

2021

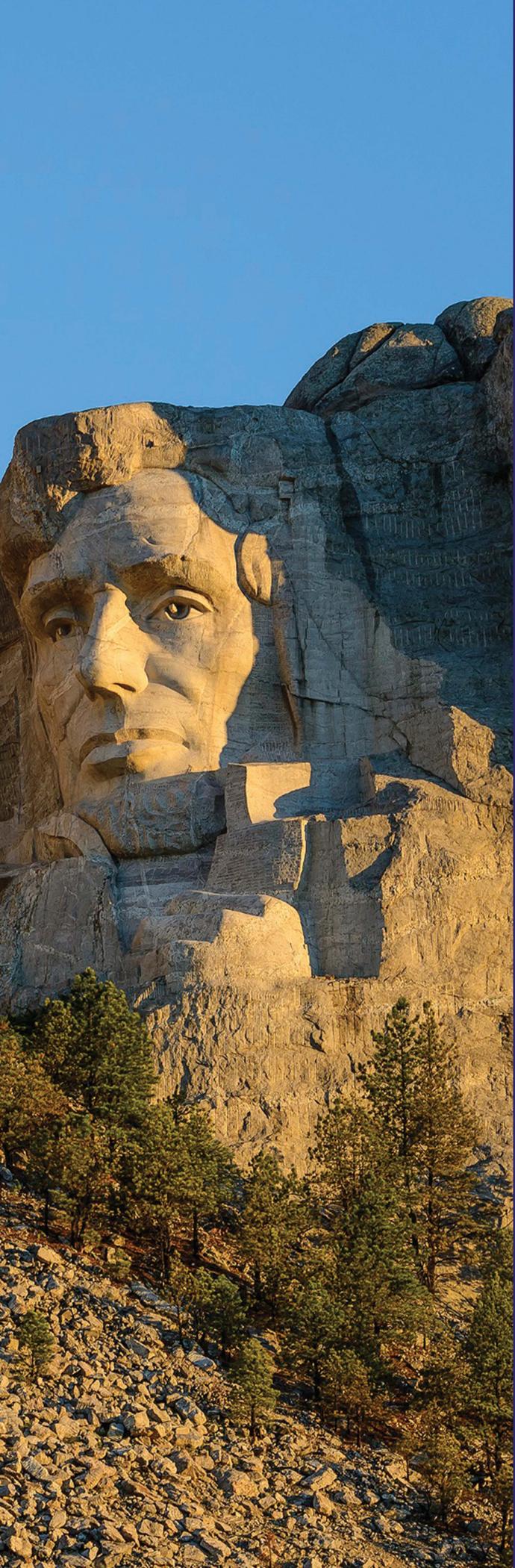
ANNUAL  
REPORT

*South Dakota*

PUBLIC  
UTILITIES  
COMMISSION



Photo by South Dakota Tourism



# Contents

About the PUC	1
Commissioners	2
Staff	5
Financial Report 2017	7
2017 Year In Review	8
Top Priorities	14
Regulated Utility Companies	21
2017 Docket Status Register	32
Administration Items	32
Civil	32
Electric	33
Gas and Electric	38
Grain Warehouse	38
Natural Gas	38
Telecommunications	40
Reopened Dockets	46
Mission Statement	48

# ABOUT THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

South Dakotans elect their three Public Utilities Commissioners to staggered, six-year terms. A dedicated staff of analysts, attorneys, consumer representatives and other professionals work with the commissioners to carry out the duties of PUC. The PUC's website, [www.puc.sd.gov](http://www.puc.sd.gov), contains a wealth of information including audio webcasts and recordings of meetings and hearings.

## UTILITY REGULATION

The commission regulates investor-owned electric, natural gas and telephone utilities. The PUC ensures utility companies in South Dakota provide safe and reliable service and that investor-owned companies do so with just and reasonable rates. It plays a more limited regulatory role with respect to telecommunications companies and cooperative, independent and municipal utilities.

## SITING AUTHORITY

The PUC has authority to issue permits for the construction of energy conversion, AC/DC conversion, wind energy, solar energy and electric transmission facilities as well as certain pipelines, including those designed to transport coal, gas, liquid hydrocarbon products or carbon dioxide.

## OTHER RESPONSIBILITIES

The PUC helps resolve disputes between customers and their utilities and operates the South Dakota Do Not Call registry. The commission also administers the natural gas pipeline safety program and licenses and inspects state public grain warehouses and grain buyers.

## ADVOCACY AND EDUCATION

The commission advocates for smart energy and telecommunications policy at state and federal levels and works hard to educate consumers about ways to save energy and money.

## INFORMATION SUPERHIGHWAY

The commission's main website, [www.puc.sd.gov](http://www.puc.sd.gov), is chock-full of information ranging from utility company phone numbers to summaries of regulatory filings. The commission offers live audio webcasts of dozens of proceedings, including commission meetings and hearings. All audio files are archived for later reference and convenience. The website also contains a comprehensive docket system that encompasses thousands of pages frequently used by PUC commissioners, staff and the public. The website is a valuable resource to utilities, attorneys, consultants and citizens interested in the work of the PUC.

## PUC ON THE WORLD WIDE WEB

[www.SDDoNotCall.com](http://www.SDDoNotCall.com) includes an overview of how consumers can add their personal phone numbers to the national registry to reduce the amount of telemarketing calls they receive. The site also describes how telemarketing companies doing business in South Dakota need to comply with applicable statutes and rules.

[www.SDEnergySmart.com](http://www.SDEnergySmart.com) is a guide for South Dakota consumers to become more energy efficient. The site includes links to the state's utility providers that are partners in the South Dakota Energy Smart initiative.

# SOUTH DAKOTA'S PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSIONERS

Kristie Fiegen is the chairperson of the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission. She was appointed to the PUC by Gov. Dennis Daugaard on Aug. 9, 2011, to fill a vacancy on the commission. Kristie was then elected to the commission in November 2012 to serve a six-year term. She previously served as vice chairperson of the PUC in 2012, 2015 and 2016. She is a member of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners' Committee on Gas and Subcommittee on Pipeline Safety. Kristie provides guidance related to the interests of the public and gas consumers to the Gas Technology Institute as a member of GTI's Public Interest Advisory Committee. She is also vice president of the Southwest Power Pool's Regional State Committee, which recommends cost allocation policies to determine the amount customers pay for the cost to build and operate transmission lines that cross several states in the SPP region.

Prior to joining the PUC, Kristie was the president of Junior Achievement of South Dakota for 17 years and was recognized as the top Junior Achievement USA President in 2008. Under Kristie's leadership, participation in Junior Achievement increased from 2,400 to more than 44,000 students annually and her team was named among the top eight franchises in the country nine times. Kristie's career also includes serving as the South Dakota area manager for the National Multiple Sclerosis Society for nine years and as a sales representative for Monsanto Co.



**Chairperson  
Kristie Fiegen**  
Appointed 2011, Elected 2012  
Term ends 2019



Commissioners Kristie Fiegen, Chris Nelson and Gary Hanson attended the CapX2020 Big Stone South-Brookings County 345 kV transmission line ribbon cutting near White.

Kristie's public service career includes four terms in the South Dakota House of Representatives, from 1993 to 2001. While a legislator, she served as chairperson of the House Health and Human Services Committee.

She has been active in Rotary, the United Way and Toastmasters, and is an active member of Central Baptist Church.

Kristie earned a bachelor's degree in commercial economics and agricultural business from South Dakota State University and a master's degree in business administration from the University of South Dakota. She grew up on her family's farm near Chancellor and is a graduate of Parker High School. Kristie and her husband, Tim, live in Sioux Falls with their sons, Alexander and Jackson.

Gary Hanson is the vice chairman of the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission. He was elected to the PUC in 2002 and re-elected in November 2008 and November 2014. He served as the commission's chairman in 2005, 2008, 2011, 2013 and 2014. Gary represents South Dakota on the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners' Committee on Electricity. He is the secretary of the Mid-America Regulatory Conference, is a member of the Advisory Council for New Mexico State University's Center for Public Utilities, served on the executive committee and as treasurer of the Organization of MISO States and represented the nation's NARUC commissioners on the steering committee of the National Wind Coordinating Collaborative.

Gary has served as chairman of the South Dakota Underground Pipeline Task Force, as member of Gov. Mike Rounds' Task Force on Wind Development, South Dakota's Energy Task Force, and Gov. George S. Mickelson's Cumulative Environmental Evaluation of Black Hills Mining Task Force. His service to the state also includes three terms in the South Dakota Senate where he was chairman of the committees of Bonding and of Government Audit and Operations, and vice chairman of the Taxation Committee.

A native of Sioux Falls, Gary was twice elected as mayor of that city and oversaw multiple departmental operations of more than 1,200 employees. Prior to serving as mayor, Gary was Sioux Falls' utilities commissioner for six years and was responsible for the development and day-to-day activities for three municipal utilities. He owned several businesses before elected office and is a licensed real estate auctioneer, appraiser, and broker.

As a regional and industry leader, Gary was co-founder, past president, chairman, and is often referred to as the father of the Lewis and Clark Regional Water System. He was chairman of the South Dakota Public Assurance Alliance, and president of the Sioux Falls Board of Realtors. He has served on the boards of directors of Lutheran Social Services Credit Counseling Advisory Board, DAV Arthur H. Muchow Independent Living Center, Sioux Falls Jaycees, Northern State University Foundation, Minnehaha Metro Communications Systems, South Dakota Water Congress, and Sister Cities Association. Gary was instrumental in the founding of the Multicultural Center in Sioux Falls, the Great Plains Waicipi, Community Drug Concerns Task Force, as well as endowments for the Sioux Falls Pavilion and the Great Plains Zoo.

Awards and honors received by Gary include being named Distinguished Alumnus of Northern State University, Sioux Falls' City Father of the Year, YMCA Tri-State Hall of Fame, International Lions Club Melvin Jones Fellow, Outstanding Young Citizen of South Dakota, Habitat for Humanity's Hat's Off Award, Spirit of Downtown Sioux Falls Award, White Cane Safety Award, Multiple Sclerosis Society Chapter's Mayor of the Year, Children's Care Hospital Wings of Love Award, DAV's Outstanding Legislator Award, and Life Member of Lions Club Sight and Service Foundation.

He has regularly shared his passion for athletics as a volunteer coach for a variety of youth sports. Gary actively pursues a number of interests including astronomy, carpentry, car engines, birding, genealogy, hunting, fishing, skydiving, SCUBA diving, spelunking, camping, history and sports.

Gary and his wife, Sandy, make their home in Sioux Falls and Pierre. The couple has three children and seven grandchildren.



**Vice Chairman  
Gary Hanson**  
**Elected 2002, 2008, 2014**  
**Term ends 2021**

Chris Nelson was appointed to the PUC on Jan. 8, 2011, by Gov. Dennis Daugaard to fill a vacancy on the commission. He was elected by South Dakota voters in November 2012 to continue his service for the remaining four years of the term. He was re-elected to a full term in November 2016, garnering the highest electoral percentage ever for a contested statewide race. Chris served as the PUC's chairman in 2012, 2015 and 2016 and as vice chairman in 2011, 2013 and 2014.

He is a member of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, serving on the association's board of directors and is a past chairman of its Committee on Telecommunications. He has been appointed by the Federal Communications Commission to the Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service, representing the interests of NARUC as state chairman of the board. Chris is on the board of directors for the National Regulatory Research Institute.

Previously, Chris served as South Dakota's secretary of state, having been elected in the 2002 general election. Chris was unopposed for re-election in 2006, which was the first time the office was unopposed in the history of South Dakota.

Prior to becoming secretary of state, Chris held the position of state election supervisor in the secretary of state's office for 13 years and was uniform commercial code supervisor in the same office for two years.

As secretary of state, Chris received the 2010 Excellent Service to South Dakota County Officials award from the South Dakota County Officials Association, the 2004 Hazeltine/Taylor award from South Dakota Kids Voting, and the 2003 Excellence in South Dakota Municipal Government award from the South Dakota Municipal League. In 2005, Chris was appointed as a National Governors Association representative on the United States Election Assistance Commission Board of Advisors.

Under Chris' leadership the secretary of state's office was awarded the Election Center's 2009 Professional Practices Program State Award. This annual award is given as recognition for the most outstanding election administration professional practice in the nation. The award recognized the 2008 development and implementation of a new central election reporting system for the state.

Following graduation from White Lake High School, Chris earned a bachelor's degree in animal science, with highest honors, from South Dakota State University in 1987.

Chris is involved in his church and counts agriculture and hunting as two areas of personal interest. He maintains a part-time cattle operation. Chris and his wife, Penny, reside in Pierre. Their daughter, Rebekah, is a nurse in Sioux Falls.



**Commissioner  
Chris Nelson**  
**Appointed 2011**  
**Elected 2012, 2016**  
**Term ends 2023**

# PUC STAFF

The PUC's 28 staff members perform a variety of duties on behalf of the citizens of South Dakota and in support of the commission.

As **executive director**, **Patricia Van Gerpen** is responsible for the overall management of the PUC staff and day-to-day operations of the agency. She makes docket and project assignments and is the liaison between the commissioners and staff on all issues. Patricia also works directly on a number of legislative, strategic planning and policy initiatives.

**Leah Mohr**, **deputy executive director**, schedules hearings and various meetings for the commission. She is also the chief writer and editor for the PUC's websites, outreach materials and news releases, handles media inquiries and coordinates logistics for informational and educational meetings. She supervises the commission's administrative support staff.

