

Docket Number: TC22-033
Subject Matter: Staff's Data Request 1
Request to: Jefferson Telephone Company
Request from: South Dakota Public Utilities Commission Staff
Date of Request: 7/6/22
Responses Due: 7/20/22

1.1. Refer to Exhibit A - Progress Report: The description at the bottom of the document does not appear to have any language besides default prompt language. Per ARSD 20:10:32:54(2), provide the following:

- a. Provide an explanation regarding any network improvement targets that were not met, if applicable

Response: Most network improvements were met in 2021. In the fall of 2021 we completed engineering, letting of bid, awarding of bid, and ordering of all materials to complete Jefferson Exchange fiber to the home project in 2022.

- b. Explain how the universal service support was used to improve service quality, signal quality, coverage, and capacity

Response: The majority of the support is being used to help fund the Jefferson FTTH project that will be completed in 2022. Jefferson will be able to provide up to 1 gigabyte upstream and downstream Internet services to its customers after completion. Support is also used for on-going expenses such as staffing costs, repairs, maintenance, supplies, and other operating expenses that are incurred to provide service in the Jefferson exchange.

1.2. In what areas did Jefferson deploy cable and wire listed on the Exhibit A – Progress Report.

Response: Jefferson mainly updated and replaced any mainline network, customer drops, and customer data equipment that had failed or that needed to be replaced until we can get our Fiber to the Home project completed.

1.3. Refer to Exhibit B - Two Year Plan: Provide further detail on the network improvements and the Fiber to the Home Project listed in 2022 and 2023. Will Jefferson continue to deploy fiber to new customer locations?

Response: In 2022, Jefferson will complete the FTTH project in the Jefferson exchange. This will allow all customers to have up to 1 gigabyte speeds. In 2023, we will replace the batteries and rectifiers in the central office, provide normal capacity upgrades, maintenance, fiber moves due to road construction, and replace any faulty equipment, etc.

1.4. Regarding the Lifeline Advertising Outreach Annual Report, what newspaper(s) or media of general distribution did the company advertise the availability of Lifeline and Link-Up services? Also, provide the date(s) of publication.

Response: Publication ran in the North Sioux City Times on July 29, 2021.