



Chris Nelson, Chair  
Kristie Fiegen, Vice Chair  
Gary Hanson, Commissioner

## **SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

500 East Capitol Avenue  
Pierre, South Dakota 57501-5070  
[www.puc.sd.gov](http://www.puc.sd.gov)

Capitol Office  
(605) 773-3201  
1-866-757-6031 fax

Grain Warehouse  
(605) 773-5280  
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Consumer Hotline  
1-800-332-1782

February 15, 2012

RE: FCC 11-106

To Whom It May Concern:

On February 10, 2012 the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission became aware that fraudulent billings for non-existent telecommunications services were being sent to South Dakota schools and state government departments. A copy of one of these billings is attached.

The Commission immediately issued a warning to the public regarding this scam encouraging all businesses, government agencies, and citizens to carefully examine any telecommunications billing received. All schools were notified through the state Department of Education.

The fraudulent billing contained a name similar to a legitimate telecommunications company and was for services that could be legitimate. The services, however, were neither ordered by the school district nor were they performed by the "company" sending the bill.

This is an unfortunate example of unscrupulous scammers trying to take advantage of telecommunications billing to the detriment of innocent citizens, businesses, and taxpayers.

I hope this information is helpful in your deliberations in FCC 11-106.

Sincerely,

Chris Nelson  
Chairman

# UST

*Servicing your telecom needs.*  
**P.O. Box 970**  
**La Verne, CA 91750-0970**  
**Phone# 800-217-9437**  
**Fax# 626-205-1133**

Date	Reference #
1/20/2012	214093

<b>Bill To</b>
12*7*2807*****MIXED AADC 901 Mitchell School District 1800 E Spruce St Mitchell SD 57301-4900 

<b>Ship To</b>
Mitchell School District 1800 E Spruce St Mitchell, SD 57301-4900

<b>Web Site</b>	Thank you for your business, this warranty covers preventative maintenance on all telecom system equipment, including, telephone instruments, switches, routers, & cabling	<b>Terms</b>
www.us-telecom.com		<b>NET 10 DAYS</b>

Quantity	Description	Rate	Amount
01	TELECOM MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT	\$425.00	\$425.00

Please remit to the above address	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$425.00</b>
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*Thank You For Your Business*