

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

**IN THE MATTER OF STUDY AREA
BOUNDARIES FOR INCUMBENT
LOCAL EXCHANGE CARRIERS**

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**ORDER CERTIFYING STUDY AREA
BOUNDARY CHANGES**

TC13-026

On April 29, 2015, Commission Staff (Staff) filed a memorandum requesting the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) complete its biannual certification of study area boundaries (SABs) within the state. In its memorandum, Staff described three changes made to the SABs since the Commission's last certification in June of 2013 and requested parties to review the maps for a Commission decision on May 26, 2015.

On May 28, 2015, Staff filed an email notifying the Commission and parties to the docket that it had received several additional changes to the SABs and intended to work through those changes before requesting the Commission's certification. On December 11, 2015, Staff filed an additional memorandum describing two additional changes to the SABs and requesting the Commission's certification.

At its regularly scheduled meeting on December 22, 2015, the Commission considered this matter. The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL chapter 49-31. The Commission unanimously voted to certify the current study area boundaries, as described by Staff. It is therefore

ORDERED, that the Commission certifies the current study area boundaries, as described by Staff:

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 29th day of December, 2015.

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| <p>CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE</p> <p>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.</p> <p>By: <u>Karen E. Cramer</u></p> <p>Date: <u>12/29/2015</u></p> <p align="center">(OFFICIAL SEAL)</p> |
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BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Chris Nelson
CHRIS NELSON, Chairman

Kristie Fiegen
KRISTIE FIEGEN, Commissioner

Gary Hanson
GARY HANSON, Commissioner