

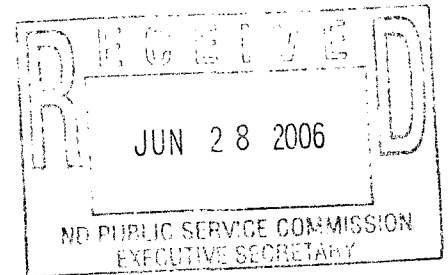
**STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA  
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

**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

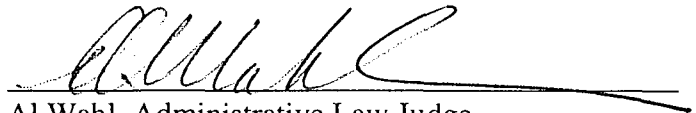
Ordered, that not later than July 5, 2006, Midcontinent Communications and North Dakota Telephone Company shall each serve upon the other and prefile with the Commission the direct testimony of each of the witnesses expected to testify on their behalf for the further hearing for this matter; and it is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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Al Wahl', is 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

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

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

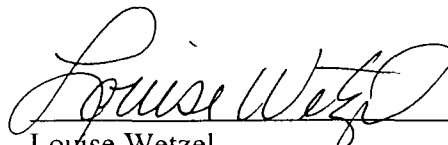
Mr. J. G. Harrington  
Dow, Lohnes, PLLC  
1200 New Hampshire Avenue NW  
Suite 800  
Washington, DC 20036

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