



December 7, 2020

Mr. Claude Doucet
Secretary General
Canadian Radio-Television and Telecommunications Commission
OTTAWA ON K1A 0N2

Dear Mr. Doucet:

**Supplementary Comments of the Government of the Northwest Territories
Northwestel Tariff Notice 1099 (8740-N1-202006775)**

These comments are being filed as a supplement to our earlier comments dated November 20, 2020 in this matter.

In its comments of November 20, 2020, the Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT) suggested that while interim approval should immediately be granted to TN 1099, final approval should be considered in the context of the proceeding initiated by TNC 2020-367, and that a number of related matters including wholesale access arrangements could be dealt with at that time.

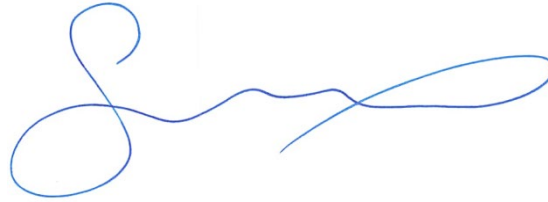
Now that interim approval of TN 1099 has been granted, Canadian Radio-Television and Telecommunications Commission's (CRTC) should consider the pricing for new unlimited plans and wholesale access issues that have been raised by SSi Canada (SSi).

Since approval of the interim rates, the GNWT has heard from SSi on a number of matters where they have stressed the urgency of the CRTC consideration of wholesale access arrangements, including Third Party Internet Access (TPIA), which the GNWT, SSi, and others consider to be critically important to allow for a more competitive environment for the provision of internet services. When SSi filed an application for TPIA in January 2015, the Commission denied the application for procedural reasons and indicated that the issue would instead be considered in a Northwestel regulatory framework proceeding planned for 2016. This proceeding never took place, and in the meantime, five more years have passed during which Northerners have been denied the benefits of competition that could arise from the provision of TPIA arrangements.

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Given the length of that delay and the critical importance of facilitating expanded competition in the provision of internet services in the North, the GNWT endorses the view of SSi that to avoid any further delay a more expedited process should be employed to consider TPIA and any other wholesale arrangements competitors wish to propose. We understand that SSi will today be filing a Part 1 application to obtain TPIA, and we urge the Commission to deal with the application immediately rather than to delay its consideration to within the TNC 2020-367 proceeding.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a large loop on the left and a long, sweeping line extending to the right.

Caroline Wawzonek
Minister of Finance

c. Mr. Jeff Philipp, Founder and CEO, SSi Canada

Mr. Curtis Shaw, President, NorthwesTel