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STATE OF MONTANA**

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September 10, 2003

Mr. Gerry Anderson  
Cable & Communications Corporation dba Mid-Rivers Cellular  
PO Box 280  
Circle, MT 59215

Re: Docket D2003.8.105

Dear Gerry:

In regard to Cable & Communications Corporation dba Mid-Rivers Cellular's ( Mid-Rivers Cellular ) application for designation as a competitive eligible telecommunications carrier (ETC) in the Mid-Rivers Telephone and Range Telephone exchanges identified in the initial petition in this docket, please find enclosed data requests PSC-001 through PSC-013. Please respond by September 24, 2003. When responding, please restate each request, identifying the respondent. Please file an original along with ten copies, as well as, making an electronic copy available. Please provide data request responses to the PSC, MCC and all intervenors requesting a copy.

In the event that questions arise, feel free to contact myself by phone or via email at (406) 444-6189 or [mmorris@state.mt.us](mailto:mmorris@state.mt.us), or Michael Lee at (406) 444-6185 or [mlee@state.mt.us](mailto:mlee@state.mt.us). Thank you.

Regards,

Mike Morris  
Rate Analyst  
Montana Public Service Commission

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

\* \* \* \* \*

IN THE MATTER OF CABLE &	)	
COMMUNICATIONS CORPORATION dba	)	Utility Division
MID-RIVERS CELLULAR, Petition for	)	
Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications	)	Docket No. D2003.8.105
Carrier throughout the Mid-Rivers Cellular	)	
Service Area.		

**COMMISSION STAFF  
DATA REQUESTS PSC-001 – PSC-013**

PSC-001

Regarding: public interest, application  
Witness: Unknown

- a. In its ETC petition, Mid-Rivers Cellular uses the term ““fill-in” cellular markets”. Define ““fill-in” cellular markets”. (p.4, ¶2)
- b. Which providers “abandoned” the “original cellular licenses”? (p.4, ¶2)
- c. With regard to “b.”, what service areas were the licenses for?

Mid-Rivers Cellular’s application suggests that areas within its service area have been “abandoned by original cellular licenses, presumably for economic reasons”. (p.4, ¶2)

- d. Why does Mid-Rivers Cellular presume the areas were abandoned for “economic reasons”? For what “economic reasons” does Mid-Rivers Cellular presume the areas were “abandoned”?
- e. What allows Mid-Rivers Cellular to remain operational in the same areas and not abandon them for the same or similar “economic reasons”?

PSC-002

Regarding: public interest, E911, 47 CFR § 54.101(a)(5)

Witness: Unknown

- a. What universal service offerings does Mid-Rivers Cellular currently provide customers? (p.4, ¶2)
- b. If Mid-Rivers Cellular is not designated as an ETC, will it continue to provide universal service offerings to customers of its service area? (p.4, ¶2)
- c. In what manner is Mid-Rivers Cellular service “essential to public safety in the area in which it serves”?

PSC-003

Regarding: public interest, E911, 47 CFR § 54.101(a)(5)

Witness: Unknown

- a. How does Mid-Rivers Cellular provide 911 and/or E911 service?
- b. How would designation as an ETC affect how Mid-Rivers Cellular currently provides access to emergency services?
- c. What is a Mid-Rivers Cellular customer billed in relation to 911 and/or E911 services?
- d. On September 3, 2003, information given at the following two URLs indicated that a Mid-Rivers Cellular customer may be charged for portions of particular incoming calls. What charges may be incurred by a Mid-Rivers Cellular customer with regard to ANI as mentioned in 47 CFR § 54.101(a)(5)?

<http://www.midrivers.com/Cellular/cellularplans.htm?Cellular=true>

<http://www.midrivers.com/Cellular/cellularfaq.htm?Cellular=true>

PSC-004

Regarding: advertising

Witness: Unknown

- a. With regard to FCC rules pertaining to ETC requirements, how will Mid-Rivers Cellular meet the requirement to publicize the availability of Lifeline and Link-Up services in a manner designed to reach those who are likely to qualify for such services?
- b. How will Mid-Rivers Cellular expand on advertising efforts to ensure that customers within the service area are fully informed of Mid-Rivers Cellular’s universal offerings? (p.3, § II(B), ¶1)

- c. At what rates, or based on what calling plans, will Mid-Rivers Cellular advertise Lifeline and Link-Up services in its service area?
- d. Please provide a general description of each of the various calling plans, optional calling plans and optional features that Mid-Rivers Cellular intends to market to residential and business customers in its service area.

