

Pearce Durick PLLC

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ZACHARY E. PELHAM

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July 13, 2018



Hand Delivered

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

RE: Midcontinent Communications Annual ETC Certification Filing and Submittal Pursuant to N.D.A.C. §69-09-05-12.1/FCC Form 481 – Carrier Annual Reporting

Dear Mr. Nitschke:

Enclosed for filing please find an original and seven copies of the following:

1. Midcontinent's Annual ETC Certification Filing and Submittal Pursuant to N.D.A.C. §69-09-05-12.1;
2. Exhibit D – Lifeline ad;
3. Exhibit E – Affidavit.

By separate cover letter, and separately bound and placed in a sealed envelope labeled "PROTECTED INFORMATION – PRIVATE," is one copy of the Confidential Exhibits A, B and C referenced in the document.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

PEARCE DURICK PLLC


ZACHARY E. PELHAM

Counsel to Midcontinent Communications

ZEP/ak
Enclosures

2 PU-18-55 Filed: 7/13/2018 Pages: 17
ND Admin Code Section 69-09-05-12.1 Annual Report
- redacted

Midcontinent Communications

Zachary Pelham, Pearce Durick, PLLC

IN THE MATTER OF THE REQUEST OF)
MIDCONTINENT COMMUNICATIONS FOR) ANNUAL ETC CERTIFICATION
CERTIFICATION REGARDING ITS USE OF) FILING AND SUBMITTAL
FEDERAL UNIVERSAL SERVICE SUPPORT.) PURSUANT TO N.D.A.C. § 69-09-05-12.1

Midcontinent Communications ("Midcontinent"), by and through its attorney, makes this filing to seek certification from the Federal Communications Commission (the "FCC") as is required under 47 CFR 54.313 and to comply with the Commission's rules pertaining to ETCs. As part of this filing, Midcontinent offers the following:

1. Pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 54.314, each carrier that has been designated as an eligible telecommunications carrier ("ETC") that is eligible to receive future federal universal service support must file an annual certification with the FCC and the Universal Service Administrative Company ("USAC") stating that federal high-cost support provided to the carrier will be used only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended. This certification requirement applies to various categories of federal universal service support, including support provided pursuant to 47 C.F.R. §§ 54.301, 54.305, and/or 54.307, and/or 47 C.F.R Part 36, Subpart F (high-cost loop support, local switching support, safety net additive support and safety valve support). Support provided under these FCC rule provisions will only in the future be made available if the State Commission files the requisite certification pursuant to 46 C.F.R. § 54.314.

2. The certification required to receive federal universal service support for all four quarters during calendar year 2019 is currently due to be filed with the FCC and USAC on or before October 1, 2018. The certification may be presented to these entities in the form of a letter from the State Commission. The letter must identify which carriers in the State are eligible to receive federal support during the 12-month period and must certify that the carriers listed will only use the support for the provision, maintenance and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended.

3. Midcontinent is a competitive local exchange telephone company that has previously been designated by this Commission as a Competitive ETC (CETC). Midcontinent provides local exchange telephone services, including all of the essential services that are included in federal definition of universal service within its established service area in South Dakota, North Dakota, Kansas and Minnesota.

4. As required by the provisions of §54.313(a)(3), Midcontinent is committed to providing service throughout its existing service areas to all customers making a reasonable request for service. Midcontinent has, since 2005, served as a competitive eligible telecommunications carrier within its established service areas. Midcontinent already has extended wireline local exchange network facilities throughout its service area as necessary to make all essential local exchange services that are support by federal universal service available to end-user customers within its service area. Consistent with its past practice, Midcontinent hereby certifies that it will provide service on a timely basis to all requesting customers within its designated ETC service area. In certain cases, the provisioning of this service may require a customer in a new location to first meet the requirements of Midcontinent's line extension policies. These line extension policies are, however, consistent with the requirement under both federal and state law to meet all reasonable requests for service. In those areas Midcontinent cannot provide service on its own facilities there are agreements with the ILEC to lease or resell services. In 2017, Midcontinent fulfilled all requests for telephone service in its service area. Midcontinent certifies that it is complying with applicable service standards and consumer protection rules. Midcontinent also certifies that in those exchanges where service is being offered, it offers local usage plans comparable to the incumbent local exchange provider.

