

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

**IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING BY IONEX )  
COMMUNICATIONS NORTH, LLC DBA )  
BIRCH COMMUNICATIONS FOR APPROVAL )  
OF ITS SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICES )  
TARIFF NO. 7 )**

**ORDER APPROVING  
SWITCHED ACCESS  
SERVICES TARIFF NO. 7**

**TC18-010**

On March 9, 2018, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a letter from Ionex Communications North, Inc. dba Birch Communications requesting approval of its Switched Access Services Tariff No. 7 to reflect the change of its company name to Ionex Communications North, LLC dba Birch Communications (Birch). This Switched Access Services Tariff No. 7 issued by Birch cancels and replaces in its entirety Switched Access Services Tariff No. 6. Birch requests an effective date of March 12, 2018. On April 17, 2018, Birch filed revisions to the tariff addressing concerns from Commission staff.

On March 15, 2018, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of March 30, 2018, to interested individuals and entities on the Commission's PUC Weekly Filings electronic listserv. No petitions to intervene or comments were received. The matter was deferred at the May 1, 2018, meeting. The company submitted its calendar year 2017 intrastate revenue report on May 31, 2018.

At its regularly scheduled meeting on June 12, 2018, the Commission considered this matter. Commission staff recommended approval.

The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL 49-31-19, and ARSD 20:10:27. The Commission voted unanimously to approve Ionex Communications North, LLC's South Dakota Switched Access Services Tariff No. 7 with a March 12, 2018 effective date. It is therefore

ORDERED, that Ionex Communications North, LLC's South Dakota Switched Access Services Tariff No. 7 is hereby approved, with an effective date of March 12, 2018.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 20<sup>th</sup> day of June 2018.

<b>CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE</b>
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>Adam De Hueck</u>
Date: <u>6/20/18</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Kristie Fiegen  
KRISTIE FIEGEN, Chairperson

Gary Hanson  
GARY HANSON, Commissioner

Chris Nelson  
CHRIS NELSON, Commissioner