

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION)	ORDER DENYING MOTION FOR
OF LTD BROADBAND LLC FOR)	PREHEARING CONFERENCE;
DESIGNATION AS AN ELIGIBLE)	ORDER ADOPTING
TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIER FOR)	PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE
PURPOSES OF RECEIVING FEDERAL)	
UNIVERSAL SERVICE SUPPORT)	TC21-001

On January 7, 2021, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received an Application for Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier (ETC) from LTD Broadband LLC (LTD Broadband). LTD Broadband is requesting designation as an ETC for the purpose of being eligible to receive federal universal service support via the Federal Communications Commission's Lifeline program and through the Rural Digital Opportunity Fund (RDOF) for the provision of broadband internet access and broadband voice bundled offerings. LTD Broadband has preliminarily been awarded RDOF funding for certain census blocks in South Dakota.

On January 14, 2021, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of January 29, 2021, to interested individuals and entities on the Commission's PUC Weekly Filing electronic listserv. On January 27, 2021, South Dakota Telecommunications Association (SDTA) filed a Petition to Intervene. On February 22, 2021, the Commission issued an Order Granting Intervention to SDTA. On August 12, 2021, SDTA and LTD Broadband filed a Stipulation for Protective Order for Confidentiality. On August 26, 2021, the Commission issued an Order Approving Stipulation for Protective Order for Confidentiality. On August 13, 2021, LTD Broadband filed a Motion for Prehearing Conference requesting the Commission establish a procedural schedule. On August 27, 2021, SDTA filed a Motion to Compel Discovery. On September 3, 2021, SDTA filed to amend its Motion to Compel. On September 7, 2021, LTD Broadband filed a Brief Opposing SDTA's Motion to Compel. On September 9, 2021, SDTA filed a Response to LTD Broadband's Opposition to SDTA's Motion to Compel. On September 10, 2021, SDTA filed a letter regarding Motion to Compel and Procedural Schedule and LTD Broadband filed a letter regarding the September 14, 2021, Commission Meeting Agenda Items. On September 14, 2021, Commission Staff filed a letter regarding Procedural Schedule detailing a proposed procedural schedule agreed to by all parties.

The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapters 1-26 and 49-31.

At its regularly scheduled meeting on September 14, 2021, the Commission considered the matter. The Commission unanimously voted to deny LTD Broadband's Motion for Prehearing Conference and adopt the Procedural Schedule proposed by the parties in Commission Staff's September 14, 2021, letter. It is therefore

ORDERED, that LTD Broadband's Motion for Prehearing Conference is hereby denied. It is further

ORDERED, that the procedural schedule is as follows:

Opening & Simultaneous Prefiled Testimony Due	October 22, 2021
Rebuttal Testimony Due	November 5, 2021
Motions Due	November 5, 2021
a. Response	November 12, 2021
b. Reply	November 17, 2021
Meet and Confer	Week of November 15, 2021
All Motions Heard	November 23, 2021
Prefiled Witness Lists and Exhibits Filed	November 29, 2021, due 12:00 p.m.
Evidentiary Hearing	December 1-2, 2021

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 20th day of September 2021.

<p>CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE</p> <p>The undersigned hereby certifies that this document has been served today upon all parties of record in this docket, as listed on the docket service list, electronically or by mail.</p> <p>By: <u>Karen E. Cremer</u></p> <p>Date: <u>09/20/21</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">(OFFICIAL SEAL)</p>

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Chris Nelson

CHRIS NELSON, Chairman

Kristie Fiegen

KRISTIE FIEGEN, Commissioner

Gary Hanson

GARY HANSON, Commissioner