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embodies in legal notices. In that self government charges all citizen to be informed, this newspaper urges every citizen to read and study these notices. We strongly advise those citizens seeking further information to exercise their right to access to public records and public meetings.

**999. Public Notices**

**STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

Qwest Corporation  
Request to Withdraw SGAT Available Terms/Conditions Application

Case No. PU-07-314  
**NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY FOR HEARING**  
November 25, 2009

On June 14, 2007, Qwest Corporation (Qwest) filed an application to withdraw its Statement of Generally Available Terms and Conditions (SGAT). The SGAT is a statement of the terms and conditions under which Qwest provides access and interconnection to its network facilities for the network facilities of unaffiliated, competing providers of telephone exchange services.

Qwest states that the SGAT was last updated on May 30, 2002 and, due to changes in applicable law since then, the SGAT is outdated. Qwest states that it will continue to make its Performance Indicator Definitions and its Performance Assurance Plan available to competitive local exchange companies.

On July 25, 2007, the Commission issued a Notice of Opportunity for Hearing. On August 29, 2007, Level 3 Communications, LLC filed comments requesting that the Commission require Qwest to file an updated SGAT for approval, that all carriers have the opportunity to participate in the approval process regarding the SGAT, and that the Commission order Qwest to allow Level 3 to continue to operate under its current interconnection agreement until an updated SGAT has been submitted and approved.

On October 15, 2009, Qwest filed a request that the Commission issue an order approving withdrawal of the SGAT. Qwest believes that three developments support the withdrawal: (1) on June 9, 2008, Level 3, entered into a Term Extension Agreement of its interconnection agreement with Qwest, extending that agreement until July 31, 2010; (2) the Idaho Commission granted Qwest's request to withdraw the Idaho SGAT finding that intervenors did not identify a legal requirement in Idaho that an SGAT remain in effect; and (3) in the two years since Qwest made its filing to withdraw the SGAT, no CLEC has opted into the SGAT in North Dakota.

Persons desiring a hearing must file a written request identifying their interest in the proceeding and the reasons for requesting a hearing. Requests for hearing must be received by January 15, 2010. If deemed appropriate, the Commission can determine the matter without a hearing.

For more information contact the Public Service Commission, State Capitol, Bismarck, North Dakota 58505, 701-328-2400; or Relay North Dakota 1-800-366-6888 TTY. If you require any auxiliary aids or services, such as readers, signers, or Braille materials please notify the Commission.

**PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**  
Tony Clark, Commissioner  
Kevin Cramer, Chairman  
Brian P. Kalk, Commissioner

**999. Public Notices**

**STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

Public Service Commission  
Qwest Performance Assurance Plan Investigation

Case No. PU-06-58  
**Public Service Commission**  
Qwest Performance Assurance Plan Investigation

Case No. PU-07-256  
**Public Service Commission**  
Qwest Performance Assurance Plan Investigation

Case No. PU-08-920  
**NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY FOR COMMENT AND NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY FOR HEARING**  
November 25, 2009  
Preliminary Statement

For telecommunications companies that have, or intend to have, an agreement with Qwest Corporation (Qwest) for interconnection services, Qwest offers a Performance Assurance Plan (PAP) option. A PAP provides for self-executing payments to the competitive local exchange carrier (CLEC) if Qwest does not provide interconnection services to the CLEC at parity to the service it provides to its own retail customers, or if Qwest fails to meet certain service benchmarks.

The PAP provides for periodic reviews to determine whether performance measures should be added to, deleted from, or modified; whether benchmark standards should be modified or replaced by parity standards; and whether to move a classification of a performance measurement to High, Medium, or Low or Tier 1 to Tier 2. Participants of the review may include Qwest, CLECs, and the Commission.

PAP revisions approved by the Commission as a result of such reviews apply to existing and future interconnection agreements that incorporate the PAP. The most recent PAP revision was effective beginning January 1, 2008, as approved in Case No. PU-06-58. That proceeding was continued in the event an ongoing multistate Regional Oversight Committee review might result in further PAP or performance measurement changes.

On June 13, 2007, the Commission joined in a multistate collaborative audit of Qwest's PAP performance reporting and payment process for calendar year 2005, Case No. PU-07-256. The Final Report for the Audit of 2005 Qwest's Performance Assurance Plans by Liberty Consulting Group was issued November 30, 2007. The report is available for viewing and downloading from the Commission's internet site at <http://www.psc.state.nd.us/database/documents/07-0256/014-010.pdf>.

On December 17, 2008, the Commission joined in a multistate review of the effectiveness of the PAP and whether its continuation is necessary, Case No. PU-08-920. The review was a multistate effort organized by the Regional Oversight Committee. On February 11, 2009, the Commission issued a Notice of Qwest Performance Assurance Plan Review and Notice of Opportunity for Comment in Case No. PU-08-920, for comments from interested persons on trends in Qwest performance in providing interconnection, comments on the structural components of the PAP and performance measures, stakeholder recommendations and experiences with the PAP and performance measures, and comments on the competitive environment. The Notice stated that the Commission would receive written comments until March 27, 2009. On March 27, 2009, Integra Telecom of North Dakota, Inc. filed comments and petitioned to intervene.

The Regional Oversight Committee contracted with Liberty Consulting Group (Liberty) to perform the review. Based on comments received from Integra Telecom of North Dakota, Inc. and other competitive local exchange carriers and data provided by Qwest, Liberty issued its June 30, 2009 Analysis of Qwest's Performance Assurance Plans Final Report. Liberty concluded that the PAP is still serving a useful purpose. The report also offers several recommendations for changes to the PAP and performance meas-

**STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

FirstLink  
211 Designation Application

Case No. PU-09-713  
**NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY FOR HEARING**  
November 25, 2009

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has designated the 211 dialing code to provide direct access to organizations providing community information and referral services that are currently not available through the 911 emergency code or the 311 police non-emergency code.

On September 24, 2003, the Commission designated the Mental Health Association in North Dakota (MHAND), as the user of the 211 dialing code in North Dakota.

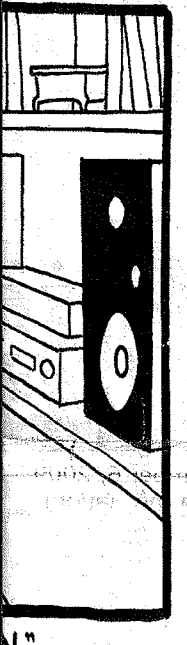
On March 7, 2007, the Commission authorized MHAND to subcontract 211 operations within North Dakota. MHAND has been subcontracting with FirstLink for the provision of 211 operations in Cass County. In its October 30, 2009 letter, MHAND noti-

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The Williston Herald offers competitive pay and a comprehensive benefits package including health insurance, dental, vacation, and a 401K retirement plan. Interested candidates should submit a cover letter, resume, and references to Robert Arrowsmith at the Williston Herald or via email at [rarrowsmith@willistonherald.com](mailto:rarrowsmith@willistonherald.com)

**WORD**

Answer to Previous Puzzle

A	B	I	N		F	L	U	E	S				
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