

July 1, 2019

VIA HAND DELIVERY

Mr. Darrell Nitschke
Director of Administration/Executive Secretary
North Dakota Public Service Commission
State Capitol
600 East Boulevard Avenue
Bismarck, ND 58505-0480

**Re: JOINT APPLICATIONS OF INTER-COMMUNITY TELEPHONE COMPANY,
LLC AND ABSARAKA TELEPHONE COMPANY, INC. FOR CERTIFICATE
OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY AND ETC DESIGNATION**

Dear Mr. Nitschke:

I hereby file the above-referenced applications ("Joint Applications") on behalf of Inter-Community Telephone Company, LLC ("ICTC") and Absaraka Cooperative Telephone Company, Inc. ("Absaraka"). The Joint Applications request Absaraka relinquishment of the Absaraka, North Dakota exchange and assignment of that exchange to ICTC whereby the Absaraka exchange will be incorporated into the existing ICTC Exchanges. Enclosed for filing are the original and seven (7) copies of the following:

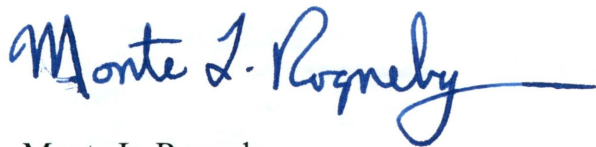
- Joint Application for Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity
- Joint Application for Eligible Telecommunications Carrier Designation
- Application for Trade Secret Protection
- Attachment 1 BEK Communications Cooperative 2018 Audited Financials (confidential – submitted under seal)
- Attachment 2 -Affidavit of Derrick F. Bulawa, ICTC
- Attachment 3 -Affidavit of Steve Monilaws, Absaraka

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- Attachment 4 –Resolution of the Board of Directors and Patrons of Absaraka Cooperative Telephone Company, Inc.
- Attachment 5 –Absaraka Cooperative Telephone Company, Inc. Special Meeting Minutes

Please direct any questions about the filing to me.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Monte L. Rogneby". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Monte L. Rogneby

On Behalf of
Inter-Community Telephone Company, LLC and
Absaraka Cooperative Telephone Company, Inc.

Enclosures

cc: Derrick Bulawa (via email)

**STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

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**INTER-COMMUNITY TELEPHONE COMPANY, LLC AND ABSARAKA
COOPERATIVE TELEPHONE CO., INC. JOINT APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATE OF
PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY**

Inter-Community Telephone Company, LLC ("ICTC"), a North Dakota corporation is located at PO Box 230, 200 East Broadway, Steele North Dakota 58482 and is a wholly-owned subsidiary of BEK Communications Cooperative ("BEK"). ICTC, under a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity issued by the Commission, is an incumbent local exchange carrier engaged in the business of providing local exchange telecommunications service, exchange access, and other telecommunications services in the following North Dakota exchanges ("ICTC Exchanges") (Certificates pursuant to Case No. PU-13-253):

Alice	Buffalo-Wheatland	Dazey
Hannaford	Hope	Nome-Fingal
Page	Sanborn-Rogers	Tower City

Absaraka Cooperative Telephone Co., Inc. ("Absaraka"), a North Dakota corporation, is located at 2894 146th Avenue SE, Absaraka, ND 58002. Absaraka, under a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity issued by the Commission is an incumbent local exchange carrier engaged in the business of providing local exchange telecommunications service, exchange access, and other telecommunications services in the following North Dakota exchange (Certificate pursuant to Case No. PU-13-247):

Joint Application for Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity

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ICTC and Absaraka submit this joint application for Commission approval pursuant to § 69-09-05-11 of the North Dakota Administrative Code for Absaraka to relinquish its Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity Number 5769 issued in Case No. PU-13-247 for the Absaraka local exchange and to assign such exchange to ICTC. Joint Application is also made for Absaraka to transfer its designated ETC study area to ICTC.

In support of §69-09-05-11(3), ICTC submits it has demonstrated its fitness and ability to provide adequate essential and nonessential telecommunications services by virtue of the provision of such services to ICTC Exchanges since 1947. ICTC's proven technical, financial and managerial abilities will be extended to Absaraka local exchange members. Absaraka's transfer of the Absaraka local exchange to ICTC will have no effect on other public utilities providing similar services as there are no other public utilities providing similar services in the Absaraka local exchange. Absaraka's willingness to assign the Absaraka local exchange to ICTC is motivated by the few members (currently 47 members over 47 access lines). There is a clear need for the enhanced telecommunications services in the Absaraka local exchange where members will have the benefit of ICTC's resources and proximity to its network.

Joint Application for Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity
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The Commission has authority under N.D.C.C. § 49-21-01.7(7) to act upon applications dealing with certificates of public convenience and necessity. Absaraka hereby applies to transfer its Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity No. 5769 for the Absaraka North Dakota exchange pursuant to N.D.A.C. § 69-09-05-11(6). ICTC hereby applies to the Commission pursuant to N.D.C.C. § 49-03.1-03 and N.D.A.C. § 69-09-05-11 for Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity for the Absaraka exchange. Applicants request the Commission grant the above requested application without a hearing if no interested party has requested a hearing on this application after receiving at least twenty (20) days' notice of opportunity to request such a hearing.

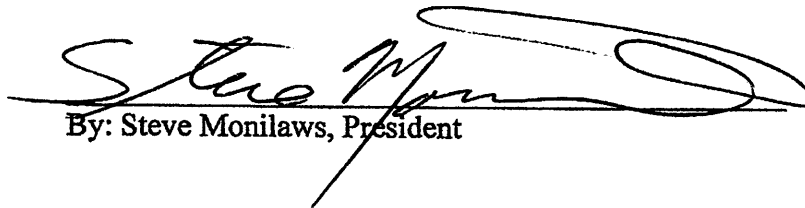
Dated this 24th day of June, 2019.

INTER-COMMUNITY TELEPHONE COMPANY, LLC



By: Derrick Bulawa, President

ABSARAKA COOPERATIVE TELEPHONE COMPANY, INC



By: Steve Monilaws, President

Joint Application for Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity
Page 3

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Dated this 24th day of June, 2019.

INTER-COMMUNITY TELEPHONE COMPANY, LLC



By: Derrick Bulawa, President

ABSARAKA COOPERATIVE TELPHONE COMPANY, INC

By: Steve Monilaws, President