

July 20, 2023

Mr. Patrick Steffensen  
South Dakota Public Utilities Commission  
State Capitol Building  
500 East Capitol Avenue  
Pierre, SD 57501-5050

FROM THE DESK OF  
RYAN J. TAYLOR

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Re: Docket No. TC23-028  
Midstate Communications, Inc. ETC/USF Certification

Dear Mr. Steffensen:

This letter is in response to the Data Request issued to Midstate Communications, Inc. (the "Company") in the above-referenced docket on July 12, 2023. The questions will be addressed in the order in which they were posed in the original Data Request.

1-1. Refer to Exhibit A for study area 391670.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**RESPONSE 1-1(a):** The discrepancy is due to a timing difference in reporting practices.

**RESPONSE 1-1(b):**

[REDACTED]



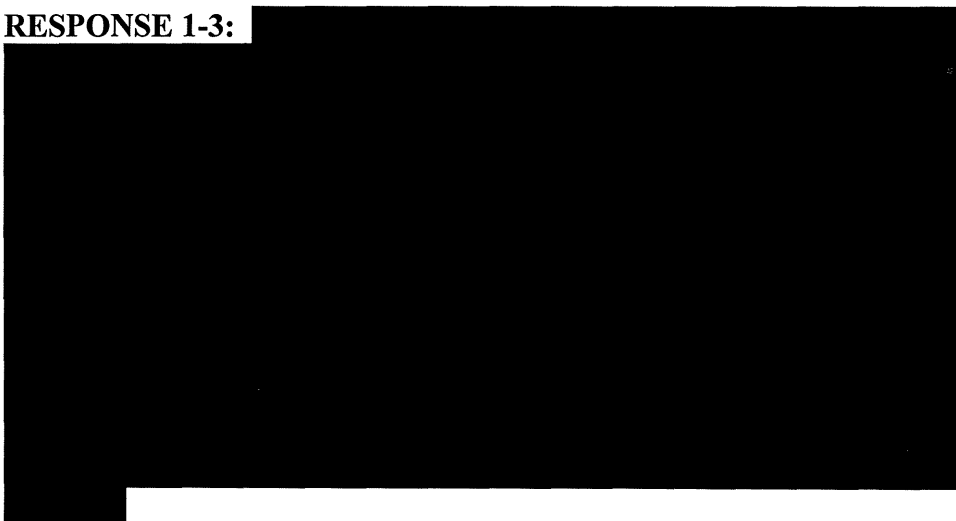
- 1-2. Explain how Midstate used the July 2022 grant funding it received from the Governor's Office of Economic Development and identify which of the projects were added to Midstate's plans as a result of this funding.

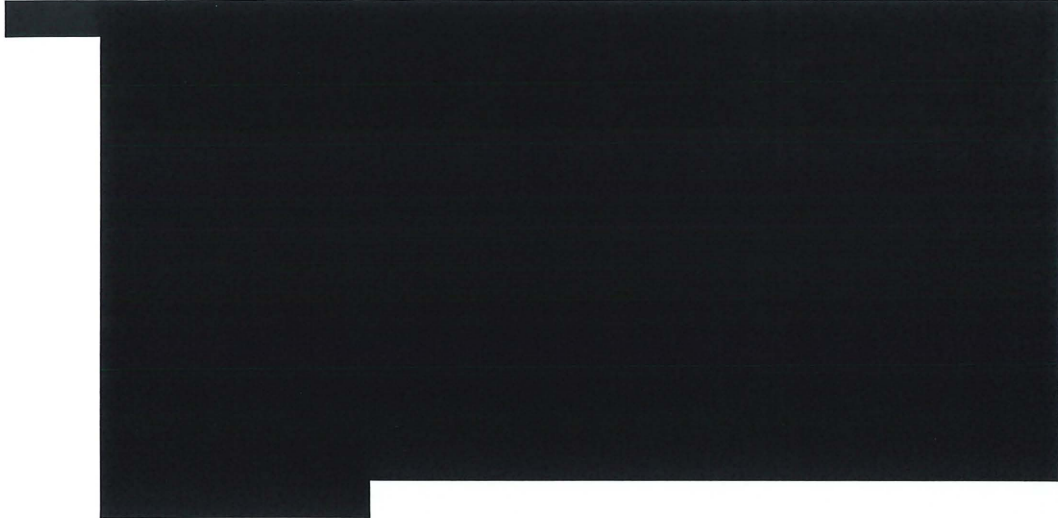
**RESPONSE 1-2:** The July 2022 grant funds received by the Company were utilized to assist in providing broadband services to approximately 100 new locations. The projects utilizing grant funds included fiber to the premises facilities to multiple businesses, campgrounds, and housing developments in the vicinity of Mickelson Drive in Oacoma, South Dakota. In addition to those fiber facilities, the July 2022 grant funds enabled the Company to bury multiple long-distance drops (in some cases exceeding one mile) in other exchanges that may not have otherwise been completed.

- 1-3.



**RESPONSE 1-3:**





As referenced in the cover letter to this filing, please consider the responses to questions 1-1(b) and 1-3 of the Data Request to be confidential. A copy of this filing with confidential areas redacted is being filed in conjunction with this letter. Please treat the information in accordance with Midstate Communications' request for confidentiality.

If you have any questions regarding the information contained in this letter or require any additional information or documentation, please feel free to contact me at your convenience at (605) 335-4989. Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

CUTLER LAW FIRM, LLP

Ryan J. Taylor  
For the Firm

Attachments

cc: Chad Mutziger  
Kathy Taylor