

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

**IN THE MATTER OF THE APPROVAL OF A)
WIRELINE INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT)
BETWEEN QWEST CORPORATION DBA)
CENTURYLINK QC AND MATRIX TELECOM,)
LLC DBA VARTEC TELECOM (FKA COMTEL))**

**ORDER APPROVING
AGREEMENT**

TC18-006

On March 1, 2018, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a filing pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 252 for approval of a wireline interconnection agreement between Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink QC and Matrix Telecom, LLC dba VarTec Telecom (fka Comtel).

On March 8, 2018, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing of the agreement to interested individuals and entities on the Commission's PUC Weekly Filings electronic listserv. The notice stated that any person wishing to comment on the parties' request for approval had until March 19, 2018, to do so. No comments were filed.

At its regularly scheduled meeting of March 20, 2018, the Commission considered whether to approve the negotiated agreement between Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink QC and Matrix Telecom, LLC dba VarTec Telecom (fka Comtel). Commission staff recommended approval.

The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapter 49-31 and the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996. In accordance with 47 U.S.C § 252(e)(2), the Commission found that the agreement does not discriminate against a telecommunications carrier that is not a party to the agreement and the agreement is consistent with the public interest, convenience, and necessity. The Commission unanimously voted to approve the agreement. It is therefore

ORDERED, that the Commission approves the Wireline Interconnection Agreement between Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink QC and Matrix Telecom, LLC dba VarTec Telecom (fka Comtel).

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 27th day of March 2018.

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| 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 or by mail. |
| By: <u>Karen E. Cremer</u> |
| Date: <u>3/27/18</u> |
| (OFFICIAL SEAL) |

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Kristie Fiegen
KRISTIE FIEGEN, Chairperson

Gary Hanson
GARY HANSON, Commissioner

Chris Nelson
CHRIS NELSON, Commissioner