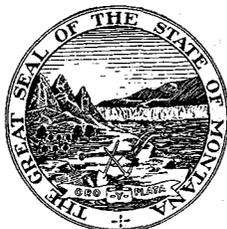


**PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION  
STATE OF MONTANA**

**Bob, Rowe, Chairman  
Thomas J. Schneider, Vice-Chairman  
Matt Brainard, Commissioner  
Greg Jergeson, Commissioner  
Jay Stovall, Commissioner**



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September 9, 2004

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

Re: Docket D2003.8.105, ETC Petition

Dear Gerry:

In regard to Cable & Communications Corporation's (CCC) d/b/a Mid-Rivers Cellular application for designation as a competitive eligible telecommunications carrier (ETC), please find enclosed data requests PSC-014 through PSC-023. Please respond to this discovery at your earliest convenience. In responding, please restate each request, identify the responding witness and file an original and ten copies. Please e-mail a response of your responses to me at [mlee@state.mt.us](mailto:mlee@state.mt.us). If questions arise, call me at (406) 444-6185.

Regards,

Michael H. Lee  
Montana Public Service Commission

Cc: service list

Service Date: September 9, 2004

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 its Service Area.	)	

**COMMISSION STAFF DATA REQUESTS  
PSC-014 to PSC-023**

PSC-014

Regarding: public interest, application, plans, obligation to serve, RSAs  
Witness: Unknown

- a. In regard to the response to PSC-001(a), what is Cable & Communications Corporation's (CCC's) status in terms of its point along the five-year path and in terms of the percent of "the entire market" that it serves today?
- b. In regard to "a." above, does the right to "serve the entire market" have a concomitant obligation to serve the entire market?
- d. Is CCC's petition to be designated a petition to provide service by means of cellular and, or, PCS?
- e. As we do not have paper copies of the cited C.F.R. (22.909 and 22.947) what are RSAs, how are they determined in terms of their physical size, and does CCC seek designation in areas other than RSAs 3, 4 and 10?

PSC-015

Regarding: public interest, application, wireless providers, E911, lifeline linkup  
Witness: Unknown

- a. In regard to the response to PSC -001(c), do Triangle Com. Inc. and Gold Creek continue to serve the noted cell sites and does CCC also serve these cell sites?
- b. In regard to the response to PSC -002(b), explain fully what actions CCC might take that would diminish its universal service offerings.
- c. Is the response to PSC -002(c), what is the reason for the delayed offering of E911 (also see PSC -003(a))?
- d. In regard to "c" above, for each of the cell sites for which CCC seeks ETC designation when CCC will be able to provide E911?

- e. Please show the components for the Lifeline receipts (\$10 and \$18.85) that CCC is receiving on a recurring basis as it provides wireless service to qualified low income customers (DR PSC -007(b)).

## PSC-016

Regarding: public interest, cellular versus PCS, digital vs. analog, competition

Witness: Unknown

- a. In regard to the initial application to provide Cellular service, does CCC now or will it once designated an ETC, provide PCS in the same areas for which it is designated as a Cellular provider? When will it provide PCS?
- b. Does CCC believe that its designation as an ETC in this docket would extend to and permit it to submit to USAC customer counts for universal service support for both the wireless service it provides by means of cellular and by PCS?
- c. Is CCC's application to provide wireless service by means of analog and, or, digital technology?
- d. Re: PSC -011: Will CCC receive universal service funds and Lifeline and Link Up funds for high-cost lines located on any Reservation if it is not designated an ETC (in this docket)? If it is designated an ETC in this docket?
- e. Does the FCC's recent Virginia Cellular Memorandum Opinion and Order (released January 22, 2004, FCC 03-338, CC 96-45) permit the MPSC to apply public interest standards and, or, requirements with which CCC disagrees?

## PSC-017

Regarding: public interest, toll and reciprocal charges, interconnect contracts

Witness: Unknown

- a. In regard to the response to PSC -003(d), why would there be charges to CCC's cellular customers for calls that they receive?
- b. For each of the cell sites for which CCC seeks ETC designation will CCC have an nxx that is unique or will the nxxs that CCC uses be those allocated to the ILEC from whom CCC obtains numbers?
- c. (re PSC -008(d) and (e)): For each of the cell sites for which CCC seeks ETC designation assume that there is a CCC wireless customer that also takes wireline service from the ILEC located in the same residence. For a call that originates on the CCC wireless network at the customer's residence and that terminates at the customer's residence wireline phone what reciprocal compensation rates will be assessed by the terminating carrier and what toll rates will be assessed (of whom and by whom) for this call?
- d. In regard to "c" above, if instead the call originates on the wireline phone at the same residence and terminates at the wireless phone at the same residence, what reciprocal compensation rates will be assessed by the terminating carrier and what toll rates will be assessed (of whom and by whom)?
- e. Re PSC -009(c): Based upon what contract arrangements (e.g., interconnection agreements, EAS etc) will CCC exchange local traffic with companies for which

CCC's parent Mid-Rivers Co-op has an arrangements to exchange local traffic and at what rates will CCC's customers exchange local traffic?

