

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Consolidated Communications Networks, Inc.
Designated Eligible Carrier Expansion
Application

Case No. PU-24-168

AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE BY CERTIFIED MAIL

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
COUNTY OF BURLEIGH

Geralyn R. Schmaltz deposes and says that:

she is over the age of 18 years and not a party to this action and, on the **24th day of May 2024**, she deposited in the United States Mail, at Bismarck, North Dakota, **two** envelopes with certified postage, return receipt requested, fully prepaid, securely sealed and containing a photocopy of:

- **Notice of Opportunity for Hearing**

The envelopes were addressed as follows:

Jackie McCarthy
State Policy Lead
JSI

6404 Ivy Lane, Suite 700
Greenbelt, MD 20770

Cert. No. 9589 0710 5270 0129 6583 18

Bryan W. Personne

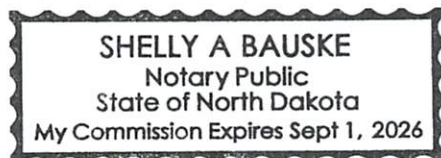
Chief Executive Officer/General Manager
Consolidated Communications Networks, Inc.
PO Box 1408

Dickinson, ND 58602-1408

Cert. No. 9589 0710 5270 0129 6583 25

Each address shown is the respective addressee's last reasonably ascertainable post office address.

Subscribed and sworn to before me
this **24th day of May 2024**.



Shelly A Bauske

Notary Public

SEAL

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NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY FOR HEARING

On April 22, 2024, Consolidated Communications Networks, Inc. (CCN) filed, as a non-incumbent local exchange carrier, an application for designation as an eligible telecommunications carrier (ETC) for the purpose of receiving federal universal service support for low-income consumers under 47 CFR Part 54 Subpart E. Such designation is also known as Lifeline-only ETC designation. CCN proposes to provide Lifeline universal services to qualifying low-income North Dakota customers by using its own facilities.

The issues to be considered in this proceeding are:

1. Is the applicant qualified under the Telecommunications Act of 1996, Section 214(e) for designation as an ETC eligible to receive federal universal service funding?
2. What ETC universal service support area should be designated?
3. Is designation of the applicant as an ETC in the public interest?

Those interested are invited to comment on the application in writing. Persons desiring a hearing must file a written request identifying their interest in the proceeding and the reasons for requesting a hearing. **Comments and requests for hearings must be received by July 8, 2024.** If deemed appropriate, the Commission can determine the matter without a formal hearing.

For more information contact the Public Service Commission, State Capitol, Bismarck, North Dakota 58505, 701-328-2400; or Relay North Dakota 1-800-366-6888 TTY. If you require any auxiliary aids or services, such as readers, signers, or Braille materials please notify the Commission.

Issued: May 23, 2024

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION


Sheri Haugen-Hoffart
Commissioner


Randy Christmann
Chair


Julie Fedorchak
Commissioner