

Docket Number: TC23-050
Subject Matter: First Data Request – Amended Response
Request to: EarthGrid PBC CORPORATION (EarthGrid)
Request from: South Dakota Public Utilities Commission Staff
Date of Request: 2/20/2024
Responses Due: 3/14/2024

- 1-14. Confirm that EarthGrid is seeking Local exchange and interexchange certificates of authority for the sole purpose of providing telecommunications services in South Dakota and not for any other purposes, including but not limited to gaining a better chance to be granted Right of Way permits by the SD DOT for any other tunneling, trenching, excavating, or other projects that are not telecommunications related.

Response to 1-14: Initially the company is planning on providing telecommunications services in South Dakota via RESALE agreements with the local telephone companies. The Company is developing a long range fiber route which requires engineering, permitting and easements. This process will begin after all necessary approvals are received and will spread out over several years. In pursuit of that plan.

EarthGrid’s initial response inadvertently stated the Company was also exploring partnerships with other utilities and investigating the use of tunnels for aqueducts and for other types of transmission beyond data and telephony. This statement is not reflective of how EarthGrid intends to exercise authority in South Dakota.