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

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF	)	
COMMUNICATIONS VENTURE CORPORATION	)	
d/b/a INDIGITAL FOR AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE	)	Docket No. TC19-004
COMPETITIVE LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICES	)	
IN SOUTH DAKOTA	)	

## **JOINT STIPULATION**

The South Dakota Telecommunications Association ("SDTA") and Communications Venture Corporation, d/b/a INdigital ("INdigital") (collectively, the "Parties"), through their respective counsel, hereby submit this Joint Stipulation as a resolution of those issues raised by SDTA concerning the "Application for a Certificate of Authority" and "Supplement to Application for Certificate of Authority" filed by INdigital in this proceeding (referenced together as the "Application") which generally seeks statewide authority to provide competitive interexchange services and competitive local exchange services in order to serve state and local public safety answering point ("PSAP") operations. Specifically, through execution of this document, each of the Parties agrees to the following terms:

- 1. SDTA is an incorporated organization representing the interests of numerous cooperative, independent and municipal telephone companies operating as "rural telephone companies" in defined rural service areas or rural "study areas" throughout the State of South Dakota.
- 2. Communications Venture Corporation d/b/a INdigital is a corporation formed on June 16, 1995 in the State of Indiana. Specifically, INdigital seeks authority from the Commission to provide competitive interexchange services and competitive local exchange services in order to provide transitional Enhanced 9-1-1 ("E9-1-1") and Next Generation ("Next Gen") 9-1-1 services to State, local, and/or any governmental or quasi-governmental agencies involved in administering and delivering emergency services using the 9-1-1 dialing code. These Next Gen Core services include IP based 9-1-1 call routing, database services, database management, and long distance services to entities receiving 9-1-1 calls, as needed to make return calls to 9-1-1 callers and enable calls to public safety agencies throughout the State. In addition, INdigital intends to provide services

specific to 9-1-1 call delivery and will ensure end user customers have access to 9-1-1 services by providing the end users carrier connectivity to the 9-1-1 network.

- 3. As further indicated in its Application, INdigital does not currently own any facilities but intends to purchase or lease facilities from existing telecommunications carriers that operate in South Dakota.
- 4. INdigital has indicated in its Application that it will not be providing traditional switched local exchange service such as local or long distance voice dial tone services or voice toll services to residential or business customers.
- 5. In general, SDTA does not oppose the granting of the Certificate(s) of Authority requested by INdigital in this Docket provided that the Commission makes the necessary findings to justify granting the Certificate(s) and provided that any final order issued by the Commission is consistent with and recognizes the terms set forth herein.
- 6. INdigital's Application seeks authority to provide its services throughout the entire State of South Dakota and thus seeks a statewide certification from this Commission. Regarding the geographic scope of any certification granted to INdigital in this proceeding for local exchange services, specifically, SDTA does not oppose a certification extending to all areas of the State, provided that the certification is appropriately limited to cover only those specific local exchange services that are necessary for INdigital to provision its 9-1-1 emergency services, including the NG 9-1-1 related services as described in its Application. INdigital agrees that its certification should be so limited and affirms that it does not intend to provide in South Dakota any retail "telephone exchange services" to either residential or business end user customers or to provide any wholesale "exchange access services" to other carriers or service providers (as such terms are defined under 47 U.S.C. § 153). INdigital also agrees that if at any time in the future it chooses to provide these additional services within any rural telephone company service area in South Dakota, it will come back before the Commission with an amended application seeking additional local exchange service authority. This further proceeding would give the Commission the ability to consider and determine whether it should apply the rural safeguard protections provided by 47 U.S.C. § 253(f) SDCL § 49-31-73 and ARSD §§ 20:10:32:15 through 20:10:32:17 within any rural telephone company service area affected by the amended application.
- 7. INdigital, as part of its Application, has requested a waiver of the service obligations imposed on providers of local exchange services in South Dakota pursuant to ARSD 20:10:32:10. SDTA does not object to this waiver request and agrees that the Commission should grant such waiver to the

extent the service requirements/obligations listed are not related to INdigital's provisioning of 9-1-1 emergency services.

8. With the submission of this Joint Stipulation, the Parties request that the Commission approve the requested certification(s), subject to the agreed upon limitations set forth herein.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, the undersigned have caused this Joint Stipulation to be duly executed as of the date hereof.

South D	akota Telecommunications Association
Signatu	re:
Name:_	Richard D. Coit
Γitle <u>:</u>	Executive Director and General Counsel
Date	april 10, 2019

Communications Venture Corporation d/b/a INdigital

Name: Mark Grady

Title: President

Date: April 9, 2019

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that an original of the Joint Stipulation, dated April 10, 2019, filed in PUC Docket TC19-004 was served upon the PUC electronically, directed to the attention of:

Ms. Patty Van Gerpen, Executive Director South Dakota Public Utilities Commission 500 East Capitol Avenue Pierre, SD 57501 patty.vangerpen@state.sd.us

A copy was also sent by e-mail and/or US Postal Service First Class mail to each of the following individuals:

Ms. Amanda Reiss Staff Attorney South Dakota Public Utilities Commission 500 E. Capitol Ave. Pierre, SD 57501

Ms. Lorena Reichert Staff Analyst South Dakota Public Utilities Commission 500 E. Capitol Ave. Pierre, SD 57501

Mr. Ryan J. Taylor: Representing: Venture Corporation dba INdigital Attorney at Law Cutler Law Firm, LLP 140 N. Phillips Ave., 4th Floor Sioux Falls, SD 57104-6725 <a href="mailto:ryant@cutlerlawfirm.com">ryant@cutlerlawfirm.com</a>

Dated this Loth day of April, 2019

Richard D. Coit, General Counsel

South Dakota Telecommunications Association

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