

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE REGULATION
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF)	UTILITY DIVISION
CABLE & COMMUNICATIONS)	
CORPORATION, dba MID-RIVERS)	DOCKET NO. D2003.8.105
CELLULAR, for Designation as an Eligible)	
Telecommunications Carrier)	

CABLE & COMMUNICATIONS CORPORATION,
dba MID-RIVERS CELLULAR'S
TWENTY-SIXTH QUARTERLY AND THIRTEENTH SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT
AS REQUIRED BY FINAL ORDER DATED MARCH 29, 2005
(PSC Order No. 6518a)

Service Date: December 28, 2011

TWENTY-SIXTH QUARTERLY REPORT

- I. Unsatisfied Requests – September 16 through December 15, 2011:
 - a. By location in each of the two study areas:
 - i. Mid-Rivers Study Area: zero (0).
 - ii. Range Study Area: zero (0).
 - b. Detailed description of why customer requests for service could not be satisfied: there were no unsatisfied requests.

- II. Customer Complaints – September 16 through December 15, 2011:
 - a. Number and nature of complaints: see Attachment A hereto.
 - b. Remedy employed to address complaints: see Attachment A hereto.
 - c. Location of complaints by Study Area:
 - i. Mid-Rivers: see Attachment A hereto.
 - ii. Range: see Attachment A hereto.
 - d. Number of repeat complaints: see Attachment A hereto.

- III. Federal Universal Service Funds, including Lifeline and Link Up Funds received – September 16 through December 15, 2011:
 - a. Funds received:
 - i. Interstate Common Line Support:
 1. \$30,820.00 received in September 2011 for August 2011.
 2. \$29,842.00 received in October 2011 for September 2011.
 3. \$30,584.00 received in November 2011 for October 2011.

ii. High Cost Loop Support:

1. \$32,831.00 received in September 2011 for August 2011.
2. \$31,679.00 received in October 2011 for September 2011.
3. \$32,307.00 received in November 2011 for October 2011.

iii. Local Switching Support:

1. \$5,631.00 received in September 2011 for August 2011.
2. \$5,277.00 received in October 2011 for September 2011.
3. \$5,417.00 received in November 2011 for October 2011.

iv. Lifeline and Link Up Funds:

1. \$0 received to date.

It should be noted that, as detailed in this section and in previous quarterly and semi-annual reports, USF payment levels received by Mid-Rivers Cellular have been very volatile and unpredictable. This unpredictability is a result of the USF Interim Cap Order, and the FCC order related to the State's Interim Cap funding levels introduced further instability to payment levels. The recent FCC order on USF/ICC reform further reduces our USF and in fact phases that support down to zero over five years. The Mobility Fund may provide some support but it is unknown if that support will be available to us and the amount of support we might receive is unknown at this time. This reduction in support directly affects the ability of Mid-Rivers Cellular to make additional long-term investments in new wireless site construction.

NOTE:

(a) Included as Attachment B hereto is an excerpt with a section entitled “Lifeline, Link-Up and Toll Blocking” from the Fall 2011 and Holiday 2011 issues of the “411” newsletter published by Mid-Rivers Communications for its customers.

THIRTEENTH SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT

- IV. 5-Year Build-out Plan, updated for the period of June 16, 2011, through December 15, 2011: see Attachment C hereto.
- a. Including expanded coverage in Northern Cheyenne Reservation, unless conflicting licenses, in which case an explanation of those conflicts must be provided:
- i. Representatives from Cable & Communications Corporation conducted an on-site meeting with Jace Killsback at the Northern Cheyenne Tribal Council in Lame Deer, Montana, on February 17, 2006.
 - ii. Letters addressed to Jace Killsback of the Northern Cheyenne Reservation dated May 15, 2006, and June 16, 2006, were filed with the Commission in Cable & Communications Corporation's Second Semi-Annual Report of June 27, 2006. No response has been received to date.
 - iii. A letter addressed to Jace Killsback of the Northern Cheyenne Reservation dated March 20, 2007, was mailed via certified mail/return receipt requested and was signed in receipt on March 21, 2007. This letter was filed with the Commission in Cable & Communications Corporation's Eighth Quarterly and Fourth Semi-Annual Report of June 29, 2007.
 - iv. Representatives from Cable & Communications Corporation conducted a meeting with Danny Sioux, Rosebud County

Commissioner and member of the Northern Cheyenne Tribe, in Miles City, Montana, on September 11, 2007.

