



Dustin Johnson, Chair
Gary Hanson, Vice-Chair
Steve Kolbeck, Commissioner

SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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February 2, 2010

Chairs Jean Hunhoff and Larry Tidemann
Joint Appropriations Committee
C/O Terry Miller
Legislative Research Council
500 East Capitol Ave.
Pierre, SD 57501

Dear Chairs Hunhoff and Tidemann:

This is to follow up on questions raised during today's Joint Appropriations Hearing on the Public Utilities Commission's FY11 proposed budget.

Bureau of Information and Technology Computer Assessment

You requested the per device charge to be assessed by BIT for FY11 compared with FY10. BIT relayed the monthly usage fee is projected to increase \$2 per user per month in FY11. The user fee is currently \$105 per user/month and will increase in FY11 to \$107. This is an increase of \$720 for current staff and our FY11 proposed budget is sufficient to cover this increase.

South Dakota One Call Board

Page six of the PUC's Top Priorities document deals with the One Call Board and lists 11 complaints under Complaints Filed for the 2009 Measurement. You asked for the status or conclusion of these. A total of \$3,250 in fines has been assessed by the One Call Board for five complaints. Of the balance, one is on hold pending circuit court action, one is in settlement negotiations, one has been closed with no fine, one is scheduled for hearing, and two remain to be heard. If you wish to access filings associated with any of these complaints, they may be found online at <http://onecall.sd.gov/Complaints/2009/default.aspx>

Federal ARRA Grant Timeline

You asked for the PUC's proposed timeline for this grant's hiring process.

-Secure approval for positions from Legislature	January 1 – April 1, 2010
-Search for possible new office space	April 1 – June 1, 2010
-Position openings published/posted/distributed	May 1 – June 30, 2010
-Interview and process candidates	June 1 – June 30, 2010
-Selected candidates begin work at PUC	July 1 – July 31, 2010
-Training for candidates as well as current staff	July 1, 2010 – July 31, 2013
-Positions culminate work at PUC	July 31, 2013 *

* Federal funds available as late as December 31, 2013 if any hiring occurs later in 2010 than planned.

If you have any additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact Executive Director Patricia Van Gerpen. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Dustin "Dusty" Johnson
Chairman