**Cindy Kemnitz**, **finance manager**, is responsible for the commission's fiscal activities including administrative functions related to the gross receipts tax, the regulatory assessment fee fund and the telephone solicitor registry. She prepares and monitors budgets and handles accounting, payroll and purchasing duties. She also prepares the commission's meeting agendas.

**Brittany Olson** serves as the **communications specialist**. She assists with the development of educational materials and news releases, meeting and event coordination and website maintenance.

Advising the commissioners are **commission attorneys Karen Cremer** and **Adam de Hueck** and **commission advisor Greg Rislov**. The attorneys also serve as hearing examiners and represent the commission in state and federal courts and before federal regulatory agencies. Greg provides policy and technical consultation and research support regarding major regulatory issues.

**Administrative staff** members perform a variety of support services including handling incoming phone calls and mail and greeting guests. Each staff member has specific duties that keep the PUC running smoothly. **Tina Douglas** is the web specialist with primary responsibility for maintaining the PUC's electronic docket system as well as each of the websites the commission operates. **Katlyn Gustafson** schedules and coordinates meeting logistics, travel and training. **Joy Lashley** assists with the preparation of orders, handles meeting minutes, distributes meeting agendas and weekly filings, and coordinates mailings.



In what has become an annual tradition, PUC staff contributed 186.68 pounds of food and a monetary donation to the Pierre Area Food Pantry in honor of Commissioners Kristie Fiegen, Gary Hanson and Chris Nelson and Executive Director Patricia Van Gerpen, for Boss's Day 2017.



# FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2017

## FINANCIAL REPORT

	BUDGET	GENERAL FUNDS	FEDERAL FUNDS	OTHER FUNDS	ENCUMBRANCE	BUDGET NOT EXPENDED
--	--------	---------------	---------------	-------------	-------------	---------------------

### ADMINISTRATION

Personal Services	\$1,174,038	\$342,276	\$38,538	\$759,647	\$0	\$33,577
Operating Expenses	\$177,909	\$0	\$0	\$129,461	\$8,537	\$39,911
<b>TOTAL PROGRAM</b>	<b>\$1,351,947</b>	<b>\$342,276</b>	<b>\$38,538</b>	<b>\$889,108</b>	<b>\$8,537</b>	<b>\$73,488</b>

### GRAIN WAREHOUSE

Personal Services	\$270,143	\$181,442	\$0	\$76,399	\$0	\$12,302
Operating Expenses	\$79,800	\$50,432	\$0	\$121	\$2,197	\$27,050
<b>TOTAL PROGRAM</b>	<b>\$349,943</b>	<b>\$231,874</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$76,520</b>	<b>\$2,197</b>	<b>\$39,352</b>

### FIXED UTILITY (Informational Budget)

Personal Services	\$1,400,932	\$0	\$4,826	\$1,181,167	\$0	\$214,938
Operating Expenses	\$454,508	\$0	\$0	\$207,524	\$0	\$246,984
<b>TOTAL PROGRAM</b>	<b>\$1,855,440</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$4,826</b>	<b>\$1,388,691</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$461,922</b>

### PIPELINE SAFETY (Informational Budget)

Personal Services	\$211,293	\$0	\$140,296	\$56,367	\$0	\$14,630
Operating Expenses	\$92,975	\$0	\$15,056	\$17,397	\$0	\$60,522
<b>TOTAL PROGRAM</b>	<b>\$304,268</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$155,352</b>	<b>\$73,764</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$75,152</b>

### ONE CALL NOTIFICATION (Informational Budget)

Personal Services	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Operating Expenses	\$834,029	\$0	\$33,681	\$788,899	\$0	\$11,449
<b>TOTAL PROGRAM</b>	<b>\$834,029</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$33,681</b>	<b>\$788,899</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$11,449</b>

### DO NOT CALL REGISTRY

Personal Services	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Operating Expenses	\$4,930	\$0	\$0	\$4,930	\$0	\$0
<b>TOTAL PROGRAM</b>	<b>\$4,930</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$4,930</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

### GROSS RECEIPTS TAX FUND REVENUES & FEES

Grain and Warehouse Licenses*	\$95,425	Gross Receipts Tax*	\$1,581,723
Check Off Audits	\$14,000	Application Fees	\$2,250
Interest Earned	\$1,912	Interest Earned	\$45,278
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>\$111,337</b>	<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>\$1,629,251</b>

\* Includes Fines/Penalties

## ENERGY EFFICIENCY

The commission approved updates to energy efficiency and conservation programs. In 2017, the estimated energy savings for all investor-owned utilities were 17,101 megawatt hours of electricity and 44,802 dekatherms of natural gas.

- **Xcel Energy** expanded LED lighting to its residential home lighting program.
- **MidAmerican Energy Co.** continued offering its energy efficiency plan in 2017.
- **Black Hills Energy** proposed to modify and extend its current Energy Efficiency Solutions plan, including removal of certain non cost-effective measures. The commission approved the request, but also removed additional measures it determined were not cost effective.
- **Otter Tail Power Co.** continued its Energy Efficiency Plan in 2017.
- **NorthWestern Energy** discontinued its Demand Side Management Plan as a result of the program not producing cost-effective energy savings.

## NATURAL GAS

In January, the PUC issued a **declaratory ruling** that it has jurisdiction over utilities providing natural gas to **farm tap** customers taking natural gas from the transmission line owned and operated by Northern Natural Gas; NorthWestern Energy is a public utility; and the commission does not have pipeline safety jurisdiction over farm taps. This declaratory ruling was later vacated by agreement of the commission and the parties.

In August, the PUC accepted a proposal by **MidAmerican Energy Co.** to provide services to **farm tap** customers connected to an interstate pipeline owned by **Northern Natural Gas Co.** The customers had been receiving natural gas service from **NorthWestern Energy**, whose obligation was set to expire on Dec. 31, 2017. Since November 2016, PUC staff had attempted to facilitate discussions between Northern Natural Gas and NorthWestern Energy to ensure that service be maintained to affected farm tap customers without causing a detrimental impact to NorthWestern Energy's other customers. When no timely agreement between the companies could be reached, staff reached out to MidAmerican Energy. Ultimately, all customers interested in maintaining gas service transitioned to MidAmerican or made other arrangements.

## GRAIN WAREHOUSE

Issued grain licenses to 177 entities with 326 locations and performed 413 inspections at 268 licensed facilities.

Investigated H & I Grain of Hetland for financial insolvency after receiving draft year-end financial statements that revealed the company had suffered significant losses. Following inspector analysis, the commission revoked the company's grain buyer license and followed statutory procedures to begin the process to distribute H & I Grain's \$400,000 bond.

## ELECTRIC

Processed five electric service **territory boundary agreements** to verify electric territory mapping data for conversion to electronic format and use in a geographic information system database.

PUC staff continued their investigation into **Xcel Energy's** fuel clause rider that had begun in late 2016, evaluating whether the recovery of certain power purchase agreements through the FCR were reasonable and cost effective for South Dakota customers. Staff identified 29 resources that appeared to be above-market at the time the resource was acquired, or were acquired primarily to comply with another state's laws and initiatives. Staff and Xcel engaged in numerous negotiation sessions that resulted in a settlement agreement being presented to and approved by the commission in September. The settlement provided an alternative pricing methodology for generation resources to the contracted price. The costs of certain challenged resources were adjusted to reflect a fair and reasonable price for electricity for South Dakota consumers, and a decision on the cost of the remaining resources was deferred to a separate proceeding where additional information on proxy pricing methods and could be provided. Xcel Energy filed its proxy proposal in January 2018.

The commission processed several transmission cost recovery tariff requests with these results:

- In February, approved an update to **Otter Tail Power Co.'s** TCR rider rate. The updated rate covers costs associated with seven previously approved projects, the Big Stone South to Brookings Multi-Value Project, transmission service costs for the Midcontinent Independent System Operator and Southwest Power Pool, and revenue from the use of the company's facilities in the MISO market. The revenue requirement approved for the company for this filing was \$2,053,205.
- In April, the commission approved an update to **MidAmerican Energy's** TCR rate that covers allowed costs related to the Midcontinent Independent System Operator's Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Transmission Rate Schedules 10, 26, 26-A. The \$342,240 approved revenue requirement translates roughly to a \$0.06 monthly bill increase for a typical residential customer's bill averaging 700 kWh per month.
- In May, the commission approved an updated TCR rider rate for **Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.** The updated rate reflects the 2017 recovery period that includes transmission service costs for the Midcontinent Independent System Operator and Southwest Power Pool and revenue from the use of company's facilities in the MISO and SPP markets. The monthly increase for an average residential customer using 650 kWh per month was approximately \$0.47.
- In November, approved **Xcel Energy's** request for an update to its TCR rate to allow recovery in 2018 of approximately \$6.6 million related to 14 transmission projects and costs associated with the Midcontinent Independent System Operator's Schedule 26 expenses. An average residential customer using 750 kWh per month saw a monthly decrease on their bill of approximately \$0.37.

In June, the commission approved a settlement agreement offered by PUC staff and **Black Hills Energy** for the company's 2017 transmission facility and environmental improvement adjustments. The settlement was designed to provide stable rates and increase reliability to South Dakota customers over a significant period of time, provide savings to customers, and eliminate recovery of expenses in future rate cases, resulting in a lower impact to rates at that time.

In October, the commission approved a reduction to **Otter Tail Power Co.'s** environmental cost recovery rider for the company's share of improvements at Big Stone and Hoot Lake power plants. The bill decrease for a typical customer averaging 955 kWh per month was approximately \$0.51.

## ELECTRIC (cont.)

Approved an annual update to **Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.'s** infrastructure rider factor in April. The change approved a 2016 revenue requirement of \$726,797 and authorized MDU to continue charging the existing infrastructure rider rate of \$0.00497 per kWh.

Continued processing a docket involving a complaint by **Consolidated Edison Development** against **NorthWestern Energy** pursuant to the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act regarding a power purchase agreement for three prospective wind generation facilities in Brule, Aurora and Davison counties. An evidentiary hearing was held in April. The PUC issued a comprehensive decision including findings of fact and conclusions of law and ordered parties to negotiate a power purchase agreement.

The commission received a permit application in July for **Crocker Wind Farm**, a proposed 400-megawatt wind energy facility and 345 kV transmission line in Clark County. A four-hour public input hearing was held in Clark in September. In October, intervenors filed a motion to deny and dismiss the application. The commission found the application failed generally in form and content and denied the application in October and Crocker's subsequent motion to reconsider in December. Crocker filed a new application for the project in December.

Attendees of the **Center for Public Utilities Advisory Council's Current Issues Forum** heard a South Dakota perspective. Commissioner **Gary Hanson** discussed balancing renewable integration and markets with infrastructure investments. Commissioner **Chris Nelson** offered a regulator's response about integrating and facilitating distributed energy resources into the grid.

Otter Tail Power Co. filed an application for the **Astoria Station** project in Deuel County in October. The project is proposed to include an approximate 250-megawatt simple-cycle natural gas fired energy conversion facility and related components. A public input hearing was held in Toronto in November.



Commissioner **Kristie Fiegen** offered remarks at the ribbon cutting of the **CapX2020 Big Stone South-Brookings County 345 kV transmission line** project. The 70-mile line is owned by Otter Tail Power Co. and Xcel Energy.

## ELECTRIC AND NATURAL GAS

The commission opened a docket in December to investigate the impact of the **Federal Tax Cuts and Jobs Act** on South Dakota consumers of regulated electric and natural gas utilities. In most cases, the PUC anticipates the tax reform, effective Jan. 1, 2018, will reduce corporate taxes. The commission plans to ensure these savings are passed on to customers of regulated electric and natural gas utilities and ordered rates be subject to refund as of Jan. 1, 2018, pending determination of the impact of the tax reform. It is expected that analyzing the effect of the tax plan will be a lengthy and complex process.

## LEADERSHIP

**Commissioner Chris Nelson** took the oath of office to begin his third term on the commission. Nelson will serve in the elected post until 2023.

**Commissioner Kristie Fiegen** was voted to serve as PUC chairperson and **Commissioner Gary Hanson** was voted as vice chairperson.

**Commissioner Chris Nelson** was selected to serve on the **National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners' Board of Directors**, a group tasked with overseeing NARUC's efforts to improve the quality and effectiveness of public utility regulation.

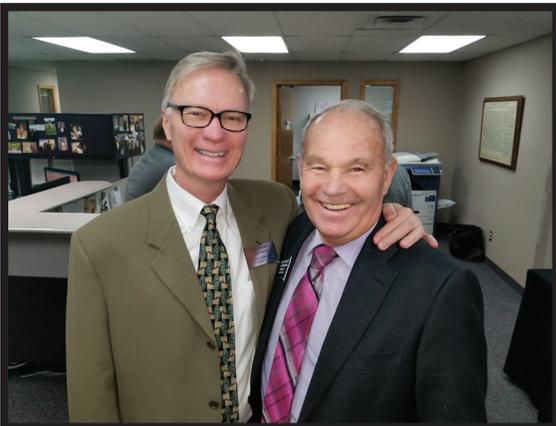
**Commissioner Kristie Fiegen** was named vice president of the **Southwest Power Pool's Regional State Committee**. The committee provides state regulatory agency input related to the development and operation of regional bulk electric transmission in 14 states in the central U.S.



