

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA  
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

BEK Communications Cooperative  
Valley City Exchange  
Public Convenience & Necessity

Case No. PU-25-285

BEK Communications Cooperative  
Designated Eligible Carrier  
Application

Case No. PU-25-286

**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 **20th day of November 2025**, 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 Consolidated Hearing**

The envelopes were addressed as follows:

Benjamin H. Dickens, JR.  
Salvatore Taillerfer, JR.  
Counsel to BEK Communications Coop.  
Blooston, Mordkosfsky, Dickens & Prendergast, LLP  
2120 L Street, NW, Suite 825  
Washington, DC 20037  
**Cert. No. 9589 0710 5270 1777 9872 01**

Derrick Bulawa  
CEO  
BEK Communications Cooperative  
923 E Interstate Avenue  
Bismarck, ND 58503  
**Cert. No. 9589 0710 5270 1777 9872 18**

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

Subscribed and sworn to before me  
this **20th day of November 2025**.



  
Erica J. Getz  
Notary Public  
6 PU-25-285 Filed 11/20/2025 Pages: 3  
Affidavit of Service by Certified Mail - Notice of Opportunity for Consolidated Hearing  
Public Service Commission  
6 PU-25-286 Filed 11/20/2025 Pages: 3  
Affidavit of Service by Certified Mail - Notice of Opportunity for Consolidated Hearing  
Public Service Commission

**SEAL**

**STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA  
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

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**NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY FOR CONSOLIDATED HEARING**

On November 4, 2025, BEK Communications Cooperative (BEK) filed an application requesting authorization to provide local exchange telecommunications services as the incumbent local exchange carrier in the area currently known as the Valley City exchange in North Dakota. The Valley City exchange is currently served by CenturyLink Communications, LLC (CenturyLink).

The issues to be considered in Case No. PU-25-285 are:

1. Fitness and ability of BEK to provide local exchange telecommunications services.
2. Adequacy of BEK's proposed telecommunications services.
3. Technical, financial and managerial ability of BEK to provide telecommunications services.
4. Whether, upon granting a certificate of public convenience and necessity to BEK to provide local exchange telecommunication services in the area currently known as the Valley City exchange, CenturyLink's certificate of public convenience and necessity should be relinquished or transferred to competitive local exchange service.

Also on November 4, 2025, BEK filed an application requesting that BEK be designated as an eligible telecommunications carrier (ETC) in the Valley City exchange area, Case No. PU-25-286.

The issues to be considered in Case No. PU-25-286 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 the designated.

3. Whether it is in the public interest to designate BEK as an ETC in the Valley City local exchange area for the purposes of receiving universal service support.
4. Whether, upon designation of BEK as an ETC for the Valley City exchange, CenturyLink's designation as an ETC for the Valley City exchange should be relinquished or transferred to competitive local exchange service.

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 January 2, 2026.** 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: November 19, 2025  
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION



Sheri Haugen-Hoffart Randy Christmann Jill Kringstad  
Sheri Haugen-Hoffart Randy Christmann Jill Kringstad  
Commissioner Chair Commissioner