



OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
1707 North 9th Street
Bismarck, North Dakota 58501-1882

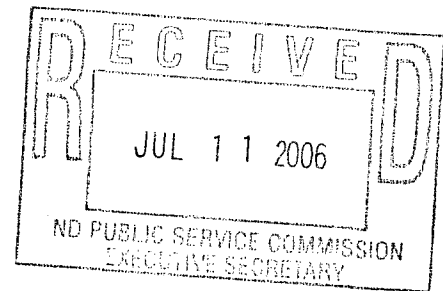
Allen C. Hoberg
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July 11, 2006

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Mr. William W. Binek
Public Service Commission
600 East Boulevard Avenue, Dept. 408
Bismarck, ND 58505-0480

Re: Midcontinent Communications
North Dakota Telephone Company
Rural Exemption Investigation
Case No. PU-05-451
OAH File No. 20060215



Dear Mr. Binek:

The further hearing of the captioned matter was held July 10, 2006, and, except for the filing of briefs and recommended findings of fact, *etc.*, was completed. I have therefore closed the file of the Office of Administrative Hearings for the further hearing, and am returning the part of the file which, unless duplicated, may be maintained by the Public Service Commission as part of the record of the hearing. (You will recall that the audio cassette tapes for the audio recording of the hearing and the exhibits for the Commission's file were delivered to you following the hearing.)

The Office of Administrative Hearings is pleased to have assisted the parties for the hearing.

Sincerely,

Al. Wahl
Administrative Law Judge

AW/eap

Encl.

cc: Mr. Donald A. Negaard
Pringle & Herigstad, P.C.
Mr. Patrick W. Durick
Pearce & Durick
Mr. J. G. Harrington
Dow Lohnes, PLLC