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March 8, 2017

Ms. Patty Van Gerpen, Executive Director  
South Dakota Public Utilities Commission  
500 East Capitol Avenue  
State Capitol Building  
Pierre, South Dakota 57501

**RE: Docket TC17-005  
In the Matter of the Application of Midcontinent Communications for an  
Amended COA to Provide Local Exchange Service in Ipswich**

Dear Ms. Van Gerpen:

Regarding the above-referenced docket, Midco has received and reviewed the Petition to Intervene filed by Mr. Coit on behalf of the SDTA. I have spoken to Mr. Coit concerning the Petition. I wish to advise the Commission ahead of next Tuesday's meeting that Midco will not oppose the SDTA's Petition to Intervene. There is one caveat. That is, in the very remote possibility this would go to hearing, Midco in all likelihood would be filing a petition with the Commission for some type of formal protective order. Although neither party believes that would ever come to fruition, Midco wanted the Commission to be aware of this potential issue.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Patrick J. Mastel  
Associate General Counsel  
Midcontinent Communications

c: Service List