- v. A letter addressed to Geri Small, President of the Northern Cheyenne Tribal Council, mailed March 31, 2008, documenting C&CC's continuing attempts to establish cellular services on the Northern Cheyenne Reservation, was filed with the Commission in Cable & Communications Corporation's Twelfth Quarterly and Sixth Semi-Annual Report of June 17, 2008. No response has been received to date.
- vi. C&CC representatives attended a meeting with the Northern Cheyenne Economic Development Committee on July 8, 2008. C&CC offered at the meeting to conduct a propagation study at our own expense to determine the most advantageous site locations necessary to extend wireless service throughout Northern Cheyenne lands, and to share the findings of the study with President Small and the Economic Development Committee.
- vii. A letter dated August 8, 2008, was sent to Geri Small, President of the Northern Cheyenne Tribal Council, thanking the Northern Cheyenne Economic Development Committee for meeting with C&CC and again extending offers to conduct a propagation study at our expense and sharing with them the results of that study. This letter was filed with the Commission in C&CC's Fourteenth

Quarterly and Seventh Semi-Annual Report Dated December 26, 2008.

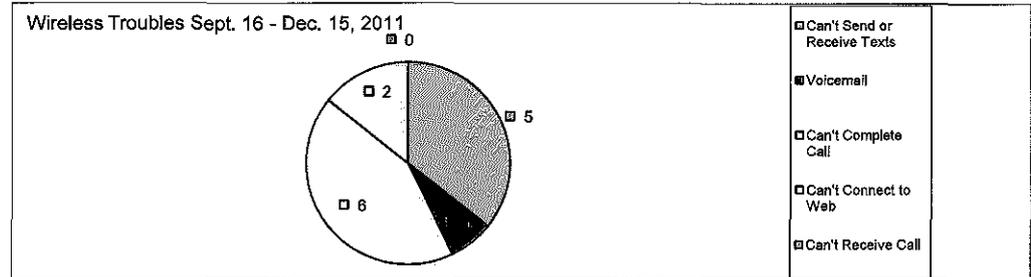
- viii. A letter addressed to LeRoy Spang, President of the Northern Cheyenne Tribal Council, was sent December 11, 2008, expressing C&CC's interest in working with the Council to establish wireless services throughout their lands. This letter was filed with C&CC's Fourteenth Quarterly and Seventh Semi-Annual Report to the Commission dated December 26, 2008. No response has been received to date.
- ix. Copies of previous C&CC correspondence to the Northern Cheyenne were faxed to Clara Canfield, Administrator to the Tribal Chairman, per her request on December 11, 2008. A copy of that fax was filed with the Commission in C&CC's Sixteenth Quarterly and Eighth Semi-Annual Report on June 29, 2009.
- x. Once approval is granted from the Northern Cheyenne Tribal Council to investigate possible wireless site locations on their land, C&CC will then address licensing requirements necessary to provide the service.

ATTACHMENT A

WIRELESS ETC TROUBLE REPORT

Cellular Troubles Cleared 09/16/11 - 12/15/11

Record of Complaint (Trouble Category)	Can't Send or Receive Texts	5
	Voicemail	1
	Can't Complete Call	6
	Can't Connect to Web	2
	Can't Receive Call	0
	Total	14



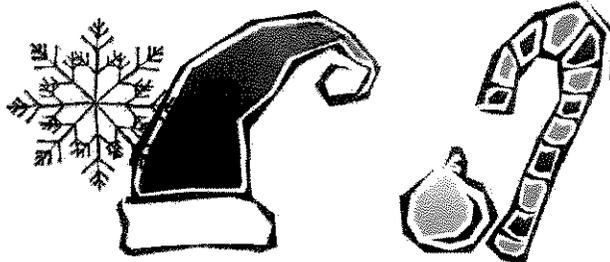
Nature of the Complaint:	Study Area	Date	Remedy for Complaint or Trouble	Location of Trouble
Can't Connect to Web	(406) 913	10/4/2011	Repaired equipment that provides service to customer.	303 6th St W; Roundup; MT 59072
Can't Send or Receive Texts	(406) 914	11/14/2011	Connecting Company Trouble.	P.O. Box 1391; Sidney, MT 59270
Can't Complete Call	(406) 928	11/23/2011	OK on Test.	P.O. Box 194; Winnett, MT 59087
Can't Complete Call	(406) 928	11/3/2011	No Trouble Found.	P.O. Box 194; Winnett, MT 59087
Can't Complete Call	(406) 934	10/13/2011	Connecting Company Trouble.	28 N Montana Ave; Miles City, MT 59301
Voicemail Issues	(406) 935	9/20/2011	No Trouble Found.	P.O. Box 549; Broadus, MT 59317
Can't Connect to Web	(406) 935	11/4/2011	No Trouble Found.	P.O. Box 110; Boyes, MT 59316
Can't Send or Receive Texts	(406) 954	12/3/2011	Connecting Company Trouble.	P.O. Box 195; Roy, MT 59471
Can't Complete Call	(406) 977	10/20/2011	Repaired equipment that provides service to customer.	P.O. Box 116; Cohagen, MT 59322
Can't Complete Call	(406) 977	10/11/2011	Connecting Company Trouble.	P.O. Box 256; Jordan, MT 59337
Can't Send or Receive Texts	(406) 978	11/14/2011	Connecting Company Trouble.	P.O. Box 895; Baker, MT 59313
Can't Send or Receive Texts	(406) 978	12/2/2011	Connecting Company Trouble.	P.O. Box 132; Baker; MT 59313
Can't Send or Receive Texts	(406) 978	10/6/2011	OK on Test.	P.O. Box 1265; Baker, MT 59313
Can't Complete Call	(406) 979	10/1/2011	OK on Test.	P.O. Box 237; Richey, MT 59259

