

July 15, 2026

Ms. Jennie Fuerst
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. TC26-011
TrioTel Communications, Inc. ETC/USF Certification

Dear Ms. Fuerst:

Please consider this letter to be the Response of TrioTel Communications, Inc. to Staff's First Data Request issued to TrioTel Communications, Inc. (the "Company") in the above referenced docket on July 6, 2026. The questions will be addressed in the order in which they were posed in Staff's First Data Request.

- 1-1 Refer to ARSD 20:10:32:54(2) Provide the following:
1-1.1. Information concerning completed or planned network improvement projects

1-1.1.1.1. indicating which wire center areas or local communities are benefited by the improvements; and

RESPONSE: The wire centers of Alexandria, Canova, Center, Clayton, Emery, Salem, Spencer and Winfred will all benefit from the planned network improvements reflected on Exhibit B to the Company's Application for Certification filed in this docket.

1-1.1.2. submitted at the wire center level.

RESPONSE: The wire centers TrioTel Communications serves are Alexandria, Canova, Center, Clayton, Emery, Salem, Spencer, and Winfred.

- 1-2 Refer to ARSD 20:10:32:43.02. Provide the following for the two-year plan:
1-1.2. The specific geographic areas where the improvement is to be made.

RESPONSE: All subscribers in the wire centers identified in response 1-1 above will benefit from the Company's planned network improvements.

1-2.2. The estimated population that is to be served as a result of the improvements

RESPONSE: The estimated population for each wire center is as follows: Alexandria: 657; Canova: 92; Center: 102; Clayton: 65; Emery: 484; Salem: 1,360; Spencer: 136; and Winfred: 36.

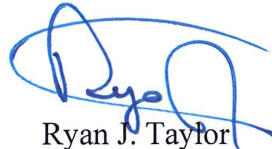
1-2.2.1. If an applicant determines that service improvements in a particular wire center are not needed, the applicant must explain its basis for this determination and demonstrate how funding is to be otherwise used to further the provision of supported services in that area.

RESPONSE: TrioTel Communications plans to provide improvements in all the wire centers listed in response 1-1 using Universal Service Funding.

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) 335-4950. Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

CUTLER LAW FIRM, LLP



Ryan J. Taylor
For the Firm

cc: Heather Kranz
Barb Mentele
Marlene Bennett
Renee Knoop