The Southwest Power Pool's Regional State Committee elected new officers at the organization's meeting in Little Rock, Arkansas, in October. Pictured are Secretary/Treasurer Dennis Grennan of Nebraska; President Shari Feist Albrecht of Kansas; and Vice President Kristie Fiegen of South Dakota.

**Mid-America Regulatory Conference** leaders elected **Commissioner Gary Hanson** to serve a second term as the association's secretary. MARC is a regional organization comprised of utility and energy regulatory agencies from 14 states that include Arkansas, Kansas, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Texas and Wisconsin.

## LEGISLATION



Commissioner Gary Hanson greeted Rep. James Schaefer at the PUC's annual Open House for Legislators.

Introduced a bill to define a solar easement and affording **solar easement** landowners the same protections currently given to wind easement landowners. The bill received unanimous support in both chambers.

Worked with the legislature to revise **grain warehouse and grain buyer statutes** to reduce regulatory burdens for grain warehouses and grain buyers while maintaining protections for grain producers.

## PUBLIC OUTREACH & CONSUMER ASSISTANCE

Visited with more than 3,890 consumers about the purpose and services of the PUC at **spring home shows** in Sioux Falls and Rapid City and at the **South Dakota State Fair**.

**Assisted consumers** on nearly 2,550 occasions with issues and complaints related to electric, natural gas, telecommunications (including wireless), pipeline siting, energy efficiency and other utility-related topics.

Helped to increase the total amount of South Dakota telephone numbers on the **Do Not Call registry** to 664,829.

Commissioners engaged in conversations about the PUC and power generation during classroom visits. Commissioner **Kristie Fiegen** was a guest lecturer at the **New Technology High School** in Sioux Falls and **Lake Area Technical Institute** in Watertown. Commissioner **Chris Nelson** visited eighth grade science classrooms at Mickelson Middle School in Brookings.



Commissioner Kristie Fiegen got a first-hand look at tools of the trade from Lake Area Technical Institute students.

## TELECOMMUNICATIONS



Commissioner Chris Nelson convened with counterparts from across the nation at the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners annual meeting.

Thirty-four telecommunications carriers were deemed eligible to collectively receive millions of dollars in high cost support from the **federal Universal Service Fund** for maintaining, upgrading and building out their voice and broadband networks in South Dakota. The Universal Service Administration Co. estimates South Dakota carriers invested over \$98 million in USF monies in South Dakota in 2016.

Commissioner Chris Nelson testified before the **U.S. Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation** about the Federal Communications Commission's Lifeline Program. Nelson advocated for states to continue their oversight of telecommunications carriers who participate in the Lifeline program and for additional safeguards to prevent waste, fraud and abuse in the program.

Commissioner **Chris Nelson's** expertise in telecommunications was an asset as he moderated panel discussions about broadband and the Universal Service Fund at gatherings of the **National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners** and the **Mid-America Regulatory Conference**.

## PIPELINE SITING, SAFETY & INSPECTION

Completed 139 days of **pipeline safety** inspections.

Promoted the **Call Before You Dig** program with a news release for National Safe Digging Month in April. Encouraged visitors to the PUC's booth at the Sioux Empire and Black Hills home shows and the South Dakota State Fair to take the One Call pledge to call 811 before any excavation activity.

Hosted the **South Dakota/North Dakota/Wyoming Pipeline Safety Operator Training** in Rapid City for nearly 200 members of the pipeline industry. Participants attended presentations by experts discussing pipeline safety management systems, plastic pipe, excavator enforcement, control room management, excess flow valve rules and more. The event also included an exhibitor showcase featuring 23 companies.

The PUC received affirmation in June from the **South Dakota 6th Circuit Court** of the commission's Decision to accept as valid the certification by TransCanada Keystone Pipeline to construct the **Keystone XL Pipeline** in South Dakota. Parties in the appeal included Dakota Rural Action, Yankton Sioux Tribe, Intertribal Council on Utility Policy, Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe, and landowners. The PUC was notified in July that the Dakota Rural Action, Yankton Sioux Tribe, Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe and the Intertribal Council on Utility Policy appealed the circuit court's decision to the **South Dakota Supreme Court**.

## WIRELESS

Monitored the actions and results as **new wireless telecommunications sites** were launched by companies at locations including in or near Huron and Wood. Wireless companies also made numerous network enhancements throughout the state.



PUC Commissioners Chris Nelson, Kristie Fiegen and Gary Hanson joined in a variety of sessions and discussions during Mid-America Regulatory Conference's annual conference in June.

The South Dakota Public Utilities Commission focuses on the state’s utility ratepayers and producers, managing its responsibility with the long-term public interest in mind. Accordingly, the priorities listed on the following pages are those that the commission examines to evaluate the fulfillment of its responsibility.

## ELECTRIC AND NATURAL GAS

The commission looks after the interests of South Dakotans as related to electric and natural gas issues. Actions taken by the commission strive to ensure reliable service and reasonable rates from investor-owned utilities as well as fair service territory boundaries for all utilities. The commission follows guidelines prescribed by South Dakota law when siting energy conversion and electric transmission facilities. The components of this priority affect South Dakotans in terms of reliability and cost of their electric and natural gas services.

The PUC uses a number of ways to measure the agency’s effectiveness at handling these issues.

### RATES

Reviewing electric and natural gas rates from around the state, region and nation offers perspective to evaluate the financial impact South Dakota ratepayers experience compared to residents of other states.

<i>Measurement per kWh, 2017</i>		<i>Measurement per thousand cubic feet, 2016</i>	
<b>Average Residential Electric Rate</b>		<b>Average Residential Natural Gas Rate</b>	
<b>11.68 cents</b>	South Dakota	<b>\$7.60</b>	South Dakota
<b>12.07 cents</b>	West North Central Region (Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota)	<b>\$8.94</b>	West North Central Region (Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota)
<b>12.90 cents</b>	United States	<b>\$10.05</b>	United States

### COMPLETED ELECTRIC AND NATURAL GAS DOCKETS

The number of electric and natural gas dockets filed and completed each year reveals the agency’s ability to manage its duties and workload. The measurement also assists agency officials in managing the process by which dockets are assigned, analyzed and acted upon by staff and commissioners. The commission seeks to completely process 90 percent of its electric and natural gas dockets within 12 months of a docket being filed.

<i>Measurement, 2017</i>
<b>Electric and Natural Gas Dockets</b>
77 - Dockets filed Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 2017
11 - Completed within approximately 1 month
53 - Completed in 2 to 4 months
5 - Completed in 5 to 6 months
1 - Completed in 7 to 12 months
7 - Dockets open as of Jan. 1, 2018
91 percent completed in 12 months

## AFFIRMED OR REVERSED ELECTRIC AND NATURAL GAS DECISIONS

Parties that file requests or applications with the PUC and intervenors to those dockets have the right to challenge the commission’s decision in circuit court. The number of decisions affirmed or reversed by judicial order is an assessment of the manner by which the commission perceives and uses its regulatory authority.

*Measurement, 2017*

Affirmed decisions: None

Reversed decisions: None

## ELECTRIC RELIABILITY

The electric utility industry uses indices to track and benchmark performance reliability. Companies use this data to evaluate and improve upon their response to outages, handling of customer complaints and system integrity. Though electric utilities in South Dakota are not required to report these scores to the PUC, the companies discuss the information with the commission and a comparison to national scores is ascertained.

### INDICES

- **System Average Interruption Duration Index (SAIDI):** The average amount of time a customer’s service is interrupted during the reporting period
- **System Average Interruption Frequency Index (SAIFI):** The average number of interruptions that a customer would experience
- **Customer Average Interruption Duration Index (CAIDI):** The average outage duration that any given customer would experience. CAIDI can also be viewed as the average restoration time.

### Measurement South Dakota 2017 scores compared to National 2016 median score

Thirteen of the 18 scores provided to the PUC by South Dakota’s six investor-owned utilities were better than the median. Analyzing the scores with relation to customer base and other factors reveals that the utilities have a high degree of electric reliability performance.



The Mid-America Regulatory Conference elected new officers at the organization’s annual conference in Chicago in June. The officers are state utility commissioners. Pictured are Vice President Nick Wagner of Iowa; Treasurer Norman Saari of Michigan; Member-at-Large Dana Murphy of Oklahoma; President Bill Kenney of Missouri; and Secretary Gary Hanson of South Dakota.

# GRAIN WAREHOUSE

Monitoring the South Dakota grain industry is a significant responsibility of the Public Utilities Commission. The PUC Warehouse Division licenses and inspects state-licensed grain storage warehouses; federally-licensed grain storage warehouses holding state grain-buyer licenses; and grain buyers licensed as processors and non-storage facilities. Grain brokers and truck-based grain buyers are also licensed but not inspected because they do not maintain grain handling facilities in South Dakota.

The warehouse staff works to reduce producer risk by reviewing the grain buyer and grain warehouse financial statements each year and by performing regular on-site inspections. The PUC uses three main categories to measure its effectiveness in the grain industry.

## INSPECTIONS

Inspections ensure compliance with statutes and rules related to the licensing and bonding requirements for grain warehouses and grain buyers. The number of inspections describes the penetration of the agency's review process. The commission inspects each licensed facility annually.

*Measurement, 2017*

Grain warehouse and grain buyer inspections: 413 inspections at 269 licensed facilities

## LICENSES

The PUC issues licenses for grain buyers/grain warehouses doing business in the state. Each licensed entity is required to apply for renewal annually. As part of the licensing and renewal process, the commission analyzes grain buyers' financial ability to pay grain producers and suppliers. The number of licenses handled by the PUC depicts the wide scope of the commission's monitoring of the industry.

*Measurement, 2017*

- Class A Grain Buyer Licenses (entities that use voluntary credit sale contracts or exceed \$10,000,000 in annual purchases): 121 entities with 269 locations
- Class B Grain Buyer Licenses (entities that do not use voluntary credit sale contracts and do not exceed \$10,000,000 in annual purchases): 49 entities with 57 locations
- State Warehouse Licenses (entities that store grain for hire): 54 entities with 74 locations
- Federal Warehouse Licenses (entities that are licensed by the USDA to store grain for hire): 40 entities with 150 locations; five out-of-state locations maintain a South Dakota grain buyer license.
- Processors (entities that purchase grain for the purpose of processing it into other products): 24 entities with 38 locations; seven out-of-state locations maintain a South Dakota grain buyer license.
- Non-storage (entities that operate a grain handling facility but do not hold a state or federal warehouse license): 17 entities with 19 locations; one out-of-state location.
- Truck (entities that are primarily trucking companies with no grain handling facility but purchase grain for the purpose of resale): Seven entities with seven locations
- Brokers (entities that purchase grain but do not take physical possession of the grain): 35 entities with 38 locations

## LICENSE REVOCATIONS

When a licensed grain warehouse fails to perform its duties or carry out its obligations to its producers, the PUC follows prescribed laws and administrative rules to investigate, audit or take other necessary action to limit damage to the public. The number of license revocations, excluding circumstances beyond the commission's authority, can be an indicator of the commission's level of diligence in overseeing the industry.

*Measurement, 2017*

License Revocations: One

## PIPELINE SAFETY

The PUC has responsibility to regulate natural gas intrastate pipelines, which includes ensuring the public is provided safe and dependable gas service. As part of its duties, commission staff inspects and investigates natural gas pipeline operators for compliance with statutes and administrative rules.

The commission uses the following measurement tools to establish that it is appropriately handling its role with regard to pipeline safety.

### INSPECTIONS

PUC pipeline safety inspectors regularly inspect natural gas pipeline operators to determine compliance with state and federal regulations. Inspections occur in the areas of records, field, construction, drug and alcohol, public awareness, incident investigation, operator qualification and integrity management. The number of inspection hours logged by the safety inspectors is an indicator of the agency's thoroughness in this area. The PUC's certification agreement to administer this program for the U.S. Department of Transportation's Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration specifies that a minimum of 127 inspection days are required annually.

*Measurement, 2017*

Inspections: 135.75 days (127 days required)

### FEDERAL AUDIT

South Dakota's pipeline safety program is field audited annually by PHMSA's Office of Pipeline Safety (Central Region). The agency reviews inspections conducted and citations issued by the PUC and evaluates the commission's adherence to its pipeline safety procedures plan. The result of the federal review indicates the PUC's ability to carry out its obligations related to pipeline safety. PHMSA also reviews and scores South Dakota's annual certification document submittals.

*Measurement, 2017*

Audit score: 100 percent

### FEDERAL CERTIFICATION

PUC staff members involved in pipeline safety inspection are required to complete seven training courses to become a certified pipeline safety inspector. Additional training is required for certification to conduct specialty inspections for control room management, distribution integrity management programs, public awareness and transmission integrity management. The courses are taught by the federal Pipeline Safety Office of Training and Qualifications and are designed to educate federal and state pipeline safety inspectors in the application of compliance requirements, inspection techniques and enforcement procedures.



Commissioner Kristie Fiegen announced door prizes at the SD/ND/WY Pipeline Safety Conference Training reception.

*Measurement, 2017*

PUC inspectors are fully certified to conduct all inspections.

# TELECOMMUNICATIONS

The commission has varied regulatory authority over telecommunications providers and services in South Dakota. The PUC issues certificates of authority to certain providers; approves switched access rates for local exchange carriers; designates providers as eligible telecommunication carriers and certifies carriers as eligible to receive federal high-cost support; approves interconnection agreements between providers; and arbitrates disputes between providers. In addition, the commission serves as a resource on emerging issues.

