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February 9, 2009

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VIA E-MAIL AND FIRST CLASS MAIL

Richard D. Coit
Executive Director and General Counsel
South Dakota Telecommunications Association
320 East Capitol Avenue
P.O. Box 57
Pierre, South Dakota 57501

RE: **MIDCONTINENT COMMUNICATIONS' APPLICATION FOR SERVICE IN
THE CROOKS AND BALTIC EXCHANGES OF ALLIANCE**
Docket No: TC08-105
Our file: 0053

Dear Rich:

On Monday I received "Joint Discovery Requests to Midcontinent Communications" from Meredith Moore, Counsel for Alliance Communications. The Discovery Requests were so identified in the e-mail transmittal, and the signature blocks indicate they are submitted jointly. I am enclosing a copy of your letter of October 6, 2008, to the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission which was written with my permission and agreement concerning the conditions of SDTA's appearance in this docket. As you know, a primary condition of Midcontinent's agreement that SDTA could intervene in the docket was that "SDTA will not participate in or be compelled to produce discovery but will receive copies of all discovery except confidential material." This same condition appears in the Commission order granting intervention dated October 21, 2008.

In order to avoid the necessity of a motion to the Commission to revoke SDTA's intervention, I would appreciate it if SDTA

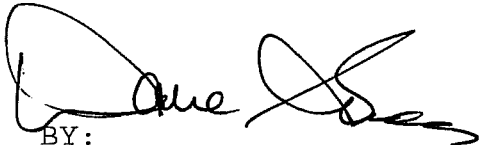
Richard D. Coit
February 11, 2009
Page 2

would simply voluntarily withdraw from the docket. As a part of SDTA's withdrawal from the docket, I would also appreciate it if you would identify those portions of the data requests which were included in behalf of SDTA.

As you know, SDTA does not qualify for intervenor status in this docket. It does not, and cannot because it is simply a trade association, meet the Commission's criteria that a petitioner seeking intervention ". . . is specifically deemed by statute to be interested in the matter involved, . . . is specifically declared by statute to be an interested party to the proceeding, . . . or that by the outcome of the proceeding the petitioner will be bound or affected either favorably or adversely with respect to an interest peculiar to the petitioner as distinguished from an interest common to the public or the taxpayers in general." ARSD 20:10:01:15.05.

Yours truly,

MAY, ADAM, GERDES & THOMPSON LLP


BY:

DAG:mw

Enclosure

Via e-mail

cc/enc: Patty Van Gerpen, Executive Secretary
Service List
Mary Lohnes
Nancy Vogel



South Dakota Telecommunications Association

South Dakota Telecommunications Association
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605/224/7629 ■ Fax 605/224/1637 ■ www.sdtaonline.com

October 6, 2008

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

RE: Docket TC08-105, Application of Midcontinent Communications to Provide Local Exchange Services in a Rural Service Area

Dear Ms. Van Gerpen:

This letter is in reply to the filing of Midcontinent Communications (Midco) dated September 22nd which opposes SDTA's Petition to Intervene filed in the above referenced Docket.

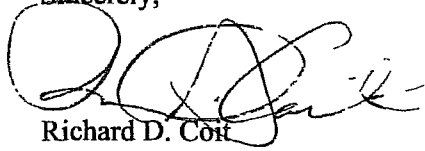
Since the filing of Midco's opposition, SDTA has had correspondence with Midco's counsel and, while not agreeing with Midco's claim that SDTA does not meet the threshold requirements for obtaining party status in this matter, SDTA is willing to accept the following conditions/restrictions on its participation:

- SDTA will not participate in or be compelled to produce discovery but will receive copies of all discovery except confidential material. Confidential material will be provided only in special circumstances to be decided by the parties on an ad hoc basis.
- SDTA will follow Alliance counsel in argument and examination of witnesses.
- SDTA will not have its own witness or witnesses at the hearing.
- SDTA will not cross examine Alliance witnesses, and cross examination of Midco witnesses will not be duplicative of matters already addressed by Alliance counsel.
- SDTA may attend and participate in all hearings and motions on procedural and substantive matters, with witness examination, argument and briefing restricted to issues that affect the interests of the SDTA membership as a whole.
- The acceptance of these restrictions by SDTA may not be interpreted as any concession by SDTA concerning the challenge by Midco of SDTA's interest in these proceedings or legal basis to request intervention in the proceeding.

It is SDTA's understanding that Midco counsel is agreeable to the above conditions/restrictions and based on such agreement will withdraw its opposition to SDTA's Petition to Intervene.

Thank you for your assistance in filing and distributing copies of this letter

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard D. Coit". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "R" and "C".

Richard D. Coit
SDTA Executive Director and General Counsel

CC: Karen Cremer
David A. Gerdes
Ryan J. Taylor
Meredith A. Moore