

**STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

Midcontinent Communications
Designated Eligible Carrier
Application

Case No. PU-16-48

**MIDCONTINENT COMMUNICATIONS'
CERTIFICATION RELATING TO ORDER PROVISIONS**

I am Nancy A. Vogel, a representative of Midcontinent Communications (Midcontinent) with authority to bind Midcontinent and I certify that:

1. Midcontinent is seeking designation as a Lifeline-Only Eligible Telecommunications Carrier (Lifeline-Only ETC) in the following North Dakota telephone exchanges: Bisbee, Bottineau, Bowman, Carrington, Courtenay, Devils Lake, Dodge, Drake, Dunseith, Fairmount, Halliday, Hankinson, Harvey, Hettinger, Killdeer, Langdon, Lidgerwood, New Rockford, Reeder, Rhame, Richardton, Rolla, Rollette, Rugby, Scranton, South Heart, Walhalla, Williston, and Willow City.

2. For the telephone exchanges enumerated, Midcontinent understands and agrees to the conditions and criteria set forth in Chapter 49-21 of the North Dakota Century Code and Chapter 69-09-05 of the North Dakota Administrative Code that pertain to Lifeline-Only Eligible Telecommunications Carriers (Lifeline Only ETC) , and Midcontinent will be responsible for compliance with this Certification, the Public Service Commission's order in this proceeding, and conditions and criteria set forth in the applicable federal and state laws and rules pertaining to Lifeline-Only ETCs.

The provision in Chapter 69-09-05 of the North Dakota Administrative Code requiring the ETC to describe services in the "carrier's official telephone directory" is not applicable because Midcontinent has no such directory .

3. Midcontinent agrees to comply with all statements, processes and procedures set forth in its Application for designation as a Lifeline-Only ETC in the enumerated telephone exchanges. Midcontinent agrees that all statements made and matters set forth in its Application are true and correct to the best of Midcontinent's knowledge, information, and belief.

4. Midcontinent will use the federal low-income universal service support it receives only for the provision of services for which the support is intended.

5. Midcontinent meets all of the prerequisites to be designated as a Lifeline-Only ETC throughout the proposed ETC Designated Area in this proceeding.

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6. Midcontinent provides each of the services supported by federal universal service support mechanisms, specified in Federal Communications Commission's (FCC's) rules, 47 C.F.R. § 54.101, and will offer these supported services in North Dakota upon designation as a Lifeline-Only ETC, including voice grade access, minutes of use for local service at no additional charge, access to emergency services and toll limitation services.
7. Midcontinent will provide service within a reasonable period of time, if the potential customer is within Midcontinent's proposed designated service area but outside its existing network coverage, if service can be provided at reasonable cost by:
 - (a) Modifying or replacing the requesting customer's equipment;
 - (d) Adjusting network or customer facilities; or
 - (e) Reselling services from another carrier's facilities to provide service.
8. Midcontinent will not seek Universal Service Fund high-cost support for the enumerated telephone exchanges.
9. Midcontinent will use all available means to ensure customers are eligible for the Lifeline program at the time of sign-up and recertification in accordance with the federal eligibility criteria in 47 C.F.R. § 54.409 and the relevant proof documentation specified in 47 C. F. R. § 54.410. Midcontinent will check all available databases including the National Lifeline Accountability Database to prevent duplication and determine eligibility.
10. Midcontinent will advertise the availability of the supported services detailed in its Application, and the corresponding rates and charges, in a manner designed to inform the general public within North Dakota. This advertising will occur through a combination of media channels, such as television and radio, newspaper, magazine and other print advertisements, outdoor advertising, direct marketing, and the Internet.
11. Midcontinent will offer the services described in its Application.
12. Midcontinent will comply with all applicable annual reporting requirements associated with being an ETC in North Dakota including filing with the Public Service Commission a copy of each report filed with the FCC, within 30 days of filing with the FCC.
13. Midcontinent will file at least annually or more often if requested by the Public Service Commission, a complete list of its customers and waivers, including confirmation that each customer has agreed to allow Midcontinent to release any records required for the administration of its Lifeline program, and to access any state records and/or databases needed to confirm eligibility, for each customer on the list.

14. Midcontinent understands and agrees that its ability to offer service is subject to suspension or revocation for failure to comply with the Public Service Commission's orders, or applicable statutes, rules, regulations, standards, and other authorizations.
15. Midcontinent agrees to maintain the records to demonstrate that Midcontinent has complied with the requirements of the Public Service Commission's order(s) and that Midcontinent will preserve records demonstrating compliance for Public Service Commission inspection at any reasonable time upon reasonable notice.
16. Midcontinent understands and agrees that, to the extent there are any conflicts or inconsistencies between Midcontinent's Application and the provisions in this Certification, the Certification provisions control.

Dated this 19th day of April, 2016.

MIDCONTINENT COMMUNICATIONS

By: Nancy A. Vogel
Nancy A. Vogel
Its Director of Regulatory Finance