The commission continually assesses its performance in dealing with telecommunications issues, with specific attention paid to these measurements:

## COMPLETED TELECOMMUNICATIONS DOCKETS

The number of telecommunications dockets filed and completed each year reveals the agency's ability to manage its duties and workload. The measurement also assists agency officials in managing the process by which dockets are assigned, analyzed and acted upon by staff and commissioners. The number can also act as a meter of the amount of activity, within the commission's jurisdiction, by telecommunications providers in the state. The commission seeks to process 90 percent of its annual telecommunications dockets within 12 months of a docket being filed.

### *Measurement, 2017*

## Telecommunications Dockets

75 - Dockets filed Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 2017

9 - Completed within approximately 1 month

62 - Completed in 2 to 4 months

2 - Completed in 7 to 12 months

2 - Dockets open as of Jan. 1, 2018

97 percent completed in 12 months

## AFFIRMED OR REVERSED TELECOMMUNICATIONS DECISIONS

Parties that file requests or applications with the PUC and intervenors to those dockets have the right to challenge the commission's decision in circuit court. The number of decisions that are affirmed or reversed by judicial order is an assessment of the manner in which the commission perceives and uses its regulatory authority.

### *Measurement, 2017*

Affirmed Decisions: None

Reversed Decisions: None

## ACCESS TO UNIVERSAL SERVICE FUND, HIGH COST PROGRAM

A number of telecommunications carriers have been designated as eligible telecommunications carriers by the commission. Carriers that have been designated as ETCs receive high cost support from the federal Universal Service Fund for maintaining, upgrading, and building out their voice and broadband networks in South Dakota. Each year, the commission must certify to the Federal Communications Commission that the ETCs are using the funds for the provision, maintenance and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended. Dollars invested are a reflection of the strengthening and expansion of telecommunications infrastructure, to enhance system reliability and enable more service options to more customers, particularly in rural areas.

### *Measurement, 2016*

30 carriers invested \$98,218,678

## BROADBAND DEPLOYMENT

While the commission does not have a statutory duty related to broadband service, it recognizes the importance of broadband availability to South Dakotans and advocates for the expansion of advanced telecommunications services. The Federal Communications Commission tracks broadband deployment through an Annual Broadband Progress Report. The report describes telecommunications deployment according to census blocks. The information is updated annually to reflect changes in population and the construction of new homes. The PUC uses this information to track broadband expansion in the state.

*Measurement, 2016*

New census blocks that meet 10 mbps download speed: 4,343

New census blocks that meet 25 mbps download speed: 8,339



Commissioner Chris Nelson testified before the U.S. Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation, in Washington D.C.

# CONSUMER AFFAIRS

The PUC provides a number of services for consumers. The agency's consumer affairs staff is trained to assist consumers with issues related to their electric, natural gas or telecommunications service, including wireless. They provide educational information about energy efficiency, consumer protection and making wise utility choices. They offer guidance and referrals for consumers who may have difficulty paying their utility bills. The commission also administers the South Dakota Do Not Call Registry, registering telephone solicitors, helping to enroll consumers on the registry, and investigating violations against consumers who are on the registry.

The commission evaluates its performance related to consumer affairs by examining the following areas:

## COMPLAINTS RESOLVED WITHIN A MONTH

Consumer complaints are received by the commission via phone, mail, email and, occasionally, are delivered in-person by the complainant. The PUC strives to quickly and fully investigate each incident by analyzing both sides of the complaint and working with the affected parties to informally reach a resolution. The number of complaints completed within a month reveals the commission's effectiveness in responding to consumers. The goal is 90 percent completed within a month.

*Measurement, 2017*

Complaints resolved within a month: 97 percent

## FORMAL CONSUMER COMPLAINTS

When a consumer and utility cannot reach a resolution through the informal process, one of the parties may file a formal complaint. A formal complaint is entered into a docket and, unless settled, may result in a hearing before the commission. The commission endeavors to affect complaint resolutions informally and therefore strives for a low number of formal complaints. This measurement is also an assessment of the commission staff's negotiation and mediation skills.

*Measurement, 2017*

Formal consumer complaints: None

## DO NOT CALL REGISTRY

The commission continually uses outreach efforts to educate South Dakotans about enrolling their personal telephone number on the Do Not Call Registry to reduce the number of telemarketing calls they receive. In addition to advocacy, the PUC takes an active role and, at the request of a consumer, will enroll their number on the registry. The PUC tracks the number of South Dakota telephone numbers on the registry, noting the amount of growth each year which is an indication of the success of education efforts.

*Measurement, 2017*

South Dakota telephone numbers on Do Not Call Registry: 664,829  
(1.65 percent increase)



Commissioners Gary Hanson, Chris Nelson and Kristie Fiegen visited with consumers at the PUC's booth at the South Dakota State Fair. Fairs and home shows give commissioners and PUC staff an opportunity to answer questions and meet South Dakotans from across the state.

2017

# REGULATED UTILITY COMPANIES

The commission has territory, complaint, and quality of service authority over all natural gas, electric and telecommunications utilities operating within South Dakota. Certain utilities are exempt from the commission's rate regulation. Those include municipal, rural electric cooperatives and small, independent and cooperative telephone companies. The commission retains its switched access rate making authority for all telecommunications companies providing local service, including small, independent and cooperative companies.

## GROSS RECEIPTS TAX ASSESSMENT PAID BY REGULATED UTILITY COMPANIES

*The sum of these figures does not correspond with the Gross Receipts Tax Revenues reported on page 7 due to timing issues. Revenues are based on calendar year.*

Electric and Natural Gas Companies	\$1,138,974
Telecommunications Companies	\$ 664,711

## INVESTOR-OWNED ELECTRIC AND NATURAL GAS COMPANIES

*Investor-owned electric and natural gas companies provide service to specific geographic areas in South Dakota and are regulated by the PUC. These companies are owned by their investors and are managed as private enterprises.*

- Black Hills Power Inc.
- MidAmerican Energy Co.
- Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.
- Northern States Power Co. dba Xcel Energy
- NorthWestern Energy
- Otter Tail Power Co.
- South Dakota Intrastate Pipeline Co.

## LONG DISTANCE TELEPHONE COMPANIES

*These long distance telephone providers are certified by the PUC to do business in South Dakota. These companies carry traffic between telephone exchanges.*

### #

- 1 800 Collect Inc. dba Simple Billing Solutions (withdrew COA 5/17)
- 365 Wireless LLC
- 800 Response Information Services LLC

### A

- Access One Inc.
- Access Point Inc.
- AccessLine Communications Corp. dba Voice Telco Services
- ACN Communication Services Inc.
- Affinity Network Inc. dba QuantumLink Communications and HorizonOne Communications
- Airespring Inc.
- Airus Inc.

## Long Distance Telephone Companies (cont.)

Alliance Communications Cooperative Inc.  
Alliance Global Networks LLC  
American Telecommunications Systems Inc.  
AmeriVision Communications Inc. dba LifeLine  
Communications dba Affinity 4  
ANPI Business LLC (withdrew COA 6/17)  
ANPI LLC  
AT&T Corp.  
Avera Communication LLC (withdrew COA 10/17)

### B

---

Bandwidth.com CLEC LLC  
BCN Telecom Inc.  
BEK Communications Cooperative  
Blackfoot Communications Inc.  
Broadband Dynamics LLC  
Broadview Networks Inc.  
Broadvox-CLEC LLC  
Broadwing Communications LLC  
Budget PrePay Inc. dba Budget Phone  
(withdrew COA 5/17)  
BullsEye Telecom Inc.  
Business Discount Plan Inc.  
Business Network Long Distance Inc.  
Business Telecom Inc. dba EarthLink Business

### C

---

CallCatchers Inc. dba Freedom Voice Systems  
CBTS Technology Solutions LLC fka Cincinnati Bell  
Any Distance Inc.  
Central Telecom Long Distance Inc.  
CenturyLink Communications LLC  
CenturyLink Public Communications Inc.  
Clarity Telecom LLC dba Vast Broadband  
Comcast Phone of South Dakota LLC dba Comcast  
Digital Phone  
Communications Network Billing Inc.  
COMTECH 21 LLC  
Conectado Inc. (withdrew COA 8/17)  
Consolidated Communications Enterprise Services  
Inc.  
Consolidated Communications Network Inc.  
Consolidated Telecom Inc. dba Secured  
Technologies Inc.  
Consumer Telcom Inc.  
Convergia Inc.  
Correct Solutions LLC  
Crexendo Business Solutions Inc.

CSDVRS LLC  
CTC Communication Corp. dba EarthLink Business  
Custom Teleconnect Inc.

### D

---

DeltaCom LLC dba EarthLink Business  
Dickey Rural Telephone Cooperative  
dishNet Wireline LLC

### E

---

EarthLink Business LLC  
Easton Telecom Services LLC  
Enhanced Communications Group LLC dba  
ECG LLC and Boom Mobile  
EnTelegent Solutions Inc.  
Express Communications Inc.

### F

---

FiberComm LC  
First Choice Technology Inc.  
First Communications LLC  
France Telecom Corporate Solutions LLC  
Frontier Communications of America Inc.

### G

---

GC Pivotal LLC dba Global Capacity  
Global Crossing Telecommunications Inc.  
Global Tel\*Link Corp.  
GoDaddy.com LLC  
Golden West Telecommunications Cooperative  
dba Golden West Telecommunications  
Granite Telecommunications LLC  
Greenfly Networks Inc. dba Clearlyfly  
Communications

### H

---

Heartland Telecommunications Company of Iowa

### I

---

IDT America Corp.  
inContact Inc. dba UCN Inc.  
iNetworks Group Inc.  
Inmate Calling Solutions LLC dba ICS Solutions  
Integrated Services Inc.  
Intellicall Operator Services Inc. dba ILD  
(withdrew COA 12/17)

## Long Distance Telephone Companies (cont.)

Ionex Communications North Inc. dba Birch  
Communications dba Primus Birch Telecom

### J

---

James Valley Cooperative Telephone Co. dba James  
Valley Telecommunications

### K

---

KDDI America Inc.

### L

---

Lattice Inc. (withdrew COA 6/17)  
LCR Telecommunications LLC  
Legacy Long Distance International Inc.  
Level 3 Communications LLC  
Level 3 Telecom Data Services LLC  
Long Lines Metro

### M

---

MAGICJACK SMB Inc.  
Magna5 LLC  
Matrix Telecom LLC dba Matrix Business  
Technologies, Trinsic Communications,  
VarTec Telecom, Excel Telecommunications,  
Impact Telecom, Americatel  
MCC Telephony of the Midwest LLC  
MCI Communications Services Inc. dba Verizon  
Business Services  
MCIMetro Access Transmission Services Corp.  
dba Verizon Access Transmission Services  
McLeodUSA Telecommunications Services LLC  
dba Paetec Business Services  
Metropolitan Telecommunications of South Dakota  
Inc. dba MetTel  
Midcontinent Communications Inc.  
Midstate Communications Inc.  
Mitel Cloud Services Inc.  
Mobilitie LLC  
Momentum Telecom Inc.  
Multiline Long Distance Inc.

### N

---

National Access Long Distance Inc.  
Nationwide Long Distance Services Inc.  
Native American Telecom LLC

Nebraska Technology & Telecommunications Inc.  
NECC Telecom Inc.

Netwolves Network Services  
Network Billing Systems LLC  
Network Communications International Corp.  
dba NCIC Inmate Communications  
Network Innovations Inc.  
Network Services Billing Inc.  
NetworkIP LLC dba Elite Telecom  
Neutral Tandem-South Dakota LLC  
New Horizons Communications Corp.  
NextGen Communications  
NobelTel LLC  
North Dakota Long Distance LLC  
Northern Valley Communications LLC  
NOS Communications Inc. dba Blueridge Telecom  
Systems dba International Plus and 011  
Communications and The Internet Business  
Association (Inetba) and dba iVantage  
Network Solutions  
NOSVA Limited Partnership dba CierraCom  
Systems

### O

---

ONLINE SAVINGS INC.  
Onvoy LLC  
OPCOM Inc. dba WCS Telecom (withdrew  
COA 4/17)  
Operator Service Co. LLC dba Excell Services  
Opex Communications Inc. dba TCI Long Distance

### P

---

PaeTec Communications Inc.  
Pay Tel Communications Inc.  
Peerless Network of South Dakota LLC  
PNG Telecommunications Inc. dba PowerNet  
Global Communications dba Crossconnect  
and dba Thr!ve  
Premier Communications Inc. dba Premier  
Communications  
Public Communications Services Inc.

### Q

---

QuantumShift Communications Inc. dba Vcom  
Solutions

## Long Distance Telephone Companies (cont.)

### R

---

RC Technologies  
Reduced Rate Long Distance LLC  
Reliance Telephone Systems Inc.  
Reliant Communications Inc.  
Residential Long Distance Inc.

### S

---

Sage Telecom Communications LLC  
    dba TruConnect  
Sancom dba Mitchell Telecom  
Santel Communications Cooperative  
SBC Long Distance LLC dba AT&T Long Distance  
Securus Technologies Inc.  
Spectrotel Inc. dba OneTouch Communications  
    dba Touch Base Communications  
Stratus Networks Inc.