5. Midcontinent certifies that it has the ability to remain functional in emergency situations as required by the provisions of §54.313(a)(6). Midcontinent is currently in compliance with this Commission's "auxiliary and battery power requirements" set forth in §54.202(a)(2).

6. In accordance with §54.314, Midcontinent certifies that all federal high-cost support received during 2017 and 2018 was and will be used for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended.

7. Midcontinent certifies that it does provide equal access to long distance carriers.

8. In addition to the information included in CONFIDENTIAL Exhibit A, the following information is provided to meet the Commission's "Certification requirements" set forth in ND Administrative Code §69-09-05.12.1:

- Midcontinent's service quality improvement plan is to continue to upgrade its telecommunications facilities and equipment as necessary to meet evolving service requirements and maintain high quality service throughout its service area. As a competitive local exchange carrier, Midcontinent upgrades and replaces facilities and equipment as necessary. In furtherance of its service quality improvement plan, Midcontinent will use any high-cost universal service amounts received by it to offset expenditures incurred as it continues to upgrade and replace facilities and equipment. Midcontinent's Actual Capital Expenditures for 2017 and Estimated 2019 Capital Expenditures are attached as CONFIDENTIAL Exhibit B.

- During calendar year 2017, Midcontinent did experience service outage affecting at least 10 percent of its end user customers, for a period lasting longer than 30 minutes and is submitted in Confidential Exhibit C.
- Midcontinent was able to provide service to all potential customers that requested service during 2017, and as of December 31, 2017, Midcontinent had no unfulfilled requests for service.
- During 2017, one complaint was received by Midcontinent Communications as outlined in Exhibit C.

9. An eligible telecommunications carrier, under ND Administrative Code § 69-09-05-12.1, is also required to demonstrate annually of its Lifeline and Link-up assistance program outreach.

Midcontinent's Lifeline outreach program includes information and application form on its website, www.midco.com.

Midcontinent's telephone service brochures and the handbooks, Exhibit E, provided to new telephone customers provide information on the availability of Lifeline assistance. Also, at least annually Midcontinent advises customers of the program through its statement message, during 2017 messages ran in September. Midcontinent also ran commercial spots on cable TV periodically during 2017; print copy of ad is in Exhibit D.

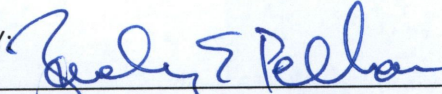
As required by the FCC, Midcontinent did conduct a recertification of all its lifeline customers with results filed with USAC and the FCC on January 31, 2018. Attached is an Affidavit, Exhibit E, containing certification, including those required under the provisions of 60-09-05-12.1 (5), (6), (7), (8) and 47 CFR 54.313.

10. Based on all of the forgoing information including the information provided on Confidential Exhibits A, B, and C, Midcontinent requests that this Commission issue an appropriate certification to the FCC and USAC indicating that Midcontinent Communications is in compliance with 47 U.S.C. § 254(e) and should receive all federal universal service support determined for distribution to Midcontinent in 2019. In order to ensure that certification is issued to the FCC prior to October 1, 2018, Midcontinent would further ask the Commission to expedite the process that is initiated based on this filing.

Dated this 13th day of July, 2018.

Respectfully Submitted,

PEARCE DURICK PLLC

BY: 

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Individually and as Members of the Firm

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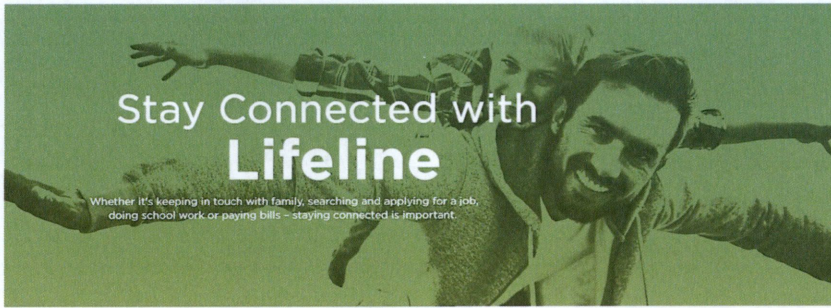
(701) 223-2890

Exhibits to Midcontinent's 2018 ETC Filing:

- Exhibit A - Operation Expenses (**CONFIDENTIAL – NOT FOR PUBLIC**)
- Exhibit B - Two Year Capital Expenditures (**CONFIDENTIAL – NOT FOR PUBLIC**)
- Exhibit C - Outages and Customer Complaints (**CONFIDENTIAL – NOT FOR PUBLIC**)
- Exhibit D - Lifeline
- Exhibit E - Affidavit

MIDCONTINENT COMMUNICATIONS

Exhibit D - Lifeline



Stay Connected with Lifeline

Whether it's keeping in touch with family, searching and applying for a job, doing school work or paying bills – staying connected is important.

