of South Dakota, the Oglala Sioux Tribal Council was given the power to “to protect and preserve the property, wild life, and natural resources - gases, oils, and other materials, etc. - of the tribe, and to regulate the conduct of trade and the use and disposition of property upon the reservation.” Article IV, Seciton 1(m). To regulate the conduct of trade on the reservation, the Economic Development Office of the Oglala Sioux Tribe has as its mission to “develop economic infrastructure on the reservation.” In one of its first initiatives to establish a telecommunications infrastructure on the Pine Ridge reservation, the Oglala Sioux Tribal Council passed Resolution No. 00-87 in 2000 approving the establishment of a residential wireless telecommunications system on the reservation.<sup>2</sup>

Now, Native Telecom – Pine Ridge proposes to: (i) provide basic telephone and advanced broadband services, which are essential services to the health and welfare of the tribe; and (ii) provide these services within the exterior boundaries of the Pine Ridge reservation. Furthermore, Native Telecom – Pine Ridge proposes to provide basic telephone service, consistent with the federal universal service requirements of 47 U.S.C. § 214(e) and the rules of the Federal Communications Commission (“FCC”). In addition, Native Telecom – Pine

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<sup>1</sup> This approval is akin to competitive local exchange carrier (CLEC) approval provided to carriers outside of Indian reservations.

<sup>2</sup> The Tribe entered into an agreement with Western Wireless to provide residential wireless telecommunications service using cellular technology.

Ridge commits to work with the Oglala Sioux Tribe to identify and pursue economic development opportunities and make basic telephone and advanced broadband services readily available and affordable to residents of the reservation. These services will augment the mobile wireless services currently available on the reservation by expanding the availability of telecommunications services on the reservation, including access to advanced broadband services.

The Oglala Sioux Tribal Utilities Commission concludes that Native Telecom – Pine Ridge’s proposal to provide basic telephone and advanced broadband services on the reservation is consistent with the Tribe’s Telecommunications Plan To Further Business, Economic, Social, and Educational Development” on the reservation.<sup>3</sup> Based upon Native Telecom – Pine Ridge’s proposal and commitments, Native Telecom – Pine Ridge is hereby granted authority to provide telecommunications services on the Pine Ridge reservation subject to the jurisdiction of the laws of the Oglala Sioux Tribe and subject to the jurisdiction of the Oglala Sioux Tribal Court.

Dated: June 1, 2009

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<sup>3</sup> On August 15, 2008, the Oglala Sioux Tribe released its Telecommunications Plan To Further Business, Economic, Social, and Educational Development on the reservation.