### T

---

Talk America Services LLC  
TDS Long Distance Corp.  
Telecom Management Inc. dba Pioneer Telephone  
Televergence Solutions Inc.  
Telrite Corp. dba Life Wireless  
Three River Teleco dba Three River Long Distance  
Toly Digital Networks Inc.  
TOTAL ACCESS TELECOM INC. (withdrew  
    COA 1/17)  
Total Holdings Inc. dba GTC Communications  
Touchtone Communications Inc.  
TTI National Inc. (withdrew COA 11/17)

### U

---

U.S. Telecom Long Distance Inc.  
USA Digital Communications Inc.

### V

---

Valley Telecommunications Cooperative  
    Association Inc.  
Value-Added Communications Inc.  
Velocity The Greatest Phone Company Ever Inc.  
Verizon Long Distance LLC  
Verizon Select Services Inc.  
Voicecom Telecommunications LLC dba Intelliverse

### W

---

West Safety Communications Inc.  
West Telecom Services LLC  
Wide Voice LLC  
WilTel Communications LLC  
WiMacTel Inc. dba Intellicall Operator Services  
Windstream Communications Inc.  
Windstream KDL Inc.  
Windstream Norlight Inc.  
Windstream NTI Inc.  
Working Assets Funding Service Inc. dba Credo  
    Long Distance

### X

---

X2Comm Inc. dba DC Communications  
XO Communications Servies LLC

### Z

---

Zayo Group LLC

## OPERATOR SERVICE COMPANIES

*An operator service provider is a telecommunications company that provides, by contract, a connection to long distance or local services from such places as hotels, motels, hospitals, correctional facilities and campuses. The following operator service providers are authorized to do business in South Dakota.*

### #

1 800 Collect Inc. dba Simple Billing Solutions  
(withdrew COA 5/17)

### C

Consolidated Telecom Inc. dba Secured  
Technologies Inc.  
Correct Solutions LLC  
Custom Teleconnect Inc.

### G

Global Tel\*Link Corp.

### I

Inmate Calling Solutions LLC dba ICSolutions

### L

Lattice Inc. (withdrew COA 6/17)  
Legacy Long Distance International Inc.

### N

Network Communications International Corp.  
dba NCIC Inmate Communications

### O

Operator Service Co. dba Excell Services

### P

Pay Tel Communications Inc.

### R

Reliance Telephone Systems Inc.

### S

Securus Technologies Inc.

### V

Value-Added Communications Inc.

### W

WiMacTel Inc. dba Intellicall Operator Services

## COMPETITIVE LOCAL EXCHANGE COMPANIES

*A CLEC is a local exchange carrier providing local telephone service in competition with the incumbent local exchange carriers (ILEC). Some companies can be both a CLEC and an ILEC (see page 30) in different service areas. The following CLECs are certified by the PUC to provide telecommunications services in South Dakota.*

### #

321 Communications Inc.  
365 Wireless LLC

### A

Access Point Inc.  
ACN Communications Services Inc.  
Airespring Inc.  
Airus Inc.  
ANPI Business LLC (withdrew COA 6/17)  
ANPI LLC  
AT&T Corp.  
ATV Holdings LLC  
Avera Communications LLC (withdrew COA 10/17)

### B

Bandwidth.com CLEC LLC  
BCN Telephone Inc.  
BEK Communications Cooperative  
Blackfoot Communications Inc.  
Broadview Networks, Inc.  
Broadvox - CLEC LLC  
Budget PrePay Inc. dba Budget Phone (withdrew  
COA 5/17)  
BullsEye Telecom Inc.

### C

CBTS Technology Solutions LLC fka Cincinnati  
Bell Any Distance Inc.  
CenturyLink Communications LLC  
Clarity Telecom LLC dba Vast Broadband  
Common Point LLC  
COMTECH 21 LLC  
Consolidated Communications Enterprise Services  
Inc.  
Crexendo Business Solutions Inc.  
Crown Castle NG Central LLC  
Crystal Communications Inc. dba Consolidated  
Communications (withdrew COA 1/17)

## D

---

dishNet Wireline LLC

## E

---

EarthLink Business LLC

eNetwork LLC

Entelegent Solutions Inc.

Eventis Telecom Inc. dba Consolidated  
Communications (withdrew COA 5/17)

ExteNet Systems Inc.

## F

---

FiberComm LC

France Telecom Corporate Solutions LLC

## G

---

GC Pivotal LLC dba Global Capacity

Granite Telecommunications LLC

Greenfly Networks Inc. dba Clearly  
Communications

## I

---

IDT America Corp.

inContact Inc. dba UCN Inc.

iNetworks Group Inc.

Interstate Telecommunications Cooperative (ITC)

Ionex Communications North Inc. dba Birch  
Communications dba Primus Birch Telecom

## L

---

Level 3 Communications LLC

Level 3 Telecom Data Services LLC

Long Lines Metro

## M

---

MAGICJACK SMB Inc.

Matrix Telecom LLC dba Matrix Business  
Technologies, Trinsic Communications,  
VarTec Telecom, Excel Telecommunications,  
Impact Telecom, Americatel

MCC Telephony of the Midwest

MCIMetro Access Transmission Services Corp.  
LLC dba Verizon Access Transmission  
Services

McLeodUSA Telecommunications Services LLC  
dba Paetec Business Services

Metropolitian Telecommunications of South  
Dakota Inc. dba MetTel

Midcontinent Communications Inc.

Midstate Communications Inc.

Mitel Cloud Services Inc.

Mobilitie LLC

Mobilitie Management LLC

Momentum Telecom Inc.

## N

---

Native American Telecom LLC

Nebraska Technology & Telecommunications Inc.

NetFortris Acquisition Co. Inc.

Neutral Tandem-South Dakota LLC

New Horizons Communications Corp.

NextGen Communications Inc.

Northern Valley Communications LLC

NOS Communications Inc. dba Blueridge Telecom  
Systems dba International Plus and 011  
Communications and The Internet Business  
Association (Inetba) and dba iVantage  
Network Solutions

## O

---

Onvoy LLC

## Q

---

QuantumShift Communications Inc. dba Vcom  
Solutions

## R

---

RC Technologies dba RC Communications

## S

---

Sage Telecom Communications LLC  
dba TruConnect

Sancom Inc. dba Mitchell Telecom

South Dakota Network LLC dba SDN  
Communications

Spectrotel Inc. dba OneTouch Communications dba  
Touch Base Communications

Sprint Communications Co. LP

## T

---

Talk America Services LLC

Teleport Communications America LLC (TCAL)

## V

---

Velocity The Greatest Phone Company Ever Inc.

**W**

---

West Safety Communications Inc.  
 West Telecom Services LLC  
 Wide Voice LLC  
 Windstream KDL Inc.  
 Windstream NTI Inc.

**X**

---

XO Communications Services LLC

**Y**

---

YMax Communications Corp.

**Z**

---

Zayo Group LLC

**WIRELESS COMPANIES**

*Known by the Public Utilities Commission to be doing business in South Dakota.*

**#**

---

365 Wireless LLC

**A**

---

Alliance Communications Cooperative Inc.  
 Alltel Communications LLC  
 American Messaging Services LLC

**B**

---

Blue Jay Wireless LLC  
 Boomerang Wireless LLC dba enTouch Wireless  
 Brookings Municipal Telephone dba Swiftel  
 Communications  
 Budget PrePay Inc. dba Budget Phone (withdrew  
 5/17)

**C**

---

Campus Sims Inc.  
 Cellular Inc. Network Corp. dba Verizon Wireless  
 China Unicom (Americas) Operations Limited  
 Comcast OTR1 LLC  
 Consumer Cellular Inc.  
 Cricket Wireless LLC  
 Custom Cellular Concepts dba All Over  
 Communications

**E**

---

Enhanced Communications Group LLC dba ECG  
 LLC and Boom Mobile  
 Excellus Communications LLC

**F**

---

Flash Wireless LLC

**G**

---

Global Connection Inc. of America  
 Golden West Technologies Inc.  
 Google North America Inc. dba Project Fi by  
 Google  
 Granite Telecommunications LLC

**H**

---

Horizon River Technologies LLC

**I**

IM Telecom LLC dba Infiniti Mobile  
Iowa Wireless Services LLC dba iWireless  
i-wireless LLC

**J**

James Valley Cooperative Telephone Co. dba James  
Valley Telecommunications  
James Valley Wireless

**K**

Kajeet Inc.  
KDDI America Inc.  
Konatel Inc. dba Telecon.mobi

**L**

Lunar Labs Inc. dba Lunar Wireless  
Lycamobile USA Inc.

**M**

Midstate Communications Inc.  
Mitel Cloud Services Inc.

**N**

New Cingular Wireless PCS LLC dba AT&T  
Mobility LLC  
Nextel West Corp. dba Nextel  
Nextiva  
NPCR Inc. dba Nextel Partners

**O**

OnStar LLC  
Onvoy Spectrum LLC

**P**

Patriot Mobile LLC  
Peerless Network of South Dakota  
PNG Telecommunications Inc. dba PowerNet  
Global Communications dba CrossConnect  
Puretalk Holdings LLC

**R**

Ready Wireless LLC  
Republic Wireless Inc.  
ROK Mobile Inc.  
Rural Cellular Corp. dba Unicel

**S**

Sage Telecom Communications LLC  
dba TruConnect  
SelectTel Inc. dba SelecTel Wireless  
Soehl Electronics Inc. dba Vantek Communications  
Sprint Spectrum LP dba Sprint PCS  
Stream Communications LLC  
STS Media Inc. dba FreedomPop

**T**

T C Telephone LLC dba Horizon Cellular  
Telecom Management Inc. dba Pioneer Telephone  
Tempo Telecom LLC  
The Peoples Operator USA LLC  
Ting Inc.  
T-Mobile Central LLC dba T-Mobile USA Inc.  
Total Call Mobile Inc. (withdrew 5/17)  
Tracfone Wireless Inc.  
Truphone Inc.

**U**

UVNV Inc.

**V**

Valley Telecommunications Cooperative  
Association Inc.  
Virgin Mobile USA LP  
Vodafone US Inc. dba Vodafone Americas

**W**

WaveNation LLC  
Western Communications Inc.  
Working Assets Funding Service Inc dba Credo  
Long Distance

**VOICE OVER IP COMPANIES**

*Known by the Public Utilities Commission to provide VoIP services in South Dakota.*

**A**

Airus Inc.  
ANPI LLC

**B**

Bandwidth.com Inc.  
Blackfoot Communications Inc.  
Broadsmart Global Inc.

**C**

COMM-CORE LLC  
Crexendo Business Solutions Inc.

**G**

Garmin USA Inc.  
Go Solo Technologies of Florida One

**I**

iCore Networks Inc.  
INET Communications LLC  
Intelegrated LLC

**M**

MAGICJACK SMB, INC.  
Magna5 LLC  
Metro Optical Solutions Inc.  
Mitel Cloud Services Inc.

**N**

NetFortris Acquisition Co. Inc.

**P**

Premeire Conferencing Networks Inc.

**R**

Republic Wireless Inc.

**S**

S-Net Communications Inc.  
Speed Connect LLC

**T**

Telnyx

**V**

Velocity The Greatest Phone Company Ever Inc.

**W**

WaveNation LLC  
Wide Voice LLC

## LOCAL TELEPHONE COMPANIES

*Also known as Incumbent Local Exchange Carriers, the following companies were providing local services when the Telecommunications Act of 1996 was enacted. Some companies can be both an ILEC and a CLEC (See page 25) in different service areas.*

### Independents

#### C

---

Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe Telephone Authority  
Clarity Telecom LLC dba Vast Broadband

#### F

---

Fort Randall Telephone Co.

#### J

---

Jefferson Telephone LLC dba Long Lines Ltd.

#### K

---

Kennebec Telephone Co.

#### Q

---

Qwest Corp. dba CenturyLink QC

### Municipals

#### B

---

City of Beresford dba Beresford Municipal  
Telephone Co.  
City of Brookings Municipal Telephone

#### F

---

City of Faith Municipal Telephone Co. dba Faith  
Municipal Telephone Co.

## Cooperatives

#### A

---

Alliance Communications Cooperative Inc.

#### G

---

Golden West Telecommunications Cooperative  
dba Golden West Telecommunications

#### I

---

Interstate Telecommunications Cooperative (ITC)

#### J

---

James Valley Cooperative Telephone Co. dba James  
Valley Telecommunications

#### M

---

Midstate Communications Inc.

#### R

---

RC Technologies dba RC Communications

#### S

---

Santel Communications Cooperative

#### T

---

TrioTel Communications Inc.

#### V

---

Valley Telecommunications Cooperative  
Association Inc.  
Venture Communications Cooperative

#### W

---

West River Cooperative Telephone Co.

**Foreign Exchange Carriers****C**

---

Citizens Telecommunications Company  
of Minnesota Inc.  
Consolidated Telcom Inc.

**D**

---

Dickey Rural Telephone Cooperative

**F**

---

Farmers Mutual Telephone Co.

**G**

---

Great Plains Communications Inc.

**H**

---

Heartland Telecommunications of Iowa Company

**N**

---

Northeast Nebraska Telephone Co.

**Q**

---

Qwest Corp. dba CenturyLink QC

**R**

---

Red River Rural Telephone Association  
RT Communications Inc.

**T**

---

Three River Telco dba Three River Long Distance

**V**

---

Valley Telephone Co.

