

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION BY MIDCONTINENT COMMUNICATIONS FOR ELIGIBLE TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIER DESIGNATION WITHIN CERTAIN ADDITIONAL QWEST SERVICE AREAS	TC 10- PETITION
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Pursuant to ARSD § 20:10:32:43, Midcontinent Communications (“Midcontinent”) files this Petition seeking designation as an eligible telecommunications carrier in the following additional QWEST service areas: Meckling, Summerset, Vermillion, Whitewood, and Yankton. For its Petition, Midcontinent states:

1. On January 8, 2004, Midcontinent filed its original petition for designation as an eligible telecommunications carrier (ETC) with the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (“Commission”), Docket No. TC04-003.

2. In its original petition, Midcontinent sought ETC designation in all U S WEST (n/k/a QWEST) service areas except Arlington, Chamberlain, Colman, DeSmet, Elk Point, Flandreau, Hill City, Lake Preston, Morristown, Vermillion, Volga-Bruce, Whitewood, Yankton, North Sioux City, and North Valentine.

3. On June 29, 2004, the Commission granted Midcontinent Competitive ETC status in the following QWEST service areas:

Aberdeen	Huron	Redfield
Bath	Lead	Renner
Belle Fourche	Madison	St. Lawrence
Big Stone City	McIntosh	Sioux Falls
Black Hawk	Milbank	Spearfish
Box Elder	Miller	Sturgis
Canton	Mina	Tea
Central City	Mitchell	Timber Lake
Deadwood	Piedmont	Warner
Ellsworth AFB	Pierre	Watertown

Ft. Pierre
Harrisburg

Rapid City
Rapid Valley

West Ortonville

4. Since receiving its designation as an ETC, Midcontinent has begun providing telephone service in the QWEST service areas of Meckling, Summerset, Vermillion, Whitewood, and Yankton. The Meckling, Vermillion, and Yankton areas were acquired by Midcontinent from Mediacom in 2007. Midcontinent began providing service to Whitewood in 2006. Finally, the community of Summerset, located between Black Hawk and Piedmont, incorporated as city in 2005. Despite attempts to dissolve its incorporation, Summerset remains an incorporated city.

5. The requested designation satisfies the requirements of 47 CFR § 54.201. Midcontinent provides all of the services enumerated in 47 CFR § 54.101(a), in the QWEST service areas of Meckling, Summerset, Vermillion, Whitewood, and Yankton, including (a) voice grade access to the public switched network; (b) local usage; (c) dual tone multi-frequency signaling or its functional equivalent; (d) single party service or its functional equivalent; (e) access to emergency services; (f) access to operator services; (g) access to interexchange service; (h) access to directory assistance; and (i) toll limitation for qualifying low-income consumers.

6. Midcontinent makes available Lifeline and Link-Up services to consumers that qualify for low-income assistance and will continue to advertise the availability of its local exchange services in media of general distribution. Booklets showing all products and prices are available to consumers and can be found on the Midcontinent website as well.

7. Midcontinent Communications is a general partnership.

8. Midcontinent's designated contact person is Mary Lohnes, Regulatory Affairs Manager. Ms. Lohnes can be reached at (605) 357-5459. Midcontinent's address is: 3901 North Louise Avenue, Sioux Falls, SD 57107. The general number for Midcontinent is (800)

888-1300. Midcontinent's fax number is (605) 339-4419. The general email address for Midcontinent is mccomm@midco.net.

9. The proposed effective date of the ETC designation is upon approval of the Commission.

10. Pursuant to the requirements of ARSD §§ 20:10:32:43.01 through 20:10:32:43.06, Midcontinent incorporates by reference its annual ETC Certification Filing dated May 27, 2010, which was approved by the Commission in an Order Granting Certification dated August 12, 2010. Docket No. TC 10-069. Each of the certifications made by Midcontinent in Docket No. TC 10-069 is equally applicable in the service territories of Meckling, Summerset, Vermillion, Whitewood, and Yankton. Midcontinent incorporates and reaffirms those certifications as if fully set forth herein. Midcontinent further incorporates each of the attachments to its May 27, 2010, filing as if fully set forth herein.

11. As a supplement to the annual certification filing referenced in paragraph 10 above, attached as Confidential Exhibit 1 is the two-year plan for the service areas of Meckling, Summerset, Vermillion, Whitewood, and Yankton as required by ARSD § 20:10:32:43.02.

12. Designation of Midcontinent as a Competitive ETC in service areas of Meckling, Summerset, Vermillion, Whitewood, and Yankton is in the public interest, as required by ARSD § 20:10:32:43.07. Midcontinent's provision of service in these areas provides consumers with increased choices and competitive products and services. Midcontinent provides consumers high quality, fully supported services within a reasonable time frame. As can be seen in the results of Midcontinent's designation as a Competitive ETC in other QWEST areas, this designation will not have a detrimental impact on either the universal service fund or on the incumbent local exchange carrier's universal service capabilities.

13. Midcontinent certifies that the federal universal service support it receives shall be used only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended, as required by ARSD § 20:10:32:51.

14. Pursuant to the requirements of ARSD § 20:10:32:46, a copy of this petition is being provided to all other telecommunications companies serving as eligible telecommunications carriers in the relevant service areas.

WHEREFORE, Midcontinent respectfully requests that the Commission grant the Petition and approve eligible telecommunications carrier status for Midcontinent in the additional QWEST service areas of Meckling, Summerset, Vermillion, Whitewood, and Yankton.

Dated this 11th day of November, 2010

DAVENPORT EVANS HURWITZ
& SMITH, LLP

By: 

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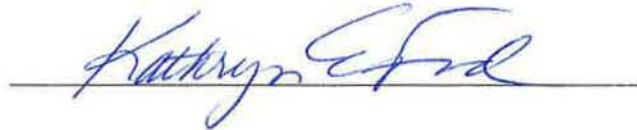
CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned, one of the attorneys for Midcontinent Communications, hereby certifies that a true and correct copy of the foregoing Petition, (excluding the confidential attachment), was served by United States mail, first class postage thereon paid, upon the following:

Knology of the Plains, Inc.
Mr. Bruce Schoonover
Director, Regulatory
1241 O.G. Skinner Drive
West Point, GA 31833

Qwest
Mr. Wayne Johnson
925 High Street, 9 South of 9
Des Moines, IA 50309

Dated this 14th day of November, 2010

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Kathryn E. Ford", is written over a horizontal line.