

**STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

**Bismarck MSA Limited Partnership
Designated Eligible Carrier
Cancellation / Application**

Case No. PU-12-747

ORDER ON ELIGIBLE TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIER DESIGNATION

December 12, 2012

On February 25, 2004, the Commission issued an Order designating Bismarck MSA Limited Partnership as an essential telecommunications carrier (ETC) for the purpose of receiving federal universal service support in the Bismarck metropolitan statistical area, composed of Burleigh and Morton counties of North Dakota, in Case No. PU-494-03-602.

On September 21, 2012, Bismarck MSA Limited Partnership filed notice with the Commission, under 47 U.S.C. section 214(e)(4) and 47 C.F.R. section 54.205, of relinquishment of its designation as an ETC.

Under 47 U.S.C. section 214(e)(4) and 47 C.F.R. section 54.205, the Commission shall permit a carrier to relinquish its ETC designation for an area served by more than one eligible telecommunications carrier.

Prior to permitting a telecommunications carrier designated as an eligible telecommunications carrier to cease providing universal service in an area served by more than one eligible telecommunications carrier, the state commission shall require the remaining eligible telecommunications carrier or carriers to ensure that all customers served by the relinquishing carrier will continue to be served, and shall require sufficient notice to permit the purchase or construction of adequate facilities by any remaining eligible telecommunications carrier. The state commission shall establish a time, not to exceed one year after the state commission approves such relinquishment under this section, within which such purchase or construction shall be completed.

On November 9, 2012, the Commission issued a Notice of Opportunity for Comment providing until close of business on December 10, 2012 to receive comments. No comments were received.

The Commission has reviewed the documents in this proceeding and finds that it has not been shown that customers served by the relinquishing carrier will not continue to be served by the remaining eligible telecommunications carrier or carriers.

Order

The Commission orders that Bismarck MSA Limited Partnership's relinquishment of its February 25, 2004 designation as an essential telecommunications carrier is permitted.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION



Kevin Cramer
Commissioner



Brian P. Kalk
Chairman



Bonny M. Fetch
Commissioner