

# Pearce Durick PLLC

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

314 East Thayer Avenue ■ P.O. Box 400 ■ Bismarck, North Dakota 58502  
T 701.223.2890 ■ F 701.223.7865 ■ www.pearce-durick.com

**ZACHARY E. PELHAM**

zep@pearce-durick.com

June 30, 2017

**Hand Delivered**

Darrel Nitschke  
Executive Director  
ND Public Service Commission  
Capitol  
600 E. Boulevard, Twelfth Floor  
Bismarck, ND 58505



RE: Midcontinent Communications' Tariff Switched Access Services

Dear Mr. Nitschke:

Enclosed please find correspondence to you from Andrea Livingston, Regulatory Reporting Manager at Midcontinent Communications along with revised tariff pages 44 and 44.1 for incorporation into Midcontinent Communications' Tariff "Switched Access Services Within the State of North Dakota.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

PEARCE DURICK PLLC

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Zachary E. Pelham".

ZACHARY E. PELHAM  
Counsel to Midcontinent Communications

ZEP/ak  
Enclosures

1 **PU-17-273** Filed: 6/30/2017 Pages: 5  
Revisions to ND Tariff – 4th Revised Page 44, 5th  
Revised Page 44.1

Midcontinent Communications

Zachary Pelham, Pearce Durick, PLLC



June 30, 2017

Darrell Nitschke  
Executive Director  
North Dakota Public Utilities Commission  
Capitol  
600 East Boulevard, Twelfth Floor  
Bismarck, ND 68505

Dear Mr. Nitschke:

Enclosed for submission to the North Dakota Public Utilities Commission is the following revised tariff pages for incorporation into Midcontinent Communications' ("Midcontinent") Tariff "Switched Access Services Within The State Of North Dakota:"

4<sup>th</sup> Revised Page 44  
5<sup>th</sup> Revised Page 44.1

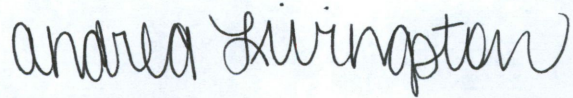
In this filing, Midcontinent complies with the July 1, 2017 step down requirement set forth by the Federal Communications Commission's ("FCC") rule 47 C.F.R. § 51.911(c), Access reciprocal compensation rates for competitive LECs, promulgated under the FCC USF/ICC Transformation Order in WC Docket Nos. 10-90, etc., FCC No. 11-161 (released on November 18, 2011). This rule states in sub-part (c) that "Beginning July 1, 2013... all Competitive Local Exchange Carrier Access Reciprocal compensation rates for switched exchange access services subject to this subpart [Transitional Access Service Pricing including intrastate terminating rates] shall be no higher than the Access Reciprocal Compensation rates charged by the competing incumbent local exchange carrier, in accordance with the same procedures specified in § 61.26 of this chapter." Rule 47 C.F.R. § 61.26 states in sub-part (c) that "If an ILEC to which a CLEC benchmarks its rates, pursuant to this section, lowers the rate to which a CLEC benchmarks, the CLEC must revise its rates to the lower level within 15 days of the effective date of the lowered ILEC rate."

To comply with this FCC rule, Midcontinent now reduces its terminating intrastate end office, tandem transmission and tandem switching access rates to the levels of the corresponding dominant incumbent local exchange carrier's (CenturyLink Qwest's) rates. The overall impact of this tariff filing is a reduction in Midcontinent's composite terminating intrastate switched access rate in North Dakota.

The filing date of this tariff is June 30, 2017, with an effective date of July 29, 2017 (which is also the effective date of Midcontinent's reductions in its terminating interstate rates).

Please contact me with any questions regarding this filing.

Sincerely,



Andrea Livingston  
Regulatory Reporting Manager  
Midcontinent Communications  
3901 North Louise Avenue  
Sioux Falls, SD 57107  
605-274-3648  
andrea.livingston@midco.com



ACCESS SERVICE

SECTION 3 – SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE (cont'd)

3.9 Recurring Charges

A. Carrier Common Line Access Service

Per Minute Charge:

Originating Effective Date  
\$ 0.018941 7/01/2012

Terminating Effective Date  
\$ 0 7/01/2013

B. Tandem Switched Management Services

1. Installation Charge: ICB

2. Port Connections: ICB  
Monthly Charge: ICB

DS1 Port Connection: ICB  
DS3 Port Connection: ICB

3. Per Minute Charge:

Tandem Switching Originating Effective Date  
\$ 0.005734 7/01/2004

Tandem Switching Terminating [1] Effective Date (C, R)  
\$ 0.002252 7/01/2012

Tandem Transmission

<u>Mileage Bands</u>	<u>Rate Per Originating Access Minute</u>	
	<u>Fixed</u>	<u>Per Mile</u>
Over 0 to 8	\$0.000447	\$0.000058
Over 8 to 25	\$0.000771	\$0.000052
Over 25 to 50	\$0.000545	\$0.000046
Over 50	\$0.000646	\$0.000035

[1] For traffic terminating from an access tandem owned by the Company or its affiliates to an end office owned by the Company or its affiliates, the Tandem Switching Terminating Rate is \$0.0007.

(C, R)  
|  
(C, R)

ISSUED: June 30, 2017

EFFECTIVE: July 29, 2017

Director of Regulatory Affairs  
3901 N. Louise Avenue  
Sioux Falls, ND 57107

ACCESS SERVICE

SECTION 3 – SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE (cont'd)

3.9 Recurring Charges

Tandem Transmission (cont'd)

	Rate Per Terminating Access Minute [1] (C, R)	
<u>Mileage Bands</u>	<u>Fixed</u>	<u>Per Mile</u>
Over 0 to 8	\$ 0.00024	\$ 0.00003
Over 8 to 25	\$ 0.00024	\$ 0.00003
Over 25 to 50	\$ 0.00024	\$ 0.00003
Over 50	\$ 0.00024	\$ 0.00003

4. Switch Management Services Expedited Trunk Code Routing Charges  
(1-15 codes)

Nonrecurring Charge ICB

C. End Office Local Switching

Local Switching Originating, Per Access Minute	\$ 0.010566	
Common Port Originating, Per Access Minute	\$ 0.001300	
Local Switching Terminating, Per Access Minute	\$ 0.000000	(R)
Common Port Terminating, Per Access Minute	\$ 0.000000	

[1] For traffic terminating from an access tandem owned by the Company or its affiliates to an end office owned by the Company or its affiliates, the Tandem Transmission Terminating Rates are zero. (C, R)  
|  
(C, R)

ISSUED: June 30, 2017

EFFECTIVE: July 29, 2017

Director of Regulatory Affairs  
3901 N. Louise Avenue  
Sioux Falls, ND 57107