

May 26, 2005

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

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IN THE MATTER OF TRIANGLE)	UTILITY DIVISION
COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM, INC.,)	
Application for Designation as an)	DOCKET NO. D2004.1.6
Eligible Telecommunications Carrier)	

**PETITION FOR INTERVENTION of the
Montana Telecommunications Association**

COMES NOW the Montana Telecommunications Association (“MTA”) by and through its undersigned counsel, and submits this petition to intervene in the above captioned matter.

I. Procedural History

On January 16, 2004, Triangle Communications System, Inc. (TCS), P.O. Box 1220, Havre, Montana 59501, filed before the Public Service Commission (PSC) an application for designation as an eligible telecommunications carrier (ETC). The area in which designation is requested includes the Montana exchanges served by Triangle Telephone Cooperative Association, Inc., and Central Montana Communications, Inc. Designation as an ETC would allow TCS to receive federal universal service support for qualifying services in the area served.

On April 26, 2005, the Commission issued a Notice of Application and Intervention Deadline. This Notice established a May 26, 2005 deadline for intervention.

II. DISCUSSION

MTA represents a number of independent telecommunications service providers in Montana. Each of these service providers will be directly affected by the outcome of

D2004.1.6

this proceeding, specifically but not limited to, any policy decisions made herein regarding the disposition of this application and any other decisions generally affecting ETC status within Montana. MTA also seeks intervention with regard to any public interest determinations made by this Commission or other determinations affecting the interests of rural telecommunications providers and their customers and the current and future allocation of universal service support funds in Montana. MTA's positions in this proceeding will be consistent with that objective. (See Sections 38.2.2403 and 38.2.2405 ARM.)

III. Service List

The undersigned hereby requests that, in the event intervention is granted, each party and intervenor in this matter serve all pleadings, including data requests and data responses, correspondence, and orders regarding each party and intervenor upon the following:

Mr. Geoffrey A. Feiss
Montana Telecommunications Association
208 North Montana Avenue, Suite 105
Helena, MT 59601

Ms. Diane Smith
Morrison & Frampton, PLLP
341 Central Avenue
Whitefish, MT 59937

IV. CONCLUSION

WHEREFORE, MTA respectfully requests that the Commission grant its request to intervene in this Docket.

D2004.1.6

Respectfully submitted this 26th day of May, 2005.

Diane Smith, Counsel for
Montana Telecommunications Association



MONTANA
TELECOMMUNICATIONS
ASSOCIATION