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March 21, 2012

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VIA ECFS

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 Twelfth Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Notice of Ex Parte Presentation
WC Docket No. 10-90
GN Docket No. 09-51
WC Docket No. 07-135
WC Docket No. 05-337
CC Docket No. 01-92
CC Docket No. 96-45
WC Docket No. 03-109
WT Docket No. 10-208

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On March 19, Mr. Dennis Law of Golden West Telecommunications Cooperative, Mr. Randy Houdek of Venture Communications Cooperative, Mr. Mark Benton of Midstate Communications, Mr. Jerry Reisenauer of West River Telephone Cooperative, and the undersigned met with Mr. Geoffrey C. Blackwell, Ms. Irene M. Flannery, and Mr. Beau Finley of the Office of Native Affairs and Policy to discuss issues associated with providing broadband and telecommunications services to tribal areas and reservations in South Dakota.

Specifically, these representatives discussed:

- Geographic and demographic information associated with provision of broadband and telecommunications services, including low population density and broadband take rates, which differed across reservations in the state;

- Tribal participation in the cooperative structure of the representatives' respective companies, including representation within the board of directors;
- Challenges in facilities deployment occasioned by right of way negotiation and other tribal government requirements;
- Challenges occasioned by changes in governance, and other characteristics unique to the several different tribes and reservations;
- The need for guidance in any further FCC requirements on the subject of facilities and service deployment in tribal areas and reservations which takes these realities into account, and which avoids a 'one size fits all' regulatory approach.

A copy of the material distributed to FCC staff is attached hereto.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

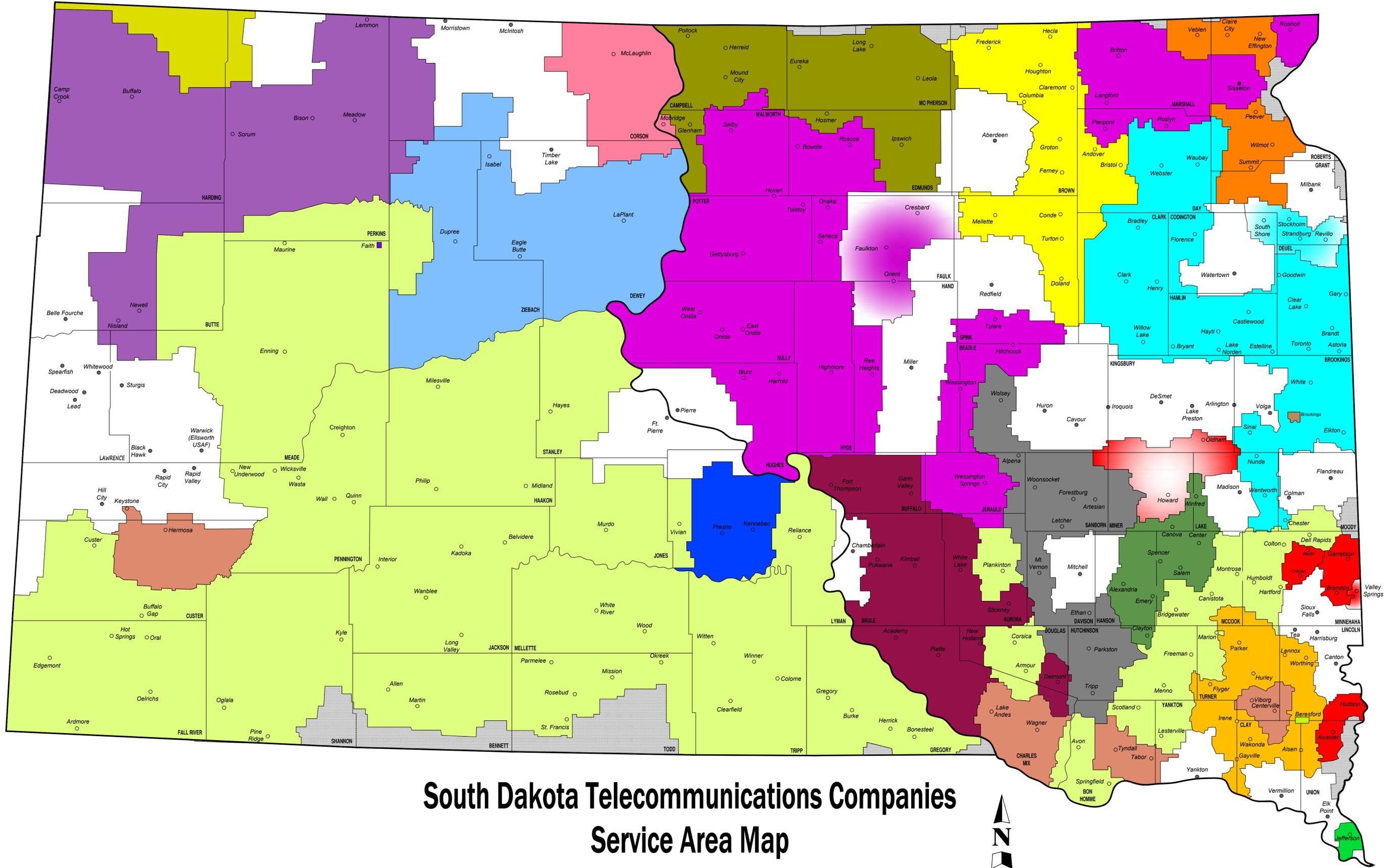
Sincerely,

s/ Benjamin H. Dickens, Jr.

Benjamin H. Dickens, Jr.

CC:

Geoffrey C. Blackwell
Irene M. Flannery
Beau Finley



South Dakota Telecommunications Companies Service Area Map

- | | | | |
|---|--|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Alliance Communications Cooperative, Inc. ■ Hills Telephone ■ Splitrock Properties ■ Beresford Municipal Telephone Company ■ Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe Telephone Authority ■ Consolidated Telephone Company | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Faith Municipal Telephone Company ■ Fort Randall /Mt. Rushmore Telephone Company ■ Golden West Telecommunications ■ Interstate Telecommunications Cooperative, Inc. ■ Stockholm-Strandburg Telephone Co. ■ James Valley Telecommunications | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Kennebec Telephone Company, Inc. ■ Knology Community Telephone ■ Long Lines ■ Midstate Communications ■ Roberts Co. Telephone Cooperative / RC Comm. ■ Santel Communications Cooperative | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Swiftel Communications ■ TrioTel Communications, Inc. ■ Valley Telecommunications Cooperative ■ Venture Communications Cooperative ■ Western Telephone Company ■ West River Cooperative Telephone Company ■ West River Telecommunications Cooperative Nonmember Telecommunications Companies CenturyLink Other Companies |
|---|--|--|---|

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