

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF)
MIDCONTINENT COMMUNICATIONS FOR AN)
AMENDED CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY AND)
FOR A WAIVER OF ARSD 20:10:32:15)

ORDER GRANTING
INTERVENTION

TC17-005

On February 10, 2017, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received an Application for Amended Certificate of Authority and an Application for Waiver of ARSD 20:10:32:15 from Midcontinent Communications (Midcontinent). Midcontinent seeks an amendment to its existing certificate of authority in order to provide local exchange services in the rural exchange area of Ipswich, South Dakota. Midcontinent also seeks a waiver of ARSD 20:10:32:15.

On February 16, 2017, Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline March 3, 2017, to interested individuals and entities on the Commission's PUC Weekly Filings electronic listserv. On February 24, 2017, South Dakota Telecommunications Association (SDTA) filed a Petition to Intervene. On February 28, 2017, Valley Telecommunications Cooperative Association, Inc. (Valley) filed a Petition to Intervene.

The Commission has jurisdiction in this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapters 1-26 and 49-31 and ARSD 20:10:01 and 20:10:32.

At its March 14, 2017, meeting, the Commission considered this matter. Midcontinent stated it did not oppose the petitions to intervene. The Commission found that the petitions to intervene demonstrated good cause to grant intervention and voted unanimously to grant intervention to SDTA and Valley. It is therefore

ORDERED, that the Petition to Intervene of SDTA is hereby granted. It is further

ORDERED, that the Petition to Intervene of Valley is hereby granted.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 21st day of March, 2017.

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>Karen E. Bremer</u>
Date: <u>03/21/2017</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Kristie Fiegen
KRISTIE FIEGEN, Chairperson

Gary Hanson
GARY HANSON, Commissioner

Chris Nelson
CHRIS NELSON, Commissioner