

**STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA  
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

**Dickey Rural Telephone Cooperative  
Designated Eligible Carrier  
Application**

**Case No. PU-12-73**

**Dickey Rural Telephone Cooperative  
Local Exchange  
Public Convenience and Necessity**

**Case No. PU-12-74**

**NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY FOR HEARING**

**February 29, 2012**

On February 10, 2012 Dickey Rural Telephone Cooperative (Dickey Rural) filed an application for certificates of public convenience and necessity to provide facilities-based incumbent local exchange telecommunication services in the Gwinner, Lisbon, Ashley, Edgeley, Ellendale, Forman, Kulm, LaMoure, and Oakes exchanges in North Dakota, Case No. PU-12-74. Dickey Rural reports merging with subsidiaries Dickey Rural Access, Inc. and Dickey Rural Communications, Inc. to operate as a single company effective January 25, 2012.

The issues to be considered in Case No. PU-12-74 are:

1. Fitness and ability of the applicant to provide service.
2. Adequacy of the proposed service.
3. Technical, financial and managerial ability of the applicant to provide service.

Also on February 10, 2012 Dickey Rural filed an Application for Expansion of Eligible Telecommunications Carrier (ETC) Designated Geographical Service Area to include the Gwinner, Lisbon, Ashley, Edgeley, Ellendale, Forman, Kulm, LaMoure, and Oakes exchanges in North Dakota, Case No. PU-12-73.

The issues to be considered in Case No. PU-12-73 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 it is in the public interest to designate Dickey Rural as an ETC in the designated universal service support area.
4. Whether, upon designation of Dickey Rural as an ETC for the Gwinner and Lisbon exchanges, Dickey Rural Access, Inc.'s designation as an ETC for the Gwinner and Lisbon exchanges should be relinquished.

5. Whether, upon designation of Dickey Rural as an ETC for the Ashley, Edgeley, Ellendale, Forman, Kulm, LaMoure, and Oakes exchanges; Dickey Rural Communications, Inc.'s designation as an ETC for the Ashley, Edgeley, Ellendale, Forman, Kulm, LaMoure, and Oakes exchanges should be relinquished.

Those interested are invited to comment on the applications in writing. Persons desiring a hearing must file a written request identifying their interest in the proceedings and the reasons for requesting a hearing. Comments and requests for hearings must be received by **April 13, 2012**. If deemed appropriate, the Commission can determine the matters 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**



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