

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Midcontinent Communications
Designated Eligible Carrier
Application

Case No. PU-16-48

AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE BY CERTIFIED MAIL

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
COUNTY OF BURLEIGH

Geralyn R. Schmaltz deposes and says that:

she is over the age of 18 years and not a party to this action and, on the **11th day of February, 2016**, she deposited in the United States Mail, at Bismarck, North Dakota, **one** envelope with certified postage, return receipt requested, fully prepaid, securely sealed and containing a photocopy of:

Notice of Opportunity for Hearing

The envelope was addressed as follows:

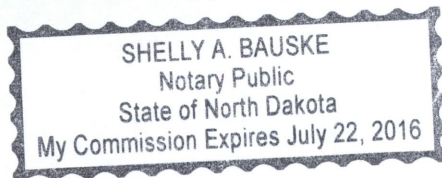
Zachary Pehlman
Pearce Durick PLLC
PO Box 400
Bismarck, ND 58502-0400
Cert. No. 7013 2250 0001 0313 9409

Each address shown is the respective addressee's last reasonably ascertainable post office address.

Subscribed and sworn to before me
This **11th day of February, 2016**.



SEAL



Notary Public

**STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

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Designated Eligible Carrier
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Case No. PU-16-48

NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY FOR HEARING

February 10, 2016

On January 25, 2016, Midcontinent Communications (Midcontinent), a competitive local exchange company, filed an application to expand its eligible telecommunications carrier (ETC) service area by adding 32 exchanges within North Dakota. Midcontinent proposes to provide the nine supported wireline telecommunication services established by the Federal Communications Commission in the expanded area comparable to the services being provided by the incumbent local exchange carrier. Subscribers would be able to access additional advanced services at competitive prices. Midcontinent is a South Dakota business partnership with offices located in North Dakota.

The issues to be considered in this matter are:

1. Is the applicant qualified under the Telecommunications Act of 1996, Section 214(e) for designation as an ETC eligible to receive federal universal service funding in the additional exchange areas?
2. What additional ETC universal service support area should be designated?
3. Is designation of the additional area to the applicant in 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 hearings must be received by **March 25, 2016**. If deemed appropriate, the Commission can determine the matter without a formal 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



Randy Christmann
Commissioner



Julie Fedorchak
Chairman



Brian P. Kalk
Commissioner