Lifeline is a federal program intended to put home phone and internet service within the reach of qualifying families - giving low-income households affordable home phone or internet access.

This isn't a promotion or special offer. If you reside in a state where Midco is an eligible telecommunications carrier (ETC) and Midco services are available at your home address, you may be eligible for this program if you meet the program qualifications.

Broadband Assistance



Enjoy cost-effective connectivity, with no installation fee and rent-free modems.¹

* Up to 25 Mbps downloads & 3 Mbps uploads

Home Phone Assistance



Get reliable, digital home phone service at a reduced monthly rate.² There's no installation fee, and it includes free long-distance blocking and selective call rejection.

Eligibility

Lifeline Assistance is available to qualifying new and current customers who meet income guidelines. Some of the other eligibility requirements include:

- Only one Lifeline credit is allowed per household.
- Only one Lifeline credit is allowed per individual.
- Midco service must be in the eligible participant's name or they must certify that the program participant is a member of the household.
- You may be required to recertify household eligibility at any time. Failure to recertify may result in termination of the Lifeline benefit.
- Lifeline assistance cannot be transferred to another person.

[PROGRAM AND QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS](#)

How to Apply

- Contact us at 1.800.888.1300. We'll mail you a form to fill out and send back to us **with your proof of eligibility document(s)**.
- Apply online. Fill out our online form and **upload your proof of eligibility document(s)**.
- Download and fill out the PDF, Lifeline Assistance application. After signing the completed application, mail it **with your proof of eligibility document(s)** to Midco, PO Box 5010, Sioux Falls, SD 57117-9908.

[APPLY ONLINE](#)

[DOWNLOAD APPLICATION](#)

NOTE: If all required information and/or signatures are not completed on the application, or we are missing proof of eligibility, the application will be returned to the customer for completion. Each application must meet the federal and state requirements to qualify for Lifeline benefits.



Have More Questions?

Here are some frequently asked questions about Midco's Lifeline program.

[SEE WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW](#)

Questions or Complaints

For unresolved questions or complaints, you may contact the state utilities commission in your state:

Kansas

Kansas Corporation Commission,
 Office of Public Affairs and Consumer Protection
 1500 SW Arrowhead Road, Topeka, KS 66604
 Toll-Free: 1.800.662.0027, or in Topeka: 785.271.3143
 Hearing or speech impaired TCC Kansas Relay Center:
 1.800.766.3777

North Dakota

North Dakota Public Service Commission
 600 E Boulevard, Bismarck, ND 58505
 Toll-Free: 1.877.245.6685 or in Bismarck: 701.328.2400

Minnesota

Minnesota Public Utilities Commission, Consumer Affairs Office
 121 7th Place E., Ste 350, Saint Paul, MN 55101
 Toll-Free: 1.800.657.3762 or 651.296.0406
 Minnesota PUC Website

South Dakota

South Dakota Public Utilities Commission, Consumer Affairs
 Capitol Building, 500 E Capitol Ave, Pierre, SD 57501
 Phone: 605.773.3201

¹Broadband Lifeline speeds may vary by market due to network technology in individual markets.
²When qualifying under the Federal Telephone Lifeline Program, if you live in Minnesota or Kansas, you will also qualify for additional state assistance under the Minnesota Telephone Assistance Program (TAP) or the Kansas State Lifeline program.
 Basic and other federal fees will increase the cost of phone services. FCC regulations state that broadband Lifeline recipients must remain with the same internet service provider (IS) for the life of the program. After that, you are free to switch your internet and qualify for a Lifeline benefit with a different company. The FCC allows an exception if you move to a different state or area where your provider (Midco) doesn't offer service. If that's the case, please contact us so we can help you transfer your Broadband Lifeline benefit to your new internet provider.

Lifeline Program Application Form



Universal Service
Administrative Co.

1. About Lifeline

Lifeline is a federal benefit that lowers the monthly cost of phone or internet service.

Rules

If you qualify, your household can get Lifeline for phone or internet service, but not both.