**W**

---

West River Telecommunications Cooperative

**MISCELLANEOUS  
TELECOMMUNICATIONS  
COMPANIES**

*Certified to provide telecommunications services in  
South Dakota by the Public Utilities Commission.*

**S**

---

South Dakota Network LLC dba SDN  
Communications

# 2017

# DOCKET STATUS REGISTER

Type	Filed	Completed	Pending as of 12/31/17
Administration Items	2	2	0
Civil	7	3	4
Electric	56	45	11
Gas and Electric	3	2	1
Grain Warehouse	2	1	1
Natural Gas	18	16	2
Telecommunications	75	64	11
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>163</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>30</b>

Dockets Closed between Jan. 1, 2017, and the publication date of this report (Spring 2018) are noted in parentheses.

Visit [www.puc.sd.gov](http://www.puc.sd.gov) to check the current status of pending dockets.

## ADMINISTRATION ITEMS

**AA17-001** - In the Matter of Clarification of the Commission's ETC Certification Process

Date Filed: 03/21/17 • Completed: 04/18/17

**AA17-002** - Establishment of the Gross Receipts Tax Levy for Fiscal Year 2018

Date Filed: 03/31/17 • Completed: 05/02/17

## CIVIL DOCKETS

**Civ17-71** - In the Matter of Commission Staff's Petition for Declaratory Ruling Regarding Farm Tap Customers (Northern Natural Gas)

Date Filed: 03/22/17 • Completed: 08/28/17

**Civ17-83** - In the Matter of Commission Staff's Petition for Declaratory Ruling Regarding Farm Tap Customers (NorthWestern Energy)

Date Filed: 04/03/17 • Completed: 06/20/17

**51Civ17-000858** - State of South Dakota, Plaintiff, vs. Jeremy Nehl, Defendant

Date Filed: 06/01/17 • Completed: 10/02/17

**Supreme Court #28331** - In the Matter of the Public Utilities Commission Docket HP14-001, Petition of TransCanada Keystone Pipeline, LP for Order Accepting Certification of Permit Issued in Docket HP09-001 to Construct the Keystone XL Pipeline (CRST)

Date Filed: 07/19/17 • Pending

**Supreme Court #28332** - In the Matter of the Public Utilities Commission Docket HP14-001, Petition of TransCanada Keystone Pipeline, LP for Order Accepting Certification of Permit Issued in Docket HP09-001 to Construct the Keystone XL Pipeline (YST)  
Date Filed: 07/19/17 • Pending

**Supreme Court #28333** - In the Matter of the Public Utilities Commission Docket HP14-001, Petition of TransCanada Keystone Pipeline, LP for Order Accepting Certification of Permit Issued in Docket HP09-001 to Construct the Keystone XL Pipeline (DRA)  
Date Filed: 07/19/17 • Pending

**Supreme Court #28334** - In the Matter of the Public Utilities Commission Docket HP14-001, Petition of TransCanada Keystone Pipeline, LP for Order Accepting Certification of Permit Issued in Docket HP09-001 to Construct the Keystone XL Pipeline (COUP)  
Date Filed: 07/21/17 • *(Completed: 01/22/18)*

## ELECTRIC DOCKETS

**EL17-001** - In the Matter of the Filing by Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. for Approval of Tariff Revisions regarding Its Meter Data and Privacy Policy Rate 140  
Date Filed: 01/10/17 • Completed: 02/21/17

**EL17-002** - In the Matter of the Filing by Otter Tail Power Company for Approval of Tariff Revisions to Its Meter Data and Privacy Policy  
Date Filed: 01/11/17 • Completed: 03/15/17

**EL17-003** - In the Matter of the Filing by Otter Tail Power Company for Approval of Tariff Revisions to its Rates for Small Power Production and Cogeneration  
Date Filed: 01/17/17 • Completed: 03/02/17

**EL17-004** - In the Matter of the Petition of Northern States Power Company dba Xcel Energy for Approval of its Petition of Changes to the Street Lighting Energy Service Tariff to Include New Installations in the Customer-Owned Light Emitting Diode (LED) Street Lighting Rate  
Date Filed: 01/31/17 • Completed: 03/21/17

**EL17-005** - In the Matter of the Joint Request for Service Rights Exception between Black Hills Power, Inc. dba Black Hills Energy and Black Hills Electric Cooperative, Inc.  
Date Filed: 02/06/17 • Completed: 03/07/17

**EL17-006** - In the Matter of the Application of Black Hills Power Inc. dba Black Hills Energy for Approval of 2017 Transmission Facility Adjustment  
Date Filed: 02/15/17 • Completed: 06/20/17

**EL17-007** - In the Matter of the Filing by MidAmerican Energy Company for Approval of Tariff Revisions to Its 2016 Transmission Cost Recovery Reconciliation and 2017 Transmission Cost Recovery Factors  
Date Filed: 02/15/17 • Completed: 04/03/17

**EL17-008** - In the Matter of the Application of Black Hills Power, Inc. dba Black Hills Energy for Approval of its 2017 Environmental Improvement Adjustment  
Date Filed: 02/15/17 • Completed: 06/20/17

- EL17-009** - In the Matter of the Application of Black Hills Power, Inc. dba Black Hills Energy for Approval of its 2016 Economic Development Report and 2017 Economic Development Plan  
Date Filed: 02/28/17 • Completed: 05/05/17
- EL17-010** - In the Matter of the Filing by Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. for Approval of the Annual Update to Its Infrastructure Rider Rate  
Date Filed: 03/01/17 • Completed: 04/28/17
- EL17-011** - In the Matter of the Filing by Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. for Approval of the Annual Update to Its Transmission Cost Recover Rider Rate  
Date Filed: 03/02/17 • Completed: 05/02/17
- EL17-012** - In the Matter of the Filing by Northern States Power Company dba Xcel Energy for Approval of Tariff Revisions regarding Standard Billing Form and Disconnection Notice  
Date Filed: 03/07/17 • Completed: 05/04/17
- EL17-013** - In the Matter of the Request by The Evangelical Lutheran Good Samaritan Society for a Variance from the Individual Metering Requirement in ARSD 20:10:26:03 for a 50 Unit Project in Rapid City, SD  
Date Filed: 03/08/17 • Completed: 04/18/17
- EL17-014** - In the Matter of the Filing of Northern States Power Company dba Xcel Energy for Approval of its 2016 Economic Development Activities and 2017 Budget  
Date Filed: 03/16/17 • Completed: 05/03/17
- EL17-015** - In the Matter of the Filing by NorthWestern Corporation dba NorthWestern Energy for Approval of Tariff Revisions to its Rate 38  
Date Filed: 03/23/17 • Completed: 05/05/17
- EL17-016** - In the Matter of the Filing by NorthWestern Corporation dba NorthWestern Energy for Approval of its 2017 Economic Development Plan and 2016 Economic Development Report  
Date Filed: 03/31/17 • Completed: 05/11/17
- EL17-017** - In the Matter of the Filing by Otter Tail Power Company Regarding its Notification of Intent to Apply for a Permit for an Energy Conversion Facility  
Date Filed: 04/04/17 • Completed: 05/11/17
- EL17-018** - In the Matter of the Petition of Northern States Power Company dba Xcel Energy for Approval of Changes to its Street Lighting System Service Tariff to Include Light Emitting Diode (LED) Street Lighting Rates  
Date Filed: 04/20/17 • Completed: 06/20/17
- EL17-019** - In the Matter of the Petition of Northern States Power Company dba Xcel Energy for Approval of its 2016 Demand Side Management Report and 2018 Proposed Demand Side Management Plan  
Date Filed: 04/28/17 • Completed: 12/21/17
- EL17-020** - In the Matter of the Joint Request for an Electric Service Territory Boundary Change between Northern States Power Company dba Xcel Energy and Sioux Valley-Southwestern Electric Cooperative, Inc. dba Sioux Valley Energy  
Date Filed: 05/01/17 • Completed: 08/01/17

**EL17-021** - In the Matter of the Application of Black Hills Power, Inc. dba Black Hills Energy for Approval of its 2017 Vegetation Management Annual Report and Approval to End the Vegetation Management Regulatory Asset  
Date Filed: 05/01/17 • Completed: 06/20/17

**EL17-022** - In the Matter of Otter Tail Power Company's 2016 South Dakota Energy Efficiency Plan Status Report and 2017 Annual Filing to Update the Energy Efficiency Adjustment Rider  
Date Filed: 05/01/17 • Completed: 06/21/17

**EL17-023** - In the Matter of the Joint Request for Service Rights Exception between Dakota Energy Cooperative, Inc. and Northern Electric Cooperative, Inc.  
Date Filed: 05/09/17 • Completed: 06/14/17

**EL17-024** - In the Matter of the Commission Approval of Stray Voltage Training Programs  
Date Filed: 05/24/17 • Pending

**EL17-025** - In the Matter of the Joint Request for Service Rights Exception between Black Hills Electric Cooperative, Inc. and West River Electric Association, Inc.  
Date Filed: 05/31/17 • Completed: 07/12/17

**EL17-026** - In the Matter of the Application of Black Hills Power, Inc. dba Black Hills Energy for Approval to Modify and Extend Its Energy Efficiency Solutions Plan  
Date Filed: 06/01/17 • Completed: 09/01/17

**EL17-027** - In the Matter of the Joint Request for Service Rights Exception between NorthWestern Corporation dba NorthWestern Energy and Codington-Clark Electric Cooperative, Inc.  
Date Filed: 06/23/17 • Completed: 08/08/17

**EL17-028** - In the Matter of the Application by Crocker Wind Farm, LLC for a Permit of a Wind Energy Facility and a 345 kV Transmission Line in Clark County, South Dakota, for Crocker Wind Farm  
Date Filed: 07/25/17 • Completed: 12/13/17

**EL17-029** - In the Matter of the Petition of Northern States Power Company dba Xcel Energy for Approval of Tariff Revisions Regarding Changes to Bill Forms and Bill Backs  
Date Filed: 07/27/17 • Completed: 09/18/17

**EL17-030** - In the Matter of Filing by Northern States Power Company dba Xcel Energy for Approval of Revised Welcome Brochures  
Date Filed: 07/26/17 • Completed: 10/13/17

**EL17-031** - In the Matter of Black Hills Power, Inc. dba Black Hills Energy's Petition for Declaratory Ruling Regarding Whether a Permit is Required for a Rebuild of a 230kV Transmission Line Constructed in 1963  
Date Filed: 08/01/17 • Completed: 09/06/17

**EL17-032** - In the Matter of the Filing by Northern States Power Company dba Xcel Energy for Approval of Tariff Revisions to its Rates for Small Power Production and Cogeneration  
Date Filed: 08/04/17 • Completed: 12/20/17

- EL17-033** - In the Matter of the Petition for Electrical Service by Ag Processing Inc. to have NorthWestern Corporation dba NorthWestern Energy Assigned as Its Electric Provider in the Service Area of Northern Electric Cooperative, Inc.  
Date Filed: 08/07/17 • Completed: 08/31/17
- EL17-034** - In the Matter of the Filing by NorthWestern Corporation dba NorthWestern Energy for Approval of a Contract with Deviations  
Date Filed: 08/17/17 • Completed: 09/26/17
- EL17-035** - In the Matter of the Petition of Otter Tail Power Company for Approval of the Environmental Cost Recovery Rider Charge  
Date Filed: 08/31/17 • Completed: 10/13/17
- EL17-036** - In the Matter of the Petition of Northern States Power Company dba Xcel Energy for Approval of its 2018 Transmission Cost Recovery Eligibility and Rate Adjustment  
Date Filed: 09/01/17 • Completed: 11/28/17
- EL17-037** - In the Matter of the Request for Approval of an Electric Service Territory Boundary Agreement between Watertown Municipal Utilities and NorthWestern Corporation dba Northwestern Energy  
Date Filed: 09/06/17 • Completed: 09/27/17
- EL17-038** - In the Matter of the Filing by Northern States Power Company dba Xcel Energy for Approval to Adjust the Fuel Adjustment Clause Rider Rate from October 2017 through February 2018  
Date Filed: 09/15/17 • Completed: 09/29/17
- EL17-039** - In the Matter of the Petition of Northern States Power Company dba Xcel Energy for Approval of its 2018 Infrastructure Rider Project Eligibility and Factor Update  
Date Filed: 09/29/17 • Completed: 12/21/17
- EL17-040** - In the Matter of the Filing of MidAmerican Energy Company for Determination of Its Energy Cost Adjustment Factor As Applied to Repowered Wind Facilities  
Date Filed: 09/29/17 • Completed: 12/21/17
- EL17-041** - In the Matter of the Request for Approval of an Electric Service Territory Boundary Agreement between Colman Municipal Electric and Otter Tail Power Company  
Date Filed: 10/02/17 • Completed: 11/15/17
- EL17-042** - In the Matter of the Application of Otter Tail Power Company for an Energy Conversion Facility Permit for the Construction of a Combustion Turbine Generator and Associated Infrastructure Including a Natural Gas Pipeline and Electric Transmission Line near Astoria, South Dakota  
Date Filed: 10/05/17 • Pending
- EL17-043** - In the Matter of the Joint Request for Service Rights Exception between Whetstone Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc. and Otter Tail Power Company  
Date Filed: 10/10/17 • Completed: 11/15/17
- EL17-044** - In the Matter of the Joint Request for Service Rights Exception between Northern States Power Company dba Xcel Energy and Southeastern Electric Cooperative, Inc.  
Date Filed: 10/11/17 • Completed: 10/31/17

