

**PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA**

NEWS RELEASE

Monday, July 18, 2005

Commissioners Clark, Wefald, and Cramer

****For Immediate Release****

Phone 701-328-2400

North Dakota Telephone Company Public Meetings Scheduled

The North Dakota Public Service Commission (PSC) encourages customers of North Dakota Telephone Company (NDTC) to participate in public meetings on a NDTC proposal to revise its rates for local exchange telephone service and establish company-wide toll-free calling. The meetings will be held Thursday, July 21 at two different locations.

NDTC customers who come to the meeting will have a chance to learn more about the case, and offer comments to the Commission about the proposed changes. "We want to hear directly from consumers on what impact the changes being proposed by the company will have." said Commissioner Tony Clark.

NDTC states the filing is revenue neutral to the company. NDTC proposes to equalize local exchange rates for all its exchanges for both residence and business customers. The proposed rate for residence service is \$13.12 per month. For company-wide toll-free calling, customers would be charged a flat monthly rate, residence customers would be charged \$4.54 per month.

"This is an important case, and I hope that people will come and share their thoughts on the proposed changes." stated Commissioner Susan Wefald.

"The meetings are an informal way for consumers to learn more about the proposed changes NDTC has proposed," said Commissioner Kevin Cramer. "Consumer input helps us know what questions North Dakotans want answered about this case."

The Public Input sessions will be held on July 21, 2005 at the following times and locations:

11:00 a.m. CDT
Devils Lake City Hall
423 6th St NE
Devils Lake ND

3:00 p.m. CDT
Otter Tail Power Company
225 Main Ave S
Rugby ND

For more information call 701-328-2400 or write to 600 E. Boulevard Ave., Dept. 408, Bismarck, ND 58505-0480.

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