- If you get Lifeline for phone service, you can get the benefit for one mobile phone or one home phone, but not both.
- If you get Lifeline for internet service, you can get the benefit for your mobile phone or your home connection, but not both.
- If you get Lifeline for bundled phone and internet service, you can get the benefit for your mobile phone bundled service or your home bundled service, but not both.

Your household cannot get Lifeline from more than one phone or internet company.

You are only allowed to get one Lifeline benefit per household, **not per person**. If more than one person in your household gets Lifeline, you are breaking the FCC's rules and will lose your benefit.

What is a household?

A household is a group of people who live together and share income and expenses (even if they are not related to each other).

Do not give your benefit to another person

Lifeline is non-transferable. You cannot give your Lifeline benefit to another person, even if they qualify.

Be honest on this form

You must give accurate and true information on this form and on all Lifeline-related forms or questionnaires. If you give false or fraudulent information, you will lose your Lifeline benefit (i.e., de-enrollment or being barred from the program) and the United States government can take legal actions against you. This may include (but is not limited to) fines or imprisonment.

You may need to show other documents

If your phone or internet company is not able to prove you or someone in your household qualify using this form and electronic databases, you may need to show an official document from one of the government qualifying programs or to prove your annual income. You can submit copies of your official documents with this application or wait until your phone or internet company asks you for them. To add them now, include the documents in option 1 or option 2 below:

1. If you qualify through a government program: copies of your state ID card and an official document from the programs you are qualifying through (your SNAP card, Medicaid card, etc.)
2. If you qualify through your income: copies of your state ID card and pay stubs for 3 consecutive months (or other accepted documents).

Visit lifelinesupport.org to see the full list of accepted documents.

Apply

To apply for a Lifeline benefit, fill out every section of this form, initial every agreement statement, and sign the last page.

To apply, mail this form to Midco, PO Box 5010, Sioux Falls, SD 57117-9908.

Lifeline Program Application Form



2. Your Information

All fields are required unless indicated. Use only CAPITALIZED LETTERS and black ink to fill out this form.

What is your full legal name?

The name you use on official documents, like your Social Security Card or State ID. Not a nickname.

First

Middle (optional)

Suffix (optional)

Last

What is your phone number (if you have one)?

What is your date of birth?

Month

Day

Year

What is your email address
(if you have one)?

What are the last 4 numbers of your Social Security Number (SSN)?

If you do not have a SSN, what is your Tribal Identification Number?

What is the best way to reach you?

email
 phone
 text message
 mail

*Tribal lands include any federally recognized Indian tribe's reservation, pueblo, or colony, including former reservations in Oklahoma; Alaska Native regions established pursuant to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (85 Stat. 688); Indian allotments; Hawaiian Home Lands—areas held in trust for Native Hawaiians by the state of Hawaii, pursuant to the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act, 1920 July 9, 1921, 42 Stat. 108, et. seq., as amended; and any land designated as such by the Commission for purposes of this subpart pursuant to the designation process in the FCC's Lifeline rules.

What is your home address? (The address where you will get service. Do not use a P.O. Box)

Street Number and Name

Apt., Unit, etc.

City

State

Zip Code

Is this a temporary address? Yes No

Check if you live on Tribal Lands*

What is your mailing address? (Only fill this out if it is not the same as your home address.)

Street Number and Name

Apt., Unit, etc.

City

State

Zip Code

Lifeline Program Application Form



Universal Service
Administrative Co.

2. Your Information (continued)

Only fill this section
out if you are applying
through a child or
dependent.

Check if you are qualifying through a child or dependent in your household.
If so, answer the following questions:

What is their full legal name?

First

Middle (optional)

Suffix (optional)

Last

Check if they live on Tribal Lands*

What are the last 4 numbers of their Social Security Number (SSN)?

If they do not have a SSN, what is their Tribal Identification Number?

What is their date of birth?

Month

Day

Year

Lifeline Program Application Form



3. Qualify for Lifeline

Fill out this section to show that you, your dependent, or someone in your household qualifies for Lifeline.

You can qualify through some government assistance programs or through your income (you do not need to qualify through both).

