# Memorandum

To: Commissioners Fedorchak, Christmann and Haugen-Hoffart

From: Victor Schock, Director of Public Utilities VS

Date: December 6, 2022

Re: Northwest Dakota Cellular of North Dakota Limited Partnership, Designated Eligible Carrier, Application, Case No. PU-22-384, North Central RSA 2 of North Dakota Limited Partnership, Designated Eligible Carrier, Application, Case No. PU-22-385, North Dakota RSA No. 3 Limited Partnership, Designated Eligible Carrier, Application, Case No. PU-22-386, Badlands Cellular of North Dakota Limited Partnership, Designated Eligible Carrier, Application, Case No. PU-22-387, and North Dakota 5 – Kidder Limited Partnership, Designated Eligible Carrier, Application, Case No. PU-22-388.

On October 10, 2022, applications for modification of Order were filed by: Northwest Dakota Cellular of North Dakota Limited Partnership; North Central RSA 2 of North Dakota Limited Partnership; North Dakota RSA No. 3 Limited Partnership; Badlands Cellular of North Dakota Limited Partnership; and North Dakota 5 – Kidder Limited Partnership, all d/b/a Verizon Wireless. Verizon Wireless seeks to eliminate Order Paragraph 8 from the Commission's original Order granting eligible telecommunication carrier status to each entity dated October 22, 2003. Order Paragraph 8 requires each entity to file quarterly reports to the Commission describing the status of its wireless E-911 implementation in North Dakota.

On February 25, 2004, the Commission adopted an Order for cases PU-1226-03-597, PU-386-03-598, PU-897-03-599, PU-1225-03-600 and PU-338-03-601. This Order designated the five companies in this proceeding as eligible telecommunications carriers for purposes of receiving federal universal service support. These five companies do business in North Dakota as Verizon Wireless.

At the time of the Order, the ability of a 911 call placed from a wireless telephone to be routed to the geographically appropriate public safety answering point was in the early stages of development and was still being implemented by most wireless carriers. In recognition of the importance of this Enhanced 911 (E-911) implementation, the Commission included a requirement in that Order for each of these five companies to file quarterly reports on the status of its E-911 implementation in North Dakota.

By approximately 2007 E-911 was fully implemented by Verizon Wireless in North Dakota. However, since Order paragraph 8 remained in effect, we have continued to receive and docket each of these reports for the past 18 years. Staff believes removal of this no longer relevant requirement would eliminate unnecessary work for both Verizon Wireless and the Commission.

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