

Docket Number: TC15-062
Subject Matter: Third Data Request
Response from: NextGen Communications, Inc.
Request from: South Dakota Public Utilities Commission Staff
Date of Response: December 9, 2015
Responses Due: December 9, 2015

3-1. Pursuant to ARSD 20:10:32:03(13), (a) provide the identity of *all* local exchange carriers with which the applicant plans to interconnect; (b) the likely timing of initiation of interconnection service and a statement as to when negotiations for interconnection started or when negotiations are likely to start; and (c) a copy of any request for interconnection made by the applicant to any local exchange carrier.

Answer:

- a) Please refer to Figure 1 below as a reference for the South Dakota 911 network configuration. In the context of the diagram, “TCS” and “NextGen” are synonymous. NextGen will be interconnecting with SDN (South Dakota Networks). SDN will either provide direct connections to PSAPs or work with rural LECs to establish the direct connections.
- b) NextGen does not negotiate nor interconnect directly with all local exchange carriers (so-called “communications service providers” or CSP); rather, NextGen only connects to SDN who, in turn, interconnects with all CSP’s and aggregates their 9-1-1 traffic towards NextGen. The formal requests for communications service providers to interconnect to SDN for the purposes of 9-1-1 traffic delivery are so ordered under the auspices and mandate of the State of South Dakota Department of Public Safety and the office of the State 9-1-1 Controller (Shawnie Rechtenbaugh). As of this writing, the State of South Dakota and Office of the 9-1-1 Controller has not yet issued the requirement for interconnection of CPS’s to SDN – though this is expected before the close of 2015 or very shortly in the New Year. Lastly and for completeness, NextGen began detailed contract negotiations with SDN during late 2014 and consummated a contract in February of 2015.
- c) [As mentioned above, NextGen does not issue direct requests for interconnection to any local exchange carrier or communications service provider. Rather, such requests (orders) are issued by the State of South Dakota Department of Public Safety and the office of the 9-1-1 Controller (Shawnie Rechtenbaugh).

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