

Docket Number: TC17-067  
Subject Matter: Staff's Data Request 1  
Request to: Birch Communications, Inc. (Birch)  
Request from: South Dakota Public Utilities Commission Staff  
Date of Request: 12/20/17  
Responses Due: 1/10/18

### **South Dakota Data Request**

- 1.4. Does Birch intend to offer local exchange services in the territory of a rural local exchange company? ARSD 20:20:32:15 outlines service obligations of a company serving in a rural exchange area and a waiver of those rules is only necessary if Birch intends to provide local exchange service in those areas. Please clear up any discrepancies in the application regarding where Birch intends to provide service.

#### **Birch Response to 1.4:**

Birch does not intend to offer local exchange services in the territory of any rural local exchange company. Birch therefore withdraws any waiver request related to the offering of service in a rural local exchange area.