

**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 RURAL)
SERVICE AREAS)**

**ORDER GRANTING
REQUEST TO WITHDRAW
APPLICATION**

TC16-044

On July 6, 2016, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received an application from Midcontinent Communications (Midco) for Eligible Telecommunications Carrier Designation within Certain Rural Service Areas. Midco seeks Eligible Telecommunications Carrier (ETC) status in the service areas of Baltic, Crooks, Gayville, Lennox, Waubay, Webster, Wolsey, Bowdle, Roscoe, Roslyn, Selby, and Java. Midco holds a certificate of authority to provide telecommunications service in those service areas. Midco has been designated as an ETC in certain non-rural areas of South Dakota.

On July 7, 2016, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of July 22, 2016, to interested individuals and entities. On July 21, 2016, petitions to intervene were timely filed by the South Dakota Telecommunications Association and Venture Communications Cooperative. On July 22, 2016, petitions to intervene were timely filed by Alliance Communications Cooperative, Inc., Interstate Telecommunications Cooperative, Inc., and Santel Communications Cooperative, Inc.. On July 26, 2016, Midco filed a request to withdraw its Application.

At its August 2, 2016 meeting, the Commission considered this matter. The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL chapters 1-26 and 49-31. The Commission voted unanimously to grant the request to withdraw the application. It is therefore

ORDERED, that Midco's request to withdraw the Application for Eligible Telecommunications Carrier Designation within Certain Rural Exchanges is granted.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 5th day of August, 2016.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE
The undersigned hereby certifies that this document has been served today upon all parties of record in this docket, as listed on the docket service list, electronically or by mail.
By: <u>Adam DeHueck</u>
Date: <u>8/5/16</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Chris Nelson
CHRIS NELSON, Chairman

Kristie Fiegen
KRISTIE FIEGEN, Commissioner

Gary Hanson
GARY HANSON, Commissioner