* Repeat Troubles 0

Lifeline, Link-Up & Toll Blocking

Mid-Rivers Communications offers two low-income telephone assistance programs known as Lifeline and Link-Up. Lifeline provides Federal Universal Service support to reduce monthly service charges paid by qualifying low-income customers. Link-Up provides Federal Universal Service support to reduce service connection and line extension charges paid by qualifying low-income customers. Mid-Rivers also offers toll blocking, a service that prevents long distance calling from your telephone. Please contact your nearest Mid-Rivers customer service office, call Mid-Rivers at 1-800-452-2288, or visit <http://www.midrivers.com/low-income-assistance/> for more information.

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Holiday 2011



ATTACHMENT C

Updated 5-Year Build-Out Plan

Cable & Communications Corporation

d/b/a

Mid-Rivers Cellular

- a. **2005 Plan** (in addition to the Digital Upgrade, which was completed on **November 11, 2005**):
 - i. Hammond (45-12-13.4N / 104-55-33.1W)-completed **November 11, 2005**
 - ii. Baker II (46-22-5.4N / 104-16-30.2W)- completed **November 11, 2005**
 - iii. Broadus II (45-26-55N / 105-24-38W)- completed **January 26, 2006**
 - iv. Ismay (46-24-05.0N / 104-48-09.0W)- completed **January 26, 2006**

- b. **2006 Plan:**
 - i. Vida South (47-44-14.8N / 105-29-42.0W)- completed **December 22, 2006**
 - ii. North Lambert (47-47-52.9N / 104-38-13.0W) –completed **December 30, 2006**
 - iii. Richey (47-38-38.3N / 105-04-6.4W) –completed **January 23, 2007**

- c. **2007 Plan:**
 - i. Grass Range (47-01-37N / 108-48-12W) –completed **April 25, 2007**
 - ii. Roy (47-20-04.15N / 108-57-28.91W) –completed **April 25, 2007**
 - iii. Savage (47-27-10.6N / 104-20-19.7W) – completed **November 19, 2007**
 - iii. Alzada (45-03-29.8N / 104-27-9.2W) – completed **July 13, 2007**
 - iv. Volborg (45-57-15.97N / 105-38-22.98W) –completed **December 7, 2007**
 - v. Sheep Mountain (47-3-5.3N / 105-43-38.8W) –completed **December 7, 2007**
 - vi. Winnett (46-59-21.0N / 108-20-02.0W) – completed **December 10, 2007**
 - vii. Rock Springs – completed **December 7, 2007**

- d. **2008 Plan:**
- i. Plevna (46-27-12.9N / 104-30-42.6W) – **completed December 31, 2008**
 - ii. McGuire Creek (47-35-04.75N / 106-09-04.79W) – **completed November 19, 2008**
 - iii. North Cohagen (47-08-31.7N / 106-43-00.44W) – **completed December 19, 2008**
 - iv. Roy Site Move – **completed August 15, 2008**
 - v. Ismay Extender Upgrade to Full Site – **completed July 29, 2008**
- e. **2009 Plan:**
- i. Lambert CO (47-40-53N/104-37-15W) – **completed June 30, 2009**
 - iii. Grass Range Site Move (to improve coverage) – (47-01-2.66N/108-46-25.70W) – **completed April 17, 2009**
- f. **Proposed Future Sites:**
- i. Otter Creek (45-21-39.8N / 105-50-27.8W) – **awaiting grant of FCC license**
 - ii. Roundup (est. 46-27-2.39N / 108-33-26.39W) – **Completed December 31, 2010**
 - iii. Circle FST9 (47-18-57.46N / 105-56-28.19W) – **Completed November 8, 2011**
 - iv. Jordan FST9 (47-53-29.96N / 104-53-28.10W) – **Completed November 8, 2011**
 - v. Highway 201 West (47-41-01.02N / 104-37-13.05W) – **coordinating with neighboring carrier on license extension agreement**
 - vi. Ekalaka Ridgway (45-30-43.03N / 104-28-24.7W) – **coordinating with neighboring carrier on license extension agreement**
 - vii. Ashland West (45-37-38N / 106-30-23.2W) – **past attempts at establishing a working relationship with the Northern Cheyenne with no success to date.**

Though specific sites are currently scheduled as shown, circumstances such as land availability and licensing issues may cause scheduling changes. Due to FCC actions, the availability of adequate and predictable funding is in jeopardy and this may also affect our ability to build out additional cellular sites. Some rural geographic areas remain unserved as the license is held by another cellular carrier that has met the population based build out requirements by serving a population center leaving rural areas

unserved. We have difficulty getting extension agreements from the other carriers to serve these rural areas.