



August 4, 2008

Thomas Ollig  
TDS Telecom  
515 Pine Street  
Monticello MN 55362

Dear Mr. Ollig,

On July 14, the Monticello City Council authorized City staff to actively seek opportunities to work with TDS in development of cooperative, cost-saving strategies for installing fiber optic lines in the City right-of-way. On July 17, the City Administrator sent to you a two-page letter outlining the details of the City's proposal, which would involve installing portions of the two systems on a joint basis, involving common conduits rather than separate conduits.

Over two weeks have passed since the motion and the letter. TDS has not accepted the City's proposal or even responded to it.

We remember the statement that TDS made to the City when responding to the City's Request for Proposal, that "TDS Telecom always welcomes the opportunity to work with other utilities or the city during the construction process to share space in buried facilities to minimize costs, disruption, and deployment timeframes." TDS' refusal to even respond to precisely that kind of proposal from the City certainly contradicts that assertion. It also calls into question the sincerity of the statements made by TDS officials and public-relations representatives about their interests in working cooperatively with the City. It also provides a clear answer to members of the community about which entity is responsible for the inefficiencies that will result when both TDS and the City end up unnecessarily digging up the same asphalt, grass and soil twice.

Sincerely,

Clint Herbst, Mayor  
City of Monticello  
505 Walnut St, Suite 1  
Monticello MN 55362

cc: Smith Paulson O'Donnell Law Firm  
John Baker, Greene Espel Law Firm  
File