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EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

February 4, 2003

ORIGINAL

Michael K. Powell, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Confirmed
MAR 12 2003
Distribution Center

Dear Chairman Powell:

I'm writing in support of Qwest's proposal to re-enter South Dakota's long distance market. Allowing more competition in the telecommunications industry would be beneficial to consumers.

If Qwest, or any other company for that matter, wants to offer me a better deal, I want the opportunity to do business with them. If they want to give me a low, flat rate on all of my communications needs (long distance, local and Internet), I want the option of choosing them as my provider.

Competition is necessary and should be encouraged. Qwest is asking for permission to compete in our State's long distance market. and I believe that consumers will benefit, the economy will benefit, and most importantly, I will benefit when Qwest is allowed to provide long distance service in South Dakota. Therefore, I urge you to permit Qwest to re-enter our State's long distance market.

Sincerely,



Dennis R. Martinec
2403 E. 17th St.
Sioux Falls, SD 57103