PSC-018

Regarding: public interest, support, complaints, toll block, wireless competitors  
Witness: Unknown

- a. Please provide the support that is available on a per line basis for each of the wire centers (site names/markets) in this ETC application and identify the ILEC who receives the support that CCC will now receive.
- b. What records does CCC keep of customer complaints about service and is CCC agreeable to providing the MPSC reports about customer complaints?
- c. If CCC will charge separately for toll blocking, what will the charge be (DR PSC - 005)?
- d. In regard to the response to PSC -008(c), if CCC is disadvantaged due to the scope of its calling plans, vis-à-vis the scope of calling plans that national carriers offer, why does CCC not combine its offerings with those of a national carrier?
- e. In regard to "d." above, does it also follow that Mid-Rivers Co-op, CCC's parent, is equally handicapped by virtue of not offering expanded area service throughout Montana? If CCC's parent is handicapped

PSC-019

Regarding: public interest, competition, tower sharing  
Witness: Unknown

- a. Re PSC -008(c): If CCC cannot compete effectively or efficiently with other wireless carriers, why should CCC receive universal service funds when there are carriers able to provide better quality service?
- b. Please list all of the other wireless carriers in Montana with whom CCC and or its parent Mid-Rivers Co-op has contractual arrangements to share CCC's towers and, or, other infrastructure.
- c. In regard to "b." above, what arrangements do CCC or its parent Mid-Rivers Co-op have to share towers and, or, other infrastructure of other wireless carriers so that it can provide service in the areas for which it seeks ETC designation?
- d. What impediments are there to placing new towers or expanding the transmission strength of existing towers so as to improve CCC's service quality?
- e. For what purposes will CCC use federal universal service funds if and when it is designated an ETC pursuant to this docket's petition?

PSC-020

Regarding: public interest, unserved areas, line extensions charges  
Witness: Unknown

- a. In regard to the unserved portion of the population in each wire center (exhibit # 1 to filing) for which CCC seeks ETC designation what is CCC's view of its obligation to serve those customers?
- b. In regard to "a." above, for customers that CCC is unable to serve that are in the wire centers (site names/markets) for which it seeks ETC designation, what are CCC's plans to serve these customers?
- c. In regard to "a." above, what charges, over and above the advertised non-recurring and recurring charges for wireless service packages, will CCC assess of those customers that it cannot initially serve but that it will serve?
- d. In regard to "a." above, what are CCC's plans to serve customers that CCC is unable to serve and that reside outside the wire centers (site names/markets) for which it seeks ETC designation?
- e. Western Wireless offers service via a "wireless access unit." Will CCC offer service by either the same technology, or another technology, in order to serve unserved or difficult to serve areas?

## PSC-021

Regarding: public interest, broadband, no charge local use, maps

Witness: Unknown

- a. What is the performance, in terms of speed, of the advanced and, or, broadband services that CCC offers today?
- b. What amount of free-of-charge local usage will CCC provide to customers?
- c. For each of the wire centers (site names/markets in the original filing) please provide base rate area maps that precisely identify the boundaries (base rate areas or otherwise) of each wire center for which CCC seeks ETC designation.

## PSC-022

Regarding: public interest, 96 Act, Federal-State Joint Board Recommendation

Witness: Unknown

The Telecommunications Act of 1996 (§214 (e) (2)) includes, in part, the following:

Designation of eligible telecommunications carriers

A State commission shall upon its own motion or upon request designate a common carrier that meets [ETC requirements] as an eligible telecommunications carrier for a service area designated by the State commission. Upon request and consistent with the public interest, convenience, and necessity, the State commission may, in the case of an area served by a rural telephone company, and shall, in the case of all other areas, designate more than one common carrier as an eligible telecommunications carrier for a service area designated by the State commission, so long as each additional requesting carrier meets [ETC requirements]. Before designating an additional eligible telecommunications carrier for an area served by a rural telephone company, the State commission shall find that the designation is in the public interest.

For non-rural carriers, a state commission must designate more than one common carrier as an ETC but only if such designation is consistent with the public interest. A state commission need

not designate more than one common carrier as an ETC if such designation is not consistent with the public interest.

- a. Why is competition by CCC, that duplicates others' facilities, and, or, services consistent with the public interest?
- b. Should the same public interest standards and criteria apply equally when considering an additional ETC designation for either a rural and or a non-rural carrier? If not, why not?
- c. In February of this year the Federal State Joint Board released its Recommended Decision to the FCC. The recommendation includes a more comprehensive public interest analysis. Does CCC agree or disagree with this recommendation?

PSC-023

Regarding: public interest, -104dbm

Witness: Unknown

- a. In each of the wire centers(site names/markets) for which CCC seeks to be designated an ETC, what percent of the population can and does CCC service cover at each of -85dbm, -95dbm and -104dbm? Provide the basis for the response in terms of the source of the population estimates and the engineering, or otherwise, basis for the quality of coverage.
- b. In each of the wire centers (site names/markets) for which CCC seeks to be designated an ETC, what percent of each exchange's geographic area can and does CCC service cover at each of -85dbm, -95dbm and -104dbm?
- c. In each of the wire centers (site names/markets) for which CCC seeks to be designated an ETC, what percent of each exchange's existing land-line customer base can and does CCC service cover at each of -85dbm, -95dbm and -104dbm?
- d. In regard to "a.", "b." and "c" above, how does CCC establish its ability to provide each quality of service?