

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

**IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF)
IMPACT TELECOM, LLC FOR CERTIFICATION OF)
AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE LOCAL EXCHANGE) TC23-051
AND INTEREXCHANGE TELECOMMUNICATIONS)
SERVICES IN THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA)**

SDTA Petition to Intervene

The South Dakota Telecommunications association (SDTA) hereby petitions the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) for intervention in the above captioned proceeding pursuant to SDCL 1-26-17.1 and ARSD 20:10:01:15.02, 20:10:01:15.03, 20:10:01:15.04 and 20:10:01:15.05. In support hereof, SDTA states as follows:

1. SDTA is an incorporated organization representing the interests of certain cooperative, independent, municipal, and tribal telephone companies operating throughout the State of South Dakota. All SDTA member companies operate as local exchange companies under state law (SDCL § 49-31-69, et. seq.) in addition to “rural local exchange telephone companies” (RLEC) and "eligible telecommunications carriers" (ETC) under the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996 and applicable state laws.

2. On or about December 11, 2023, Impact Telecom, LLC (“Impact” or “Applicant”) filed an Application for a “Certificate of Authority to provide *Local Exchange* and Interexchange Services” throughout the State of South Dakota. (*Emphasis added.*) See cover letter filed with Application. Despite the request in its cover letter to provide “Local Exchange Service,” Impact does not address ARSD 20:10:32.03 requirements in its filed Application.

3. SDTA members have an interest in and stand to be impacted by this proceeding based on the geographic scope of Impact’s intended service (as described in its cover letter).

Furthermore, SDTA argues Impact’s application itself is incomplete as filed.

4. SDTA seeks intervention herein based on the individual interests of each of its member ILECs and based on their common interests to ensure that the rural safeguard provisions contained in federal and state laws are carefully considered and incorporated into any Commission Order that may result from Impact’s application.

5. Based on the foregoing, SDTA alleges that it is an interested party in this matter, and it seeks intervening party status.

Dated this 18 day of December 2023.

/s/ Kara Semmler

Kara Semmler, General Counsel
South Dakota Telecommunications Association
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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that an original of the Petition for Intervention, dated August 18, 2023, filed in PUC Docket TC23-051 was served upon the PUC electronically, directed to the attention of:

Ms. Patty Van Gerpen, Executive Director
South Dakota Public Utilities Commission
patty.vangerpen@state.sd.us

A copy was also sent by e-mail to each of the following individuals:

Ms. Patricia Van Gerpen Executive Director South Dakota Public Utilities Commission patty.vangerpen@state.sd.us	Ms. Amanda Reiss Staff Attorney amanda.reiss@state.sd.us
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Mr. Logan Schaeffbauer Staff Attorney Logan.Schaeffbauer@state.sd.us	Mr. Joseph Rezac Staff Analyst Joseph.Rezac@state.sd.us
Mr. Carey Roesel representing Impact Telecom, LLC Consultant Inteserra Consulting Group croesel@inteserra.com	

Dated this 18 day of December 2023

/s/ Kara Semmler
Kara Semmler, General Counsel
South Dakota Telecommunications Association
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