

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA

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IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING FOR
APPROVAL OF AN INTERCONNECTION
AGREEMENT BETWEEN MIDCONTINENT
COMMUNICATIONS AND INTERSTATE
TELECOMMUNICATIONS COOPERATIVE,
INC.

TC03-192

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Transcript of Proceedings
July 20, 2004

ORIGINAL

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BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION,
ROBERT SAHR, CHAIRMAN
GARY HANSON, VICE CHAIRMAN
JIM BURG, COMMISSIONER (by telephone)

COMMISSION STAFF
Rolayne Ailts Wiest
John Smith
Karen Cremer
Greg Rislov
Harlan Best
Dave Jacobson
Michele Farris
Tina Douglas
Heather Forney

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AUG 03 2004

**SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC
UTILITIES COMMISSION**

APPEARANCES

Darla Pollman Rogers

Reported By Cheri McComsey Wittler, RPR, CRR

PRECISION REPORTING
L I M I T E D

1 APPEARANCES BY TELEPHONE

- 2 Colleen Sevold
- 3 Melissa Thompson
- 4 Marv Sorenson
- 5 Gene Harrison
- 6 Talbot Wieczorek
- 7 Tom Kleve
- 8 Joe Schuele
- 9 Mary Lohnes
- 10 James Cremer
- 11 Tammy Aberle

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 9 TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS, held in the
 10 above-entitled matter, at the South Dakota State
 11 Capitol, Room 412, 500 East Capitol Avenue, Pierre,
 12 South Dakota, on the 20th day of July 2004, commencing
 13 at 9:30 a.m.

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1 CHAIRMAN SAHR: TC03-192, and I will
2 ask that we go on the record for the next three
3 Dockets, please, Cheri, which is In the Matter of
4 the Filing For approval of an Interconnection
5 Agreement Between Midcontinent Communications and
6 Interstate Telecommunications Cooperative, Inc.

7 And the question today is if a settlement has
8 been reached, shall the Commission dismiss and
9 close the docket.

10 Ms. Wiest, are you taking this one?

11 MS. WIEST: I was just trying to see
12 who was on.

13 Mary Lohnes?

14 MS. LOHNES: Yes. I'm here.

15 CHAIRMAN SAHR: So the parties we
16 have to this are Midcontinent; right, and ITC?

17 MS. WIEST: Right. Ms. Rogers.

18 CHAIRMAN SAHR: Does it affect any
19 other party?

20 MS. WIEST: No.

21 CHAIRMAN SAHR: Ms. Rogers, if you
22 want to go ahead and, Ms. Lohnes, Darla Rogers is
23 here in Pierre and she's at the mike and I believe
24 she's representing ITC.

25 MS. ROGERS: That's correct. The

1 status of this, and, Mary, you can correct me if
2 you disagree, but I believe the status is that the
3 parties have reached an agreement in all aspects
4 except that there's still a little bit of
5 negotiation with regard to the interim number
6 portability and the possible rates involved in
7 that.

8 We are still negotiating on that, but the way
9 the Settlement Agreement reads, I believe, is that
10 the parties will continue to negotiate those rates
11 and will -- and I think then the settlement goes --
12 it's in effect now and everything else is in place
13 so I think the matter is basically settled and
14 that's why Midcontinent brought the Motion to
15 Dismiss.

16 CHAIRMAN SAHR: Thank you.

17 Ms. Lohnes, do you have anything to add?

18 MS. LOHNES: Ms. Rogers is correct.

19 CHAIRMAN SAHR: Okay. Thank you.

20 Has staff had a chance to review the proposed
21 agreement?

22 MS. WIEST: Yes.

23 CHAIRMAN SAHR: Do you have some
24 comments?

25 MS. WIEST: Yes. Our only question

1 was whether they had reached any agreement on the
2 cost recovery, but Ms. Rogers answered that. And
3 with that, staff would recommend approval of the
4 Settlement Agreement and approval of the Motion to
5 Dismiss.

6 CHAIRMAN SAHR: Thank you. Any
7 questions from Commissioners or advisers?

8 Jim, any questions? Commissioner Burg?

9 COMMISSIONER BURG: No, I don't.
10 No. I'm ready to vote.

11 VICE CHAIR HANSON: Move according
12 to the staff's recommendations.

13 COMMISSIONER BURG: Second.

14 CHAIRMAN SAHR: And I concur.
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STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA)

:SS

CERTIFICATE

COUNTY OF HUGHES)

I, CHERI MCCOMSEY WITTLER, a Registered Professional Reporter and Notary Public in and for the State of South Dakota:

DO HEREBY CERTIFY that as the duly-appointed shorthand reporter, I took in shorthand the proceedings had in the above-entitled matter on the 20th day of July 2004, and that the attached is a true and correct transcription of the proceedings so taken.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota this 2nd day of August 2004.

Cheri M. Wittler

Cheri McComsey Wittler,
Notary Public and
Registered Professional Reporter

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