

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

**IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING BY
INTERSTATE TELECOMMUNICATIONS
COOPERATIVE, INC. FOR APPROVAL OF
ESTABLISHMENT OF RATE CENTER**

) **ORDER APPROVING**
) **ESTABLISHMENT OF A**
) **SEPARATE RATE CENTER**
)
) **TC11-089**

On November 9, 2011, the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a Petition for Establishment of Rate Center from Interstate Telecommunications Cooperative, Inc., (ITC) for approval of the creation of a new rate center. ITC operates twenty-six local telephone exchanges serving approximately 14,232 access lines in South Dakota. Both ITC and Brookings Municipal Utilities, d/b/a Swiftel Communications, provide local exchange service in certain portions of the Brookings exchange area commonly referred to as "Brookings Rural." This exchange consists of only one rate center. ITC seeks the creation of a new rate center so as to formally recognize the status quo and appropriately delineate and separate that rural portion of the City of Brookings which ITC currently serves so as to ensure that the boundaries for local calling, billing, and assigning of phone numbers accurately reflect the service areas of both ITC and Swiftel.

On November 10, 2011, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing to interested individuals and entities. The notice stated that any person wishing to intervene had until November 25, 2011, to do so. No petitions to intervene were filed. On November 28, 2011, ITC filed responses to staff's data requests.

At its December 6, 2011, meeting, the Commission considered ITC's request to create a separate rate center for that portion of the Brookings exchange served by ITC. Commission Staff recommended approval.

The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapter 49-31. The Commission found that ITC's request for the creation of a new rate center is consistent with the public interest, convenience, and necessity. The Commission unanimously voted to approve ITC's request to create a separate rate center for that portion of the Brookings exchange served by ITC. It is therefore

ORDERED, that the request of ITC to create a separate rate center for that portion of the Brookings exchange served by ITC is approved.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 13th day of December, 2011.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE
The undersigned hereby certifies that this document has been served today upon all parties of record in this docket as listed on the docket service list, electronically.
By: <u>[Signature]</u>
Date: <u>12-13-11</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

[Signature]
GARY HANSON, Chairman

[Signature]
CHRIS NELSON, Commissioner

[Signature]
KRISTIE FIEGEN, Commissioner