



*Via E-Filing*

July 9, 2021

Ms. Patricia Van Gerpen, Executive Director  
South Dakota Public Utilities Commission  
State Capitol Building, 1st Floor  
500 East Capitol Avenue  
Pierre, South Dakota 57501

Dear Ms. Van Gerpen:

Enclosed for submission to the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission is the following revised tariff pages for incorporation into Midcontinent Communications' ("Midcontinent") Tariff "Switched Access Services Within the State of South Dakota:"

8<sup>th</sup> Revised Page 3  
1<sup>st</sup> Revised Page 7  
5<sup>th</sup> Revised Page 44  
6<sup>th</sup> Revised Page 44.1

In this filing, Midcontinent implements 8YY access service reductions required by the Federal Communications Commission's ("FCC") October 9, 2020 Report and Order in WC Docket No. 18-156 (FCC 20-143). This Order mandated the following rate caps for the July 2021 step down of incumbent local exchange carriers' ("ILECs") toll-free originating access service rates (which also capped corresponding competitive local exchange carriers' rates through the FCC benchmarking rules):

- Intrastate End Office access service rates are capped at the interstate End Office rates.
- A new Joint Tandem Switched Transport Access Service rate element for interstate and intrastate Toll Free Calls (capped at \$0.001) replaces tandem switching and tandem transmission charges for 8YY traffic.
- 800 database query charges are capped at \$0.004248.

To comply with these FCC 8YY rules, Midcontinent bifurcates its originating access rates between 8YY and Non-8YY traffic, and reduces its intrastate 8YY end office and 8YY tandem switched transport access service rates to the levels of its interstate rates. Per FCC rules, Midcontinent Communications is also filing its revisions to Tariff FCC No. 1, where it bifurcates its originating access rates between 8YY and Non-8YY traffic, and reduces its 8YY tandem switched transport access service rates to the levels of competing ILECs' rates.

The filing date of this tariff is July 9, 2021, with an effective date of July 31, 2021.

Please contact me with any questions regarding this filing.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nancy A. Vogel". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'N' and a clear 'V'.

Nancy Vogel  
Director of Regulatory Finance  
Midcontinent Communications  
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