Qualify through a government program:

Check all programs that you or someone in your household have:

- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) (Food Stamps)
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Medicaid
- Federal Public Housing Assistance (FPHA)
- Veterans Pension or Survivors Benefit Programs

Tribal Specific Programs

- Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) General Assistance
- Tribal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (Tribal TANF)
- Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR)
- Tribal Head Start (only households that meet the income qualifying standard)

Or

Qualify through your income:

(Only fill this out if you do not qualify through a government program.)

Including you, how many people live in your household? (check one)	Is your income the same or less than the amount listed for your state and household size? <small>(only check yes or no next to your household size)</small>				
	All 48 States & DC <small>(not Alaska and Hawaii)</small>	Alaska	Hawaii	Yes	No
<input type="checkbox"/> 1	\$16,389	\$20,493	\$18,846	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> 2	\$22,221	\$27,783	\$25,555.50	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> 3	\$28,053	\$35,073	\$32,265	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> 4	\$33,885	\$42,363	\$38,974.50	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> 5	\$39,717	\$49,653	\$45,684	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> 6	\$45,549	\$56,943	\$52,393.50	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> 7	\$51,381	\$64,233	\$59,103	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> 8	\$57,213	\$71,523	\$65,812.50	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> If more than 8, add this amount for each extra person:	Add \$5,832	Add \$7,290	Add \$6,709.50	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

135% of the 2018 Federal Poverty Guidelines
*The Federal Poverty Guidelines are typically updated at the end of January.

Lifeline Program Application Form



4. Agreement

I agree, under penalty of perjury, to the following statements:

You must initial next to each statement.

Initial I (or my dependent or other person in my household) currently get benefits from the government program(s) listed on this form or my annual household income is 135% or less than the Federal Poverty Guidelines (the amount listed in the Federal Poverty Guidelines table on this form).

Initial I agree that if I move I will give my service provider my new address within 30 days.

Initial I understand that I have to tell my service provider within 30 days if I do not qualify for Lifeline anymore, including:

- 1) I, or the person in my household that qualifies, do not qualify through a government program or income anymore.
- 2) Either I or someone in my household gets more than one Lifeline benefit (including, more than one Lifeline broadband internet service, more than one Lifeline telephone service, or both Lifeline telephone and Lifeline broadband internet services).

Initial I know that my household can only get one Lifeline benefit and, to the best of my knowledge, my household is not getting more than one Lifeline benefit.

Initial I agree that my service provider can give the Lifeline Program administrator all of the information I am giving on this form. I understand that this information is meant to help run the Lifeline Program and that if I do not let them give it to the Administrator, I will not be able to get Lifeline benefits.

Initial All the answers and agreements that I provided on this form are true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Initial I know that willingly giving false or fraudulent information to get Lifeline Program benefits is punishable by law and can result in fines, jail time, de-enrollment, or being barred from the program.

Initial My service provider may have to check whether I still qualify at any time. If I need to recertify (renew) my Lifeline benefit, I understand that I have to respond by the deadline or I will be removed from the Lifeline Program and my Lifeline benefit will stop.

Initial I was truthful about whether or not I am a resident of Tribal lands, as defined in section 2 of this form.

I consent to let USAC contact me at my Lifeline phone number for important reminders and updates to my Lifeline service. Message and data rates may apply. Text STOP to end messages.

Signature	Today's Date
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Lifeline Program Application Form



Universal Service
Administrative Co.

Notice

PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT NOTICE: Section 54.410 of the Federal Communications Commission's rules requires all Lifeline subscribers to demonstrate their eligibility to receive Lifeline services. This collection of information stems from the Commission's authority under Section 254 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. §254. Using this authority, the FCC has designated USAC as the permanent Lifeline Administrator. The FCC has published rules detailing how consumers can qualify for Lifeline services and what Lifeline services they may receive (47 CFR §54.400 et seq.). The data provided in response to this information collection will be used by USAC to verify the applicant's eligibility for Lifeline services.

We have estimated that each response to this collection of information will take, on average, between 0.25 and 0.75 hours. Our estimate includes the time to read the questions, look through existing records, gather the required data, and actually complete and review the form or response. If you have any comments on this estimate, or how we can improve the collection and reduce the burden it causes you, please write to the Federal Communications Commission, OMD-PERF, Paperwork Reduction Project (3060-0819), Washington, D.C. 20554. We also will accept your comments via the Internet if you send them to PRA@fcc.gov. Please DO NOT SEND COMPLETED DATA COLLECTION FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS.

