

**STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA  
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

**Nemont Telephone/Missouri Valley/Northwest Comm  
Multiple Exchanges  
Public Convenience & Necessity**

**Case No. PU-24-322**

**Nemont Telephone/Missouri Valley/Northwest Comm  
Designated Eligible Carrier  
Application**

**Case No. PU-24-323**

**NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY FOR CONSOLIDATED HEARING**

On August 26, 2024, Nemont Telephone Cooperative, Inc. (NTC), Missouri Valley Communications, Inc. (MVC), and Northwest Communications Cooperative, Inc. (NCC) filed a joint application requesting authorization to provide local exchange telecommunications services in the areas currently known as the Ambrose exchange, Fortuna exchange, East Westby exchange, and the Williston exchange in North Dakota. The Ambrose, Fortuna, and East Westby exchanges are currently served by NTC and the Williston exchange is currently served by MVC, Case No. PU-24-322.

The issues to be considered in Case No. PU-24-322 are:

1. Fitness and ability of NCC to provide local exchange telecommunications services.
2. Adequacy of NCC's proposed telecommunications services.
3. Technical, financial and managerial ability of NCC to provide telecommunications services.
4. Whether, upon granting a certificate of public convenience and necessity to NCC to provide local exchange telecommunication services in the areas currently known as the Ambrose, Fortuna and East Westby exchanges, NTC's certificates of public convenience and necessity should be relinquished and in the area known as the Williston exchange if MVC's certificate of public convenience and necessity should be relinquished?

Also on August 26, 2024, NTC, MVC, and NCC filed a joint application requesting that NCC be designated as an essential telecommunications carrier (ETC) in the Ambrose, Fortuna, East Westby, and Williston exchange areas, Case No. PU-24-323.

The issues to be considered in Case No. PU-24-323 are:

1. Qualification of the applicant under the Telecommunications Act of 1996, Section 214(e) for designation as an ETC eligible to receive federal universal service funding.

2. The ETC universal service support area to be designated.
3. Whether it is in the public interest to designate NCC as an ETC in the Ambrose, Fortuna, East Westby, and Williston local exchange areas for the purposes of receiving universal service support?
4. Whether, upon designation of NCC as an ETC for the Ambrose, Fortuna, East Westby and Williston exchanges, NTC's designation as an ETC for the Ambrose, Fortuna and East Westby exchanges and MVC's designation as an ETC for the Williston exchange should be relinquished?

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 October 25, 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: September 11, 2024

**PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**



**Sheri Haugen-Hoffart**  
Commissioner



**Randy Christmann**  
Chair



**Julie Fedorchak**  
Commissioner