

**STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA  
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**



**Midcontinent Communications/North Dakota  
Telephone Company  
Rural Exemption  
Investigation**

**Case No. PU-05-451**

**NOTICE OF PREHEARING CONFERENCE**

**September 14, 2005**

To: Patrick W. Durick, Pearce & Durick, counsel for Midcontinent Communications; Donald A. Negaard, Pringle & Herigstad, counsel for North Dakota Telephone Company; and William W. Binek, Chief Counsel, North Dakota Public Service Commission

Please take notice that a prehearing conference will be held for this matter at 10:30 a.m., September 16, 2005. The prehearing conference will be conducted by telephone conference initiated by the administrative law judge.

The purpose of the prehearing conference is to consider and decide whether to proceed with the scheduled hearing of this matter on October 13, 2005, upon a prehearing order which requires that the pre-filed testimony and exhibits of Midcontinent Communications (Midco) shall be filed on or before September 23, 2005, and pre-filed testimony and exhibits of North Dakota Telephone Company (NDTC) shall be filed before October 7, 2005; or, alternatively, that the hearing of this matter shall be continued to October 27, 2005, upon a prehearing order which requires that pre-filed testimony and exhibits of Midco shall be filed on or before September 30, 2005, and pre-filed testimony and exhibits of NDTC shall be filed on or before October 14, 2005. The parties may also request of determination concerning any question or problem regarding preparation for or the conduct of the hearing.

Dated at Bismarck, North Dakota this 14th day of September, 2005.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Al Wahl", written over a horizontal line.

Al Wahl, Administrative Law Judge  
Office of Administrative Hearings  
1707 North 9th Street  
Bismarck, North Dakota 58501  
Telephone: (701) 328-3260

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**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

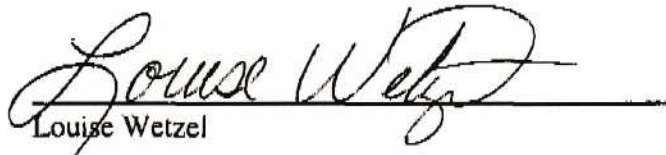
The undersigned certifies that a true and correct copy of the **NOTICE OF  
PREHEARING CONFERENCE** was served by facsimile transmission on the 14th day of  
September, 2005, to:

Mr. Patrick W. Durick  
Pearce & Durick  
FAX No. (701) 223-7865  
Bismarck, ND

Mr. Don Negaard  
Pringle & Herigstad, P.C.  
FAX No. (701) 857-1361  
Minot, ND

Mr. William W. Binek  
Chief Counsel  
Public Service Commission  
FAX No. (701) 328-2410  
Bismarck, ND

OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS  
Al Wahl, Administrative Law Judge

  
Louise Wetzel