**EL17-045** - In the Matter of the Application of Black Hills Power, Inc. dba Black Hills Energy for Approval of a Revision to the Energy Efficiency Solutions Adjustment (EESA) Rates

Date Filed: 10/16/17 • Completed: 11/27/17

**EL17-046** - In the Matter of the Filing by Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. for Approval of Tariff Revisions to Its Rates for Rate 95 and Rate 96

Date Filed: 10/19/17 • Completed: 12/20/17

**EL17-047** - In the Matter of the Application of Crowned Ridge Wind, LLC for a Facility Permit to Construct a 230-kV Transmission Line and Associated Facilities from Codington County to the Big Stone South Substation

Date Filed: 10/27/17 • Completed: 11/22/17

**EL17-048** - In the Matter of the Petition of Otter Tail Power Company for Approval of the Transmission Cost Recovery Rider Rate

Date Filed: 11/01/17 • *(Completed: 02/28/18)*

**EL17-049** - In the Matter of the Joint Request for Service Rights Exception between Sioux Valley Southwestern Electric Cooperative, Inc. and Lyon Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Date Filed: 12/04/17 • *(Completed: 01/22/18)*

**EL17-050** - In the Matter of the Application of Crowned Ridge Wind, LLC for a Facility Permit to Construct a 230-kV Transmission Line and Associated Facilities from Codington County to the Big Stone South Substation

Date Filed: 12/05/17 • Pending

**EL17-051** - In the Matter of the Joint Request for Service Rights Exception between West Central Electric Cooperative, Inc. and City of Fort Pierre

Date Filed: 12/06/17 • *(Completed: 02/14/18)*

**EL17-052** - In the Matter of the Request for Approval of an Electric Service Territory Boundary Agreement between Oahe Electric Cooperative, Inc. and City of Onida

Date Filed: 12/07/17 • Pending

**EL17-053** - In the Matter of the Request for Approval of an Electric Service Territory Boundary Agreement between Sioux Valley-Southwestern Electric Cooperative, Inc. dba Sioux Valley Energy and Southeastern Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Date Filed: 12/11/17 • *(Completed: 01/04/18)*

**EL17-054** - In the Matter of the Request for Approval of an Electric Service Territory Boundary Agreement between Sioux Valley-Southwestern Electric Cooperative, Inc. dba Sioux Valley Energy and White Municipal Electric

Date Filed: 12/12/17 • *(Completed: 01/04/18)*

**EL17-055** - In the Matter of the Application by Crocker Wind Farm, LLC for a Permit of a Wind Energy Facility and a 345 kV Transmission Line in Clark County, South Dakota, for Crocker Wind Farm

Date Filed: 12/15/17 • Pending

**EL17-056** - In the Matter of Lookout Solar Park I, LLC's Petition for Declaratory Ruling Regarding Whether a Permit is Required for an Energy Conversion Facility

Date Filed: 12/20/17 • *(Completed: 02/21/18)*

## GAS AND ELECTRIC DOCKETS

**GE17-001** - In the Matter of the Filing by MidAmerican Energy Company for the Approval of Its Reconciliation and Annual Report for 2016 and Revisions to its Energy Efficiency Cost Recovery Rate  
Date Filed: 02/17/17 • Completed: 04/04/17

**GE17-002** - In the Matter of the Filing by MidAmerican Energy Company for the Approval of Energy Efficiency Plan for 2018-2022  
Date Filed: 07/31/17 • Completed: 12/20/17

**GE17-003** - In the Matter of Staff's Request to Investigate the Effects of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act on South Dakota Utilities  
Date Filed: 12/21/17 • Pending

## GRAIN WAREHOUSE DOCKETS

**GW17-001** - In the Matter of the Grain Buyer License of H & I Grain of Hetland, Inc.  
Date Filed: 06/19/17 • Complete: 07/24/17

**GW17-002** - In the Matter of the Grain Buyer Bond of H & I Grain of Hetland, Inc.  
Date Filed: 07/24/17 • Pending

## NATURAL GAS DOCKETS

**NG17-001** - In the Matter of the Filing by Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. for Approval of Tariff Revisions regarding Its Meter Data and Privacy Policy Rate 140  
Date Filed: 01/10/17 • Completed: 02/21/17

**NG17-002** - In the Matter of the Filing by Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. for Approval of its Revised Conservation Tracking Adjustment  
Date Filed: 01/30/17 • Completed: 03/10/17

**NG17-003** - In the Matter of the Filing by MidAmerican Energy Company for Approval of Its Refund Plan regarding Refund from ANR Pipeline Company  
Date Filed: 02/02/17 • Completed: 03/03/17

**NG17-004** - In the Matter of the Filing by MidAmerican Energy Company for Approval of Tariff Revisions regarding Excess Flow Valves for Existing Service Lines  
Date Filed: 02/21/17 • Completed: 04/04/17

**NG17-005** - In the Matter of the Filing by NorthWestern Corporation dba NorthWestern Energy for Approval of its 2017 Economic Development Plan and 2016 Economic Development Report  
Date Filed: 03/31/17 • Completed: 05/11/17

**NG17-006** - In the Matter of the Filing by NorthWestern Corporation dba NorthWestern Energy for Approval of Tariff Revisions regarding Excess Flow Valves for Existing Service Lines  
Date Filed: 03/31/17 • Completed: 05/08/17

- NG17-007** - In the Matter of the Filing by MidAmerican Energy Company for Approval of Its 2016 Economic Development Activities and 2017 Proposed Budget  
Date Filed: 05/01/17 • Completed: 06/08/17
- NG17-008** - In the Matter of the Filing by Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. for Approval of Tariff Revisions regarding Excess Flow Valves for Existing Service Lines  
Date Filed: 05/18/17 • Completed: 07/10/17
- NG17-009** - In the Matter of the Application of South Dakota Intrastate Pipeline Company for Authority to Increase its Natural Gas Rates  
Date Filed: 06/01/17 • Pending
- NG17-010** - In the Matter of the Application by Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. for Approval of its Revised Transportation Service Rates 81 and 82 and Gas Transportation Agreement  
Date Filed: 06/07/17 • Completed: 09/19/17
- NG17-011** - In the Matter of the Filing by MidAmerican Energy Company for Approval of Tariff Revisions regarding Farm Tap Service  
Date Filed: 07/24/17 • Completed: 09/15/17  
Date Reopened: 10/10/17 • Completed: 10/31/17  
Date Reopened: 11/28/17 • (Completed: 01/05/18)
- NG17-012** - In the Matter of the Filing by NorthWestern Corporation dba NorthWestern Energy for Approval of its Gas Transportation Tariff Revisions Regarding Fuel Retention Percentage  
Date Filed: 08/28/17 • Completed: 09/29/17
- NG17-013** - In the Matter of the Filing by NorthWestern Corporation dba NorthWestern Energy for Approval of Tariff Revisions regarding Contract Sales Service (Rate 86) and Transportation Service (Rate 87) Tariff  
Date Filed: 09/18/17 • Completed: 10/30/17
- NG17-014** - In the Matter of the Filing by NorthWestern Corporation dba NorthWestern Energy for Approval of a Contract with Deviations  
Date Filed: 10/12/17 • Completed: 11/27/17
- NG17-015** - In the Matter of the Filing by NorthWestern Corporation dba NorthWestern Energy for Approval of its Refund Plan regarding its Recovery of Manufactured Gas Plant Site Remediation Costs  
Date Filed: 10/31/17 • Completed: 11/27/17
- NG17-016** - In the Matter of the Filing by Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. for Approval of Its South Dakota Natural Gas Conservation Portfolio Plan for 2018-2020  
Date Filed: 11/09/17 • Completed: 12/20/17
- NG17-017** - In the Matter of the Joint Request of MidAmerican Energy Company and NorthWestern Corporation dba NorthWestern Energy for a Waiver of Initial and Final Meter Reading Requirements  
Date Filed: 11/14/17 • Completed: 12/12/17
- NG17-018** - In the Matter of the Filing by NorthWestern Corporation dba NorthWestern Energy for Approval of an Amendment to a Contract with Deviations with Novita Aurora, LLC  
Date Filed: 12/15/17 • (Completed: 01/22/18)

# TELECOMMUNICATIONS DOCKETS

- TC17-001** - In the Matter of the Application of Wide Voice, LLC for a Certificate of Authority to Provide Local Exchange and Interexchange Long Distance Services in South Dakota  
Date Filed: 01/12/17 • Completed: 06/16/17
- TC17-002** - In the Matter of the Application by Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink QC for Approval of Waiver of Switched Access Cost Study  
Date Filed: 01/17/17 • Completed: 02/15/17
- TC17-003** - In the Matter of the Approval of a Carrier Partner for Interconnected VoIP Provider Amendment to the Interconnection Agreement between Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink QC and Airus, Inc.  
Date Filed: 01/19/17 • Completed: 02/15/17
- TC17-004** - In the Matter of the Application of Nebraska Technology & Telecommunications, Inc. for a Certificate of Authority to Provide Local Exchange and Interexchange Long Distance Services in South Dakota  
Date Filed: 02/03/17 • Completed: 03/21/17
- TC17-005** - In the Matter of the Application of Midcontinent Communications for an Amended Certificate of Authority and for a Waiver of ARSD 20:10:32:15  
Date Filed: 02/10/17 • Completed: 07/24/17
- TC17-006** - In the Matter of the Filing by Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink for Approval of Waiver of the Utilization Threshold Requirements in Sioux Falls, South Dakota  
Date Filed: 02/21/17 • Completed: 03/09/17
- TC17-007** - In the Matter of the Approval of a Wireline Interconnection Agreement between Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink QC and Nebraska Technology and Telecommunications Inc.  
Date Filed: 02/22/17 • Completed: 03/15/17
- TC17-008** - In the Matter of the Filing by Broadvox-CLEC, LLC for Approval of Revisions to its Switched Access Services Tariff No. 1  
Date Filed: 03/15/17 • Completed: 04/18/17
- TC17-009** - In the Matter of the Application of ExteNet Systems, Inc. for a Certificate of Authority to Provide Local Exchange Services in South Dakota  
Date Filed: 03/23/17 • Completed: 06/14/17
- TC17-010** - In the Matter of the Filing by Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink QC for Approval of Revisions to its Access Service Tariff  
Date Filed: 03/31/17 • Completed: 05/03/17
- TC17-011** - In the Matter of the Approval of an Intercarrier Compensation Bill and Keep Amendment to an Interconnection Agreement between Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink QC and Neutral Tandem-South Dakota, LLC  
Date Filed: 04/04/17 • Completed: 05/03/17

- TC17-012** - In the Matter of the Application of MAGICJACK SMB, INC. for a Certificate of Authority to Provide Local Exchange and Interexchange Long Distance Services in South Dakota  
Date Filed: 04/06/17 • Completed: 05/30/17
- TC17-013** - In the Matter of the Application of Broadsmart Global, Inc. for a Certificate of Authority to Provide Local Exchange and Interexchange Long Distance Services in South Dakota  
Date Filed: 04/10/17 • Completed: 05/30/17
- TC17-014** - In the Matter of the Approval of a Carrier Partner for Interconnected VoIP Provider Amendment to an Interconnection Agreement between Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink QC and Neutral Tandem-South Dakota, LLC  
Date Filed: 04/12/17 • Completed: 05/11/17
- TC17-015** - In the Matter of the Petition of Budget PrePay, Inc. dba Budget Mobile to Relinquish Its Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier  
Date Filed: 04/21/17 • Completed: 05/16/17
- TC17-016** - In the Matter of the Filing by Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink QC for Approval of Revisions to its Access Service Tariff  
Date Filed: 05/26/17 • Completed: 07/10/17
- TC17-017** - In the Matter of the Filing by Local Exchange Carrier Association, Inc. (LECA) for Approval of Revisions to its Access Services Tariff No. 1  
Date Filed: 05/26/17 • Completed: 07/10/17
- TC17-018** - In the Matter of the Application of South Dakota Network, LLC (SDN) for Waiver of Switched Access Cost Study  
Date Filed: 06/07/17 • Completed: 08/07/17
- TC17-019** - In the Matter of the Approval of a Wireline Interconnection Agreement between Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink QC and Native American Telecom, LLC  
Date Filed: 06/09/17 • Completed: 07/10/17
- TC17-020** - In the Matter of the Request of Northeast Nebraska Telephone Company, Study Area: 371576 for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support  
Date Filed: 06/09/17 • Completed: 09/27/17
- TC17-021** - In the Matter of the Filing by Airus, Inc. for Approval of Revisions to its Access Tariff No. 1  
Date Filed: 06/09/17 • Completed: 07/25/17
- TC17-022** - In the Matter of the Filing by dishNET Wireline L.L.C. for Approval of Revisions to its Access Services Tariff No. 2  
Date Filed: 06/19/17 • Completed: 08/01/17
- TC17-023** - In the Matter of the Application of Interstate Telecommunications Cooperative, Inc. for an Amended Certificate of Authority to Revise Its Authorized Local Exchange Service Territory  
Date Filed: 06/21/17 • Completed: 08/01/17