Remember – You are not required to respond to a collection of information sponsored by the Federal government, and the government may not conduct or sponsor this collection, unless it displays a currently valid Office of Management and Budget (OMB) control number. This collection has been assigned an OMB control number of 3060-0819.

The Commission is authorized under the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, to collect the information we request on this form. If we believe there may be a violation or potential violation of a statute or a Commission regulation, rule, or order, your response may be referred to the Federal, state, or local agency responsible for investigating, prosecuting, enforcing, or implementing the statute, rule, regulation, or order.

If you do not provide the information we request on this form, you will not be eligible to receive Lifeline services under the Lifeline Program rules, 47 C.F.R. §§ 54.400-54.423.

The foregoing Notice is required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, P.L. No. 104-13, 44 U.S.C. § 3501, et seq.

PRIVACY ACT STATEMENT: The Privacy Act is a law that requires the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) to explain why we are asking individuals for personal information and what we are going to do with this information after we collect it.

Authority: Section 254 of the Communications Act (47 U.S.C. § 254), as amended, 47 U.S.C. §254, authorizes the FCC to operate the Lifeline program. Using this authority, the FCC has designated USAC as the permanent Lifeline Administrator. The FCC has published rules detailing how consumers can qualify for Lifeline services and what Lifeline services they may receive (47 CFR §54.400 et seq.).

Purpose: We are collecting this personal information so we can verify that you qualify for the Lifeline program and so we can efficiently provide Lifeline services to you. We access, maintain and use your personal information in the manner described in the Lifeline System of Records Notice (SORN), FCC/WCB-1, which we have published in 82 Fed. Reg. 38686 (Aug. 15, 2017).

Routine Uses: We may share the personal information you enter into this form with other parties for specific purposes, such as: with contractors that help us operate the Lifeline program; with other federal and state government agencies that help us determine your Lifeline eligibility; with the telecommunications companies that provide you Lifeline service; and with law enforcement and other officials investigating potential violations of Lifeline rules.

A complete listing of the ways we may use your information is published in the Lifeline SORN described in the "Purpose" paragraph of this statement.

Disclosure: You are not required to provide the information we are requesting, but if you do not, you will not be eligible to receive Lifeline services under the Lifeline Program rules, 47 C.F.R. §§ 54.400-54.423.

Cross Channel- Broadband Lifeline:30 (brand refresh)

Video	AUDIO
<p><i>Currently says "Apply for Midco Lifeline Assistance Program"</i></p> <p><i>Midco logo with contact information.</i></p>	<p>At Midco, we believe being connected is important. You use your internet and phone to pay bills, complete homework and stay in touch with family and friends.</p> <p>But we know for some people, a home phone or internet connection is just not affordable.</p> <p>We're here to change that with the Lifeline assistance program.</p> <p>Qualifying households can get home phone service at a reduced monthly rate and broadband internet for less than \$10 a month.</p> <p>To find out if you qualify for Lifeline assistance, call 1.800.888.1300 or visit Midco.com/Lifeline.</p>

MIDCONTINENT COMMUNICATIONS

Affidavit

Exhibit E

State of South Dakota)
)ss
County of Minnehaha)

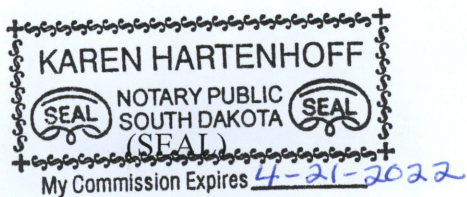
AFFIDAVIT

As an authorized representative of Midcontinent Communications, I, Patrick J Mastel hereby affirm familiarity with and an understanding of the requirements of the Federal Communications Act of 1934 as amended by the Telecommunications Act of 1996 with respect to the receipt of any federal universal service funds received as high-cost loop support, local switching support, safety net additive support, and/or safety valve support and hereby affirm that any such support amounts received by Midcontinent Communications will be used only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended consistent with 47 U.S.C. §254(e).

Midcontinent further certifies that under N.D.A.C. § 69-09-05-12.1 (5), (6), (7) and (8), and 47 CFR § 54.313, it provides equal access to long distance carriers within its service area, it is in compliance with requirements for service quality standards and can perform under emergency situations. Midcontinent further certifies that it provides consumer protection

Patrick J Mastel

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 12th day of July, 2018.



Karen Hartenhoff
Notary Public

Notary Print Name: Karen Hartenhoff
My Commission Expires: 4-21-2022