

**STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

**Midcontinent Communications/Consolidated
Telcom
Interconnection Arbitration
Application**

Case No. PU-06-530

ORDER APPROVING STIPULATION

January 24, 2007

On December 28, 2006, Midcontinent Communications (Midcontinent) filed a Petition for Arbitration under 47 U.S.C. § 252(b) for facilities-based interconnection with Consolidated Telcom.

On January 8, 2007 the parties filed a Stipulation with the Commission requesting that the Commission issue an order to hold the arbitration petition in abeyance and suspend the time frames provided for in Section 252 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 ("Act") and Chapter 69-02-10 of the North Dakota Administrative Code unless and until either party requests in writing requesting further arbitration proceedings. A copy of the Stipulation of the parties marked as Attachment 1 is attached to this order and is incorporated herein in its entirety.

The parties stated that the filing of the Petition for Arbitration by Midcontinent was a protective filing to preserve to Midcontinent its rights to file an arbitration application in the certain time frames required by the Act.

The parties agree that for purposes of establishing the time frames established in Section 252 of the Act for negotiation, arbitration and resolution of the request for interconnection, that the request from Midcontinent was received by NDTC on July 13, 2006.

The parties agree that neither party will petition the FCC to seek to enforce the 270 day deadline established in Section 252 of the Act until 110 days after the arbitration process is restarted as provided for in the Stipulation.

The Commission finds the Stipulation of the parties is acceptable and hereby makes the following:


ORDER

The Commission orders:

1. The Stipulation is approved in its entirety without modification.

2. Midcontinent's Petition for Arbitration is held in abeyance and the time frames provided for under law and the Commission's rules are suspended until a request in writing to implement the time frames is filed by either party.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION


Tony Clark
Commissioner


Susan E. Wefald
President


Kevin Cramer
Commissioner