- TC17-024** - In the Matter of the Request of Interstate Telecommunications Cooperative, Inc., Study Area: SSTELECOM, Inc., Study Area: 399013 for Certification Regarding Its Use of Federal Universal Service Support  
Date Filed: 06/21/17 • Completed: 09/27/17
- TC17-025** - In the Matter of the Request of Interstate Telecommunications Cooperative, Inc., Study Area Codes: Interstate Telecommunications Cooperative–391654 and Stockholm Standburg–391679 for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support  
Date Filed: 06/21/17 • Completed: 09/27/17
- TC17-026** - In the Matter of the Request of Golden West Telecommunications Cooperative, Inc., Study Area Codes: Armour–391640, Golden West Telecom–391659, Kadoka–391667, Sioux Valley–391677, Union–391684 and Vivian–391686 for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support  
Date Filed: 06/21/17 • Completed: 09/27/17
- TC17-027** - In the Matter of the Request of Northern Valley Communications, L.L.C. Study Area: 399017 and 396340 for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support  
Date Filed: 06/23/17 • Completed: 09/27/17
- TC17-028** - In the Matter of the Request of James Valley Wireless, LLC Study Area: 399014 for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support  
Date Filed: 06/23/17 • Completed: 09/27/17
- TC17-029** - In the Matter of the Request of Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe Telephone Authority Study Area: 391647 for Certification Regarding Its Use of Federal Universal Service Support  
Date Filed: 06/23/17 • Completed: 09/27/17
- TC17-030** - In the Matter of the Request of RT Communications, Inc. Study Area: 512251 for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support  
Date Filed: 06/26/17 • Completed: 09/27/17
- TC17-031** - In the Matter of the Request of James Valley Cooperative Telephone Company Study Area: 391664 for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support  
Date Filed: 06/27/17 • Completed: 09/27/17
- TC17-032** - In the Matter of the Request of Citizens Telecommunications Company of Minnesota, LLC Study Area: 361123 for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support  
Date Filed: 06/27/17 • Completed: 09/27/17
- TC17-033** - In the Matter of the Request of Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink QC Study Area: 395145 for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support  
Date Filed: 06/27/17 • Completed: 09/27/17
- TC17-034** - In the Matter of the Request of TrioTel Communications Inc. Study Area: McCook–391669 and Tri-County Telecom–391682 for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support  
Date Filed: 06/29/17 • Completed: 09/27/17

- TC17-035** - In the Matter of the Request of Valley Telecommunications Cooperative Association, Inc. Study Area: 391685 for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support  
Date Filed: 06/29/17 • Completed: 09/27/17
- TC17-036** - In the Matter of the Request of Alliance Communications Cooperative, Inc. Study Areas: Splitrock-391657, Baltic-391642, Hills-391405 for Certification Regarding Its Use of Federal Universal Service Support  
Date Filed: 06/29/17 • Completed: 09/27/17
- TC17-037** - In the Matter of the Request of Farmers Mutual Telephone Company Study Area: 361389 for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support  
Date Filed: 06/29/17 • Completed: 09/27/17
- TC17-038** - In the Matter of the Request of Fort Randall Telephone Company and Mount Rushmore Telephone Study Area: 391660 for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support  
Date Filed: 06/29/17 • Completed: 09/27/17
- TC17-039** - In the Matter of the Request of Red River Rural Telephone Association dba Red River Communications Study Area: 381631 for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support  
Date Filed: 06/29/17 • Completed: 09/27/17
- TC17-040** - In the Matter of the Request of Valley Telephone Company Study Area: 361495 for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support  
Date Filed: 06/29/17 • Completed: 09/27/17
- TC17-041** - In the Matter of the Request of Midstate Communications, Inc. Study Areas: 391670-Midstate Communications and 399011-Midstate Telecommunications for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support  
Date Filed: 06/29/17 • Completed: 09/27/17
- TC17-042** - In the Matter of the Request of City of Faith Municipal Telephone Company Study Area: 391653 for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support  
Date Filed: 06/30/17 • Completed: 09/27/17
- TC17-043** - In the Matter of the Request of Beresford Municipal Telephone Company Study Area: 391649 for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support  
Date Filed: 06/30/17 • Completed: 09/27/17
- TC17-044** - In the Matter of the Request of Clarity Telecom, LLC dba Vast Broadband Study Area: ILEC-391652 and CLEC-399006 for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support  
Date Filed: 06/30/17 • Completed: 09/27/17
- TC17-045** - In the Matter of the Approval of a Reciprocal Compensation Bill and Keep Amendment to an Interconnection Agreement between Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink QC and Airus, Inc.  
Date Filed: 06/30/17 • Completed: 08/01/17

- TC17-046** - In the Matter of the Request of West River Telecommunications Cooperative Study Area: Mobridge-391671 for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support  
Date Filed: 06/30/17 • Completed: 09/27/17
- TC17-047** - In the Matter of the Request of Santel Communications Cooperative, Inc. Study Area: 391676 for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support  
Date Filed: 06/30/17 • Completed: 09/27/17
- TC17-048** - In the Matter of the Request of City of Brookings Municipal Telephone Study Area: 391650 for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support  
Date Filed: 06/30/17 • Completed: 09/27/17
- TC17-049** - In the Matter of the Request of Brookings Municipal Telephone dba Swiftel Communications Study Area: 399009 for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support  
Date Filed: 06/30/17 • Completed: 09/27/17
- TC17-050** - In the Matter of the Request of Kennebec Telephone Co., Inc. Study Area: 391668 for Certification Regarding Its Use of Federal Universal Service Support  
Date Filed: 06/30/17 • Completed: 09/27/17
- TC17-051** - In the Matter of the Request of RC Technologies Study Area: 391674 for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support  
Date Filed: 06/30/17 • Completed: 09/27/17
- TC17-052** - In the Matter of the Request of Venture Communications Cooperative Study Area: Venture Communication Cooperative-391680 and Western Telephone Co.-391688 for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support  
Date Filed: 06/30/17 • Completed: 09/27/17
- TC17-053** - In the Matter of the Request of Midcontinent Communications Study Area: 399005 for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support  
Date Filed: 06/30/17 • Completed: 09/27/17
- TC17-054** - In the Matter of the Request of Jefferson Telephone Company Study Area: 391666 for Certification Regarding Its Use of Federal Universal Service Support  
Date Filed: 07/05/17 • Completed: 09/27/17
- TC17-055** - In the Matter of the Request of West River Cooperative Telephone Company Study Area 391689 for Certification Regarding its Use of Federal Universal Service Support  
Date Filed: 07/05/17 • Completed: 09/27/17
- TC17-056** - In the Matter of the Approval of Routing of Traffic Through a Third Party Transit Provider Amendment to the Interconnection Agreement between Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink QC and Airus, Inc.  
Date Filed: 07/13/17 • Completed: 08/17/17
- TC17-057** - In the Matter of the Filing by Clarity Telecom, LLC dba Vast Broadband for Approval of its Access Service Tariff No. 3  
Date Filed: 07/13/17 • Completed: 08/17/17

- TC17-058** - In the Matter of the Filing by Clarity Telecom, LLC dba Vast Broadband, Rapid City, South Dakota, for Approval of its Access Service Tariff No. 2  
Date Filed: 07/13/17 • Completed: 08/17/17
- TC17-059** - In the Matter of the Filing by Midcontinent Communications for Approval of Revisions to its Access Services Tariff  
Date Filed: 07/14/17 • Completed: 08/17/17
- TC17-060** - In the Matter of the Filing by Level 3 Communications, LLC for Approval of Revisions to its Access Services Tariff No. 3  
Date Filed: 07/18/17 • Completed: 08/17/17
- TC17-061** - In the Matter of the Application of City of Brookings Municipal Telephone dba Swiftel Communications for an Amended Certificate of Authority  
Date Filed: 08/11/17 • Completed: 09/13/17
- TC17-062** - In the Matter of the Filing by Nebraska Technology & Telecommunications, Inc. for Approval of Its Access Tariff  
Date Filed: 09/05/17 • Completed: 10/13/17
- TC17-063** - In the Matter of the Petition for a Declaratory Ruling by Department of Public Safety/911 Coordination Board regarding Determining Responsibility for Rural Carrier Interconnection to the Next Generation 9-1-1 System  
Date Filed: 10/27/17 • Pending
- TC17-064** - In the Matter of the Approval of a Wireline Interconnection Agreement between Midcontinent Communications, Inc. and Valley Communications Cooperative Association, Inc.  
Date Filed: 10/30/17 • Completed: 11/27/17
- TC17-065** - In the Matter of the Application of Peerless Network of South Dakota, LLC for a Certificate of Authority to Provide Local Exchange and Interexchange Long Distance Services in South Dakota  
Date Filed: 10/31/17 • Completed: 12/20/17
- TC17-066** - In the Matter of the Application of BlueBird Communications SD LLC for a Certificate of Authority to Provide Local Exchange Services in South Dakota  
Date Filed: 11/02/17 • (Completed: 01/04/18)
- TC17-067** - In the Matter of the Application of Birch Communications, Inc. for a Certificate of Authority to Provide Local Exchange and Interexchange Long Distance Services in South Dakota  
Date Filed: 11/29/17 • (Completed: 02/14/18)
- TC17-068** - In the Matter of the Approval of an Unbundled Network Elements Construction Amendment to the Interconnection Agreement between Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink QC and Granite Telecommunications LLC  
Date Filed: 12/01/17 • (Completed: 01/04/18)
- TC17-069** - In the Matter of Business Discount Plan Inc.'s Failure to Timely Pay the Gross Receipts Tax  
Date Filed: 12/06/17 • (Completed: 02/21/18)

- TC17-070** - In the Matter of CSDVRS LLC's Failure to Timely Pay the Gross Receipts Tax  
Date Filed: 12/06/17 • *(Completed: 01/22/18)*
- TC17-071** - In the Matter of iNetworks Group Inc.'s Failure to Timely Pay the Gross Receipts Tax  
Date Filed: 12/06/17 • *(Completed: 02/21/18)*
- TC17-072** - In the Matter of NECC Telecom Inc.'s Failure to Timely Pay the Gross Receipts Tax  
Date Filed: 12/06/17 • *(Completed: 02/21/18)*
- TC17-073** - In the Matter of Telnix's Failure to Timely Pay the Gross Receipts Tax  
Date Filed: 12/06/17 • Pending
- TC17-074** - In the Matter of Patriot Mobile LLC's Failure to Timely Pay the Gross Receipts Tax  
Date Filed: 12/06/17 • *(Completed: 01/22/18)*
- TC17-075** - In the Matter of Tempo Telecom LLC's Failure to Timely Pay the Gross Receipts Tax  
Date Filed: 12/06/17 • *(Completed: 01/22/18)*

## REOPENED DOCKETS

- EL12-063** - In the Matter of the Petition of Otter Tail Power Company for Order Accepting Certification of Permit Issued in Docket EL06-002 to Construct Big Stone Transmission Line and Substations in Grant and Deuel Counties  
Date Filed: 12/19/12 • Completed: 05/14/13  
Date Reopened: 07/29/14 • Completed 08/27/14  
Date Reopened: 12/20/17 • *(Completed 01/25/18)*
- EL13-020** - In the Matter of the Application of Northern States Power Company dba Xcel Energy and Otter Tail Power Company for a Permit to Construct the Big Stone South to Brookings County 345 kV Transmission Line  
Date Filed: 06/03/13 • Completed: 02/20/14  
Date Reopened: 12/20/17 • *(Completed: 01/25/18)*
- EL16-018** - In the Matter of the Petition of Northern States Power Company dba Xcel Energy for Approval of Its 2015 Demand Side Management Report and 2017 Proposed Demand Side Management Plan  
Date Filed: 04/29/16 • Completed: 12/13/16  
Date Reopened: 03/29/17 • Completed: 04/18/17
- NG16-006** - In the Matter of the Complaint of Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., a Division of MDU Resources Group, Inc., regarding South Dakota Intrastate Pipeline Company's Rates for Pipeline Transportation Service  
Date Filed: 06/10/15 • Completed: 10/03/16  
Date Reopened: 06/05/17 • Completed: 07/12/17
- PS10-001** - In the Matter of the Filing by Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. for Approval of a Waiver of 49 C.F.R. Sections 192.285(a)(2) and 192.285 (c)  
Date Filed: 03/23/10 • Completed: 06/25/10  
Date Reopened: 08/09/17 • Completed: 09/06/17

**TC09-089** - In the Matter of the Application of Lattice Incorporated for a Certificate of Authority to Provide Interexchange Telecommunications Services in South Dakota  
Date Filed: 09/21/09 • Completed: 11/03/09  
Date Reopened: 11/17/09 • Completed: 01/15/10  
Date Reopened: 07/11/17 • Completed: 07/25/17

**TC12-125** - In the Matter of the Application of Budget PrePay,Inc., dba Budget Mobile for Designation as a Lifeline-Only Eligible Telecommunications Carrier in Non-Rural Areas  
Date Reopened: 08/10/12 • Completed: 09/26/12  
Date Reopened: 03/16/17 • Completed: 05/01/17

**TC13-026** - In the Matter of Study Area Boundaries for Incumbent Local Exchange Carrier  
Date Filed: 03/27/13 • Completed: 06/25/14  
Date Reopened: 03/07/14 • Completed: 3/21/14  
Date Reopened: 04/29/15 • Completed: 12/29/15  
Date Reopened: 03/07/17 • Completed: 03/17/17

The South Dakota Public Utilities Commission will serve and protect South Dakota's consumers by ensuring safe, reliable and high quality utility services. The commission will exercise its authority and influence to ensure that residential and business consumers have access to utility services at fair and reasonable rates. The commission will be proactive and solutions-oriented in striving to maximize consumer utility value and education while working to enhance the economic and environmental well-being for citizens of the state of South Dakota.

*South Dakota*

**PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**