



Public Service Commission

State of North Dakota

COMMISSIONERS

Julie Fedorchak
Randy Christmann
Brian P. Kalk

Executive Secretary
Darrell Nitschke

March 18, 2016

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Mike Steffan
Northwest Communications Cooperative
PO Box 38
Ray, ND 58849-0038

RE: Invoice for Telecommunications Case Expenses

On August 29, 2012, the Commission sent an invoice to Mr. Dwight Schmitt for costs and expenses incurred in Northwest Communications Cooperative, a Cooperative Association, Switched Access, Price Schedule, Case No. PU-12-210 for \$64.03 for advertising expenses. The Commission did receive reimbursement of that amount.

In that proceeding, a hearing was held concerning the switched access filings of 21 telecommunications companies. Therefore, the cost of the proceeding is shared by the 21 companies. The Commission, in a recent internal audit of past telecommunications cases, discovered that the August 29, 2012 invoice did not request reimbursement for all costs and expenses incurred in the 2012 proceeding and the Commission at its March 9, 2016 meeting approved a billing statement in Case No. PU-12-210 for \$251.22.

The Commission regrets that it is only now billing for expenses that were incurred in 2012. At the same time, the Commission understands that these dollars are due to the North Dakota taxpayers. We are confident the internal audit of telecommunications cases was thorough and that there are no other unrecovered expenses.

Under North Dakota Century Code section 49-21-01.7, these expenses must be paid for by the telecommunications companies involved. The unpaid balance for Northwest Communications Cooperative in Case No. PU-12-210 is \$251.22.

Please make your check payable to the Public Service Commission.

Best regards,

Patrick Fahm

Compliance and Competitive Markets

Enc.

52 PU-12-210 Filed: 3/18/2016 Pages: 2
Letter enclosing billing statement

Invoice

March 18, 2016

**Northwest Communications Cooperative
Switched Access
Price Schedule**

Case No. PU-12-210

timeframe

Bill to: Northwest Communications Cooperative

Expenses Incurred to Date:

03/09/16 Advertising Services	\$95.39
03/09/16 Administrative Hearing	<u>\$219.86</u>
Total	<u>\$315.25</u>

09/13/12 Payment Received	<u>\$64.03</u>
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Total Payment Due:	<u><u>\$251.22</u></u>
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Please send payment & a copy of this Invoice to:

**North Dakota Public Service Commission
600 E. Boulevard Ave. Dept. 408
Bismarck, ND 58505-0480**

Federal Tax ID 45-0309764