

# Pearce Durick PLLC

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

314 East Thayer Avenue ■ P.O. Box 400 ■ Bismarck, North Dakota 58502  
T 701.223.2890 ■ F 701.223.7865 ■ www.pearce-durick.com

**ZACHARY E. PELHAM**

zep@pearce-durick.com

June 30, 2025

## **Hand Delivered**

Steven Kahl  
Executive Director  
ND Public Service Commission  
Capitol  
600 E. Boulevard, Twelfth Floor  
Bismarck, ND 58505

RE: Midcontinent Communications Annual ETC Certification Filing and Submittal  
Pursuant to N.D.A.C. §69-09-05-12.1

Dear Mr. Kahl:

In a separate cover letter, Midcontinent's Annual ETC Certification Filing and Submittal Pursuant to N.D.A.C. §69-09-05-12.1 along with Exhibits C, D, and E were provided.

Enclosed with this letter please find separately bound and placed in a sealed envelope labeled "PROTECTED INFORMATION – PRIVATE," one copy of the Confidential Exhibits A and B referenced in the document.

Also enclosed please find an Application Requesting trade Secret Protection pursuant to N.D.A.C. Ch. 69-02-09.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

PEARCE DURICK, PLLC



ZACHARY E. PELHAM

Counsel to Midcontinent Communications

ZEP/df  
Enclosures



the information would disadvantage Midcontinent as the information reflects specifics regarding the Company's business activities.

**3. An Explanation of Why the Information is Not Readily Available by Proper Means to Other Parties.**

The information at issue is propriety to Midcontinent is available only to those employees and representatives of Midcontinent who have a need to know the information to perform their duties and responsibilities. Midcontinent does not disclose this information outside the company except pursuant to the terms of strict agreements or orders to maintain the confidentiality of the information.

**4. The General Description of the Persons or Entities that Would Obtain Economic Value from Disclosure or Use of the Information.**

Competitors or potential competitors of Midcontinent would obtain economic value from disclosure or use of the information.

**5. Specific Description of Known Competitors or Competitor's Goods and Services that are Pertinent to the Information.**

Competitors and potential competitors of Midcontinent in North Dakota includes CenturyLink, Consolidated Telecom, Dakota Central Telecom I, Missouri Valley Communications, North Dakota Telephone Company, Turtle Mountain Communications, United Telephone Mutual Aid Corporation, and AT&T, and any other provider of telecommunications services in North Dakota or any of the other states in which Midcontinent operates.


**6. Description of the Efforts Used to Maintain the Secrecy of the Information.**

See No. 3 above.

Dated this 30<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2025.

Respectfully Submitted,

PEARCE DURICK PLLC

BY: 

---

ZACHARY E. PELHAM, ND#05904

zep@pearce-durick.com

314 E. Thayer Avenue

P.O. Box 400

Bismarck, ND 58502-0400

(701) 223-2890

*Individually and as a Member of the Firm  
Attorneys for Midcontinent Communications*