

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Halstad Telephone Company
Designated Eligible Carrier
Application

Case No. PU-08-872

NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY FOR HEARING

January 14, 2009

HTC Services, Inc. (HTC) was a wholly owned subsidiary of Halstad Telephone Company (Halstad). HTC provided telecommunications services as a competitive local exchange carrier in the Hillsboro, ND exchange. HTC was designated as an eligible telecommunications carrier (ETC) and was eligible to receive federal universal service funding for the Hillsboro exchange service area. Effective December 31, 2008, the assets of HTC were to be transferred into Halstad, and HTC would be dissolved.

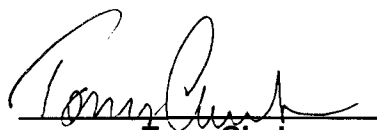
On November 3, 2008 Halstad Telephone Company (Halstad) filed an Application for Expansion of its Eligible Telecommunications Carrier (ETC) Designated Geographical Service Area to include the Hillsboro exchange in North Dakota. On December 19, 2008, Halstad filed a revision requesting that the Commission grant a separate ETC designation to Halstad for the Hillsboro exchange service area for its activities as a competitive local exchange. Issues to be considered in this matter are:

1. Qualification of the applicant under the Telecommunications Act of 1996, Section 214(e) for designation as an ETC eligible to receive federal universal service funding.
2. What ETC universal service support area should be designated.
3. Whether, upon designation of Halstad as an ETC for the Hillsboro exchange, the designation of HTC as an ETC for the Hillsboro exchange should be relinquished.
4. The public Interest.

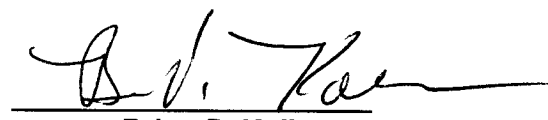
Those interested are invited to comment on the application in writing. Persons desiring a hearing must file a written request identifying their interest in the proceeding and the reasons for requesting a hearing. **Comments and requests for hearing must be received by February 27, 2009.** If deemed appropriate, the Commission can determine the matter without a hearing.

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

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