

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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

Case No. PU-24-322

Nemont Telephone/Missouri Valley/Northwest Com
Designated Eligible Carrier
Application

Case No. PU-24-323

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 **12th day of September 2024**, she deposited in the United States Mail, at Bismarck, North Dakota, **three** envelopes with certified postage, return receipt requested, fully prepaid, securely sealed and containing a photocopy of:

- **Notice of Opportunity for Consolidated Hearing**

The envelopes were addressed as follows:

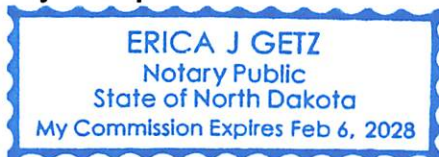
John Kuykendall
Regulatory Advisor
JSI
6404 Ivy Lane, Suite 700
Greenbelt, MD 20770
Cert. No. 9589 0710 5270 1582 7556 44

Jeremy Becker
CEO/General Manager
Northwest Communications Cooperative, Inc.
PO Box 38
Ray, ND 58849
Cert. No. 9589 0710 5270 1582 7556 51

Mike Kilgore - CEO
Nemont Telephone Cooperative
PO Box 600
Scobey, MT 59263
Cert No. 9589 0710 5270 1582 7556 68

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

Subscribed and sworn to before me
this **12th day of September 2024**.



SEAL

Erica J Getz

Notary Public

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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, NCC'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