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WiMAX system installed in Hartford; Available now to Residents

Colman, S.D. –Hartford city officials and economic development leaders will join Sioux Valley Wireless (a subsidiary of Sioux Valley Energy) to officially announce its deployment of Sioux Valley WiMAX (Worldwide Interoperability for Microwave Access) high-speed Internet services to the community and surrounding area. The ribbon cutting event will take place on Monday, January 26 in Hartford. Hartford is the third South Dakota community to receive WiMAX services.

WiMAX essentially allows customers to use the Internet throughout the area, at any time without plugging into a connection, signing into a specific access point or needing a “hot-spot” to access the Internet.

“This is a significant technology for Hartford residents and surrounding areas because they will now have access to next-generation technology today,” said Don Marker, General Manager/CEO of Sioux Valley Wireless. He added “Sioux Valley WiMAX will do for broadband Internet what cellular phones did for land-line telephones.”

Several major wireless communication companies are in the process of building a nationwide WiMAX network that will offer the next-generation technology to millions of Americans by this year. WiMAX will replace cable and DSL services providing universal internet access nearly anywhere the user goes.

“A WiMAX user in Hartford will be able to take their laptop or other wireless device anywhere within the mobile coverage area and log on to the Internet,” offered Joel Brick, Sioux Valley Wireless Technical Director.

Brick believes Sioux Valley WiMAX will enhance and promote economic development activities as well as retain businesses throughout the area. Residential users will also benefit.

“Rural areas have traditionally not had access to this type of technology but now we’ll be able to offer our businesses and residents the most cutting edge and on-demand technology available,” said Brick.

Sioux Valley Wireless, a subsidiary of Sioux Valley Energy, provides wireless Internet to customers throughout southeastern South Dakota and southwestern Minnesota.