Pre-departure clearances, or PDCs, are used at several ZKC airports. The benefit to using PDCs is that often-valuable frequency time is not wasted on transmitting a clearance to a pilot, and instead clearances are distributed via private message. PDCs can be used at MCI, STL, TUL. Our alias file contains several PDC formats. Here's a guide on how to use them:

.pdcm (altitude) (departure sector ID) (ground sector ID)

This alias can be used when climb via SID phraseology is not utilized in a clearance. For example, .pdcm 5000 6D 69 will transmit a clearance instructing an aircraft to maintain 5000 initially, that their departure control frequency is 128.100, and their ground control frequency is 121.900. If you are the departure controller and the ground controller, you can simply type .pdcm 5000. If you're working ground, then .pdcm 5000 6D will fill in 128.100 as the departure frequency, but your frequency will be listed as the ground control frequency.

.pdcv (departure sector ID) (ground sector ID)

Use this alias if an aircraft is on a departure procedure where climb via SID phraseology can be applied, and no intermediate altitude needs to be maintained. The same sector ID formatting as above can be applied here.

.pdcvx (altitude) (departure sector ID) (ground sector ID)

If an intermediate altitude on a procedure where climb via SID phraseology can be applied is required, use this alias. As with the .pdcm alias, type in the initial altitude, followed by sector IDs for the departure and ground controllers if applicable.

If you have made an amendment to the aircraft's route then add a "c" to the end of one of the above aliases (.pdcmc, .pdcvc, .pdcvxc). The PDC will then contain information that their routing has been changed.

Adding a u to the end of the PDC alias (after the c if a change is made) will issue a departure frequency of 122.8. This can be used for ground/tower controllers when an overlying radar controller is offline. .pdcmu, for example, will issue a departure frequency of 122.8 and allow the user to fill in an initial "maintain" instruction with the clearance.

.nopdc can be used if you are unable to transmit a PDC for any reason.