

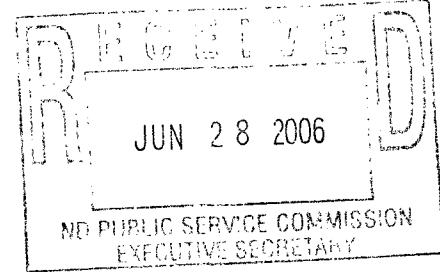
STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Midcontinent Communications/North Dakota
Telephone Company
Rural Exemption
Investigation

Case No. PU-05-451
OAH File No. 20060215

PREHEARING ORDER

June 27, 2006



Upon a prehearing conference held June 27, 2006, to consider the request of Midcontinent Communications to establish a schedule for the filing of prehearing testimony and exhibits for the further hearing to be held July 10, 2006, for this matter; Patrick W. Durick, Pearce & Durick, and J. G. Harrington, Dow Lohnes, PLLC, appearing for Midcontinent Communications; Donald A. Negaard, Pringle & Herigstad, P.C., appearing for North Dakota Telephone Company; and William A. Binek, Chief Counsel, North Dakota Public Service Commission, representing the Commission; it is

Ordered, that not later than July 5, 2006, Midcontinent Communications and North Dakota Telephone Company shall each serve upon the other and prefile with the Commission the direct testimony of each of the witnesses expected to testify on their behalf for the further hearing for this matter; and it is further

Ordered, that not later than July 5, 2006, North Dakota Telephone Company shall serve upon Midcontinent Communications and prefile with the Commission a complete copy of its cost study prepared in support of the testimony which will be offered on its behalf for the further hearing of this matter, together with a complete copy of any compilation of data relied upon for the preparation of the cost study; and it is further

Ordered, that North Dakota Telephone Company shall open and close for the further hearing of this matter, and may offer rebuttal testimony in response to the direct testimony prefiled by Midcontinent Communications.

Dated at Bismarck, North Dakota this 27th day of June, 2006.

State of North Dakota
Public Service Commission



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 **PREHEARING ORDER** was mailed, regular mail, on the 27 day of June, 2006, to:

Mr. Patrick W. Durick
Pearce & Durick
P.O. Box 400
Bismarck, ND 58502-0400

Mr. Don Negaard
Pringle & Herigstad, P.C.
P.O. Box 1000
Minot, ND 58702-1000

Mr. J. G. Harrington
Dow, Lohnes, PLLC
1200 New Hampshire Avenue NW
Suite 800
Washington, DC 20036

Mr. Thomas J. Moorman
Kraskin, Moorman & Cosson, LLC
2120 L Street NW - Suite 520
Washington, DC 20037

and that a true and correct copy of the above document was mailed, inside mail, at the State Capitol on the 27 day of June, 2006, to:

Mr. William W. Binek
Chief Counsel
Public Service Commission
600 East Boulevard Avenue
Bismarck, ND 58505-0480

OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS
Al Wahl, Administrative Law Judge


Louise Wetzel