PSC-005

Regarding: public interest, public safety, ETC designation requirements

Witness: Unknown

- a. How does Mid-Rivers Cellular provide access to directory assistance?
- b. How would ETC designation change Mid-Rivers Cellular's providing of the service addressed in "a."?
- c. What toll limitation services will be available for qualified low-income customers of Mid-Rivers Cellular's service area?
- d. How will Mid-Rivers Cellular provide toll blocking or toll control, or both?
- e. How will Mid-Rivers Cellular implement rules 47 CFR § 54.411 through § 54.415?

PSC-006

Regarding: public interest, public safety, ETC designation requirements

Witness: Unknown

- a. In what manner would Mid-Rivers Cellular's designation as an ETC "enhance Mid-Rivers Cellular's ability to contribute to public safety needs"? (p.5, ¶1)
- b. In terms of size and location, how does Mid-Rivers Cellular intend to expand its service area?

PSC-007

Regarding: requirements, support

Witness: Unknown

- a. How does rule 47 CFR § 54.501 impact Mid-Rivers Cellular if it receives ETC designation?
- b. Based on 47 CFR § 54.400 through § 54.409, illustrate the impact of ETC designation on the amount of Lifeline support Mid-Rivers Cellular will receive. Please provide

examples for both non-Tribal and Tribal customers, depicting how effects will vary.

- c. Please provide an illustration similar to that given for “b.” above for 47 CFR § 54.411 through § 54.415 pertaining to Link-Up support.
- d. At what rates, or based on what calling plans, will Mid-Rivers Cellular provide services mentioned in “b.” and “c.” above?

PSC-008

Regarding: calling plans, Freedom West  
Witness: Unknown

As indicated at the URLs provided above in “PSC-003d,” Mid-Rivers Cellular provides an optional calling plan known as “Freedom West.”

- a. If a description of “Freedom West” is not provided above, please provide one.
- b. If Mid-Rivers Cellular receives ETC designation, does it intend to still offer “Freedom West”?
- c. How does “Freedom West” not provide Mid-Rivers Cellular a competitive advantage over its competition?
- d. What charges can a Mid-Rivers Cellular customer incur by completing a call to one of the states in the named four state region if that customer has exceeded the “free minutes” allotted in their chosen plan?
- e. What charges can a Mid-Rivers Cellular customer incur by receiving and/or accepting a call from the states mentioned in the four state region? ...from any other area not in the four state region (ie. incoming calls from either a state in US not in the four state region, from Canada or any other foreign country)? Please explain for cases where a call is either shorter than or longer than one minute in length.

PSC-009

Regarding: Freedom West, petition  
Witness: Unknown

From the map provided with Mid-Rivers Cellular’s ETC petition, it appears Mid-Rivers Cellular’s service area overlaps at least one other state.

- a. Does Mid-Rivers Cellular’s service area, in fact, cover areas not within Montana?
- b. Does Mid-Rivers Cellular have customers not within Montana?

- c. Does Mid-Rivers Cellular have local interconnection agreements with service providers other than Mid-Rivers Telephone Cooperative, Inc. and Range Telephone Cooperative, Inc.? If so, with whom?

PSC-010

Regarding: general, requirements, support, application  
Witness: Unknown

Particular provisions vary for residential and business customers. How does Mid-Rivers Cellular differentiate between residential and business customers?

PSC-011

Regarding: general, requirements, support, application  
Witness: Unknown

Does Mid-Rivers Cellular intend to petition the FCC for ETC designation on the Northern Cheyenne Indian Reservation? Please explain.

PSC-012

Regarding: general, requirements, support, application  
Witness: Unknown

What "recent FCC initiative" is referenced? (p.5, § III)

PSC-013

Regarding: toll free NPA codes  
Witness: Unknown

What charges will a Mid-Rivers Cellular customer incur by completing a call to a "toll free" number, that is, 800-NXX, 866-NXX, etc.?