



*Via E-Filing*

July 17, 2018

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:"

7<sup>th</sup> Revised Page 3

4<sup>rd</sup> Revised Page 44

In this filing, Midcontinent complies with the July 1, 2018 step down requirement set forth by the Federal Communications Commission's ("FCC") rule 47 C.F.R. § 51.911(c), Access reciprocal compensation rates for competitive LECs, promulgated under the FCC USF/ICC Transformation Order in WC Docket Nos. 10-90, etc., FCC No. 11-161 (released on November 18, 2011). This rule states in sub-part (c) that "Beginning July 1, 2013... all Competitive Local Exchange Carrier Access Reciprocal compensation rates for switched exchange access services subject to this subpart [Transitional Access Service Pricing including intrastate terminating rates] shall be no higher than the Access Reciprocal Compensation rates charged by the competing incumbent local exchange carrier, in accordance with the same procedures specified in § 61.26 of this chapter." Rule 47 C.F.R. § 61.26 states in sub-part (c) that "If an ILEC to which a CLEC benchmarks its rates, pursuant to this section, lowers the rate to which a CLEC benchmarks, the CLEC must revise its rates to the lower level within 15 days of the effective date of the lowered ILEC rate."

To comply with this FCC rule, Midcontinent now reduces its terminating intrastate tandem switching access rates to the levels of the corresponding dominant incumbent local exchange carrier's (CenturyLink Qwest's) rates.

The filing date of this tariff is July 18, 2018, with an effective date of August 2, 2018 (which is also the effective date of Midcontinent's reductions in its terminating interstate rates).

Please contact me with any questions regarding this filing.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nancy A. Vogel".

Nancy Vogel  
Director of Regulatory Finance

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