



June 27, 2023

Victor Schock  
Director- Public Utilities Division  
Public Service Commission  
State of North Dakota  
State Capitol – 600 E Blvd, Dept 408  
Bismarck ND 58505-0480

RE: Annual Report – Telecommunications Carriers

Mr. Schock:

Please find enclosed the Mid-Rivers Telephone Cooperative, Inc. (Study Area Code 482246) Annual Report to the North Dakota Public Service Commission.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 406-485-3301.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Michael Candelaria".

Michael Candelaria  
General Manager/CEO

Enclosure

4 PU-23-34 Filed 06/27/2023 Pages: 8  
ND Admin Code Section 69-09-05-12.1 Annual Report  
Mid-Rivers Telephone Cooperative, Inc.

ANNUAL REPORT TO THE NORTH DAKOTA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

ELIGIBLE TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIER CERTIFICATION

The undersigned, on behalf of the telecommunications company named below (the Company), does hereby state and certify, as follows:

1. The Company will provide service on a timely basis to requesting customers within the Company's designated service area where the Company's network already passes the potential customer's premises, and

2. The Company will provide service, within a reasonable period of time, if the potential customer is within the Company's designated service area but outside the Company's existing network coverage, if service can be provided at a reasonable cost by:

- a. Modifying or replacing the requesting customer's equipment;
- b. Deploying a roof-mounted antenna or other equipment;
- c. Adjusting the nearest cell tower; Not Applicable
- d. Adjusting network or customer facilities;
- e. Reselling services from another carrier's facilities to provide service; Not Applicable

or

- f. Employing, leasing, or constructing an additional cell site, cell extender, repeater, or other similar equipment. Not Applicable

3. The Company is able to remain functional in emergency situations and has a reasonable amount of back-up power to ensure functionality without an external power source, is able to reroute traffic around damaged facilities, and is capable of managing traffic spikes resulting from emergency situations.

4. The Company is satisfying and will satisfy applicable consumer protection and service quality standards. (If wireless service is involved, the Company has and will comply with the Cellular Telecommunications and Internet Association's Consumer Code for wireless service.) The Company is **not** a wireless service provider.

5. If the Company is a non-incumbent local exchange carrier, it will offer a local usage plan comparable to the one offered by the incumbent local exchange carrier in the designated service area. The Company **is** an incumbent local exchange carrier.

6. The Company acknowledges that the North Dakota Public Service Commission (the Commission) may require it to provide equal access to long distance carriers in the event that no other eligible telecommunications carrier is providing equal

access within the proposed designated service area. (If wireless carriage is involved, the Company acknowledges that the Federal Communications Commission may require the Company to provide equal access to long distance carriers in the event no other eligible telecommunications carrier is providing equal access within the designated service area.) The Company is an incumbent local exchange carrier that offers equal access service.

7. The Company has met and will meet the requirements of eligible telecommunications carrier advertising. This includes:

- a. A full description of available services in the Company's official telephone directory, including the process to be used by customers to qualify for lifeline and link-up service.
- b. Advertising of the availability of universal service in media of general circulation in the Company's designated service area. Availability may be advertised in newspapers, company newsletters, company or civic internet sites, bill stuffers, direct mailings, or other means intended to convey availability throughout the designated service area.

#### **Exhibit A Information**

The following information is provided in Exhibit A attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference (The company as an incumbent local exchange carrier is submitting this information at the study area level as applied to the state of North Dakota):

1. A description of the amount of high-cost universal service support received by the Company in the prior calendar year and a description of how that support was used for the provision, maintenance, or upgrading of the Company's facilities and services. (An explanation of any changes from reports previously provided to the Commission is also included.)

2. An estimate of the amount of federal high-cost universal service support the Company anticipates receiving in the following calendar year (the calendar year following this report) and a description of how that support is projected to be used for the provision, maintenance, or upgrading of the Company's facilities and services pursuant to Section 254 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996.

3. Exhibit A also contains, for the prior calendar year and the subsequent calendar year (the calendar year following this report), identification of specific construction or upgrade projects; a description of how service will be improved by each project; the start date and completion date for each improvement; the amount of investment for cash improvement; the specific geographic area where each improvement was made or will be made; and the estimated population that will be served by each improvement.

4. Detailed information of any outage, as that term is defined in 47 C.F.R. § 4.5, of at least thirty (30) minutes in duration for each designated service area for any facilities the Company owns, operates, leases, or otherwise utilizes that potentially affect:

- a. At least ten percent (10%) of the end users served in a designated service area, or
- b. A 911 special facility, as defined in 47 C.F.R. § 4.5(e).

This report includes:

- a. The date and time of the onset of the outage,
- b. A brief description of the outage and its resolution,
- c. The particular services affected,
- d. The geographic areas affected by the outage,
- e. Steps taken to prevent a similar outage in the future, and
- f. The number of customers affected.


(If applicable, a copy of the FCC outage report that includes this information may be attached.)

5. The number of requests for service from potential customers within the designated service area that were unfilled during the past year. A detail of how the Company attempted to provide service to those potential customers is also included.

6. The number of complaints per thousand handsets or lines.

I hereby certify that the above information is true and correct and is submitted on behalf of the Company named below. The information is submitted in the year 2023.

Mid-Rivers Telephone Cooperative, Inc. (Study Area Code 482246)

By:   
\_\_\_\_\_  
Michael Candelaria  
General Manager/CEO

**EXHIBIT A**

1. The amount of high-cost universal support the Company received in the prior calendar year and estimate of the amount of high-cost universal support it anticipates receiving in the next calendar year (the calendar year following the date of this report) are listed below:

(All information is submitted at the study area level of the ILEC as applied to the State of North Dakota) The Company only serves 4 customers in the State of North Dakota from central office facilities located in Montana.

**Prior CY Federal Universal Service Receipts:** None

**Estimated Next CY 2024 Federal Universal Service Receipts:** None

The changes, if any, from reports previously filed with the Commission are, as follows:

(None). \_\_\_\_\_

**Use of Prior Year's Support.** Not Applicable.

Specific construction or upgrade projects are listed, as follows:

(All information is submitted at the study area level of the ILEC as applied to the State of North Dakota) The Company only serves 4 customers in the State of North Dakota from central office facilities located in Montana.

Construction or Upgrade Project Name	Start Date	Completion Date	Amount of Investment	Geographic Area of Improvement	Estimated Population Served by Improvement	Description of How Service Will Be Improved
Not Applicable						





