

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION  
OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA**

<b>IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING BY )</b>	<b>ORDER APPROVING TARIFF</b>
<b>MIDCONTINENT COMMUNICATIONS FOR )</b>	<b>REVISIONS</b>
<b>APPROVAL OF REVISIONS TO ITS ACCESS )</b>	
<b>SERVICES TARIFF )</b>	<b>TC13-048</b>

On May 31, 2013, the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a filing from Midcontinent Communications (Midcontinent) for approval of revisions to its intrastate switched access services tariff. The purpose of this filing is to implement the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC) intercarrier compensation reforms as set forth in its Connect America Fund Order (Order), released November 18, 2011.<sup>1</sup> As part of its Order, the FCC adopted "bill-and-keep as the default methodology" and "end state" for all intercarrier compensation traffic, including intrastate traffic. The FCC further adopted a defined "transition path" for moving to this end state, requiring Competitive Local Exchange Carrier access reciprocal compensation rates for switched exchange access that are subject to the order to be no higher than the access reciprocal compensation rates charged by the competing Incumbent Local Exchange Carrier beginning July 1, 2013. The filing also revises language in the tariff on VoIP-PSTN traffic, incorporating modifications to the FCC rules that were contained in the Second Order on Reconsideration, released April 25, 2012.<sup>2</sup>

On June 6, 2013, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of June 21, 2013, to interested individuals and entities. No parties sought intervention. On June 26, 2013 Midcontinent filed a Rate Comparison Table to further support the requested rate changes.

Tariff Pages revised by this filing are as follows:

2 <sup>nd</sup> Revised Page No. 3	Canceling 1 <sup>st</sup> Revised Page No. 3
2 <sup>nd</sup> Revised Page No. 44	Canceling 1 <sup>st</sup> Revised Page No. 44
1 <sup>st</sup> Revised Page No. 44.1	Canceling Original Page No. 44.1
1 <sup>st</sup> Revised Page No. 45	Canceling Original Page No. 45

At its regularly scheduled meeting of July 11, 2013, the Commission considered this matter. The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapter 49-31. The Commission questioned new language added to the 1<sup>st</sup> Revised Page No. 45 and requested that Midcontinent revise the last sentence on that page so that it accurately matches the FCC's Second Order on Reconsideration. The Commission voted unanimously to approve the requested revisions to Midcontinent's switched access services tariff with the amendment to 1<sup>st</sup> Revised Page No. 45 as discussed. It is therefore

ORDERED, that the Commission approves the above-referenced revisions to Midcontinent's switched access services tariff.

<sup>1</sup> *In the Matter of Connect America Fund et al.*, WC Docket Nos. 10-90, et al., Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, FCC 11-161 (rel. November 18, 2011).

<sup>2</sup> *In the Matter of Connect America Fund et al.*, WC Docket Nos. 10-90, et al., Second Order on Reconsideration, FCC 12-47 (rel. April 25, 2012).

ORDERED, that the above mentioned tariff revisions are approved and are effective on and after date July 1, 2013, subject to the Commission receiving an amended 1<sup>st</sup> Revised Page No. 45.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 16<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2013.

**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.

By: Tina Douglas

Date: 7/16/13

(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Gary Hanson  
GARY HANSON, Chairman

Chris Nelson  
CHRIS NELSON, Commissioner

Kristie Fiegen  
KRISTIE FIEGEN, Commissioner