



TC97-120

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION  
OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA**

**IN THE MATTER OF THE INVESTIGATION ) ORDER OPENING DOCKET  
REGARDING THE STATE'S )  
TELECOMMUNICATIONS INFRASTRUCTURE ) TC97-120**

The 1997 South Dakota Legislature passed SDCL 49-31-60 through 49-31-68 which outline the legislative intent regarding the state's telecommunications infrastructure. These statutes are effective July 1, 1997. According to SDCL 49-31-60, "[i]t is the intent of the Legislature that South Dakota have a telecommunications infrastructure that meets the advanced communication needs of the state's individual citizens and its communities of interest, including our schools, medical facilities, businesses and all levels of government." The statutes further describe specific network requirements and deployment goals.

On June 24, 1997, at its regularly scheduled meeting, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) considered whether to open a docket to investigate the current status of South Dakota's telecommunications infrastructure and the telecommunications companies' plans to comply with the statutes. After hearing the comments of the South Dakota Independent Telephone Coalition, U S WEST Communications, Inc., the Bureau of Information and Telecommunications, and MCI Telecommunications Corporation, the Commission unanimously voted to open an investigative docket. The Commission has jurisdiction in this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapter 49-31 and the Telecommunications Act of 1996. It is therefore

**ORDERED** that a docket shall be opened to investigate the current status of South Dakota's telecommunications infrastructure and the telecommunications companies' plans to comply with the statutes.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 3rd day of July, 1997.

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

The undersigned hereby certifies that this document has been served today upon all parties of record in this docket, as listed on the docket service list, by facsimile or by first class mail, in properly addressed envelopes, with charges prepaid thereon.

By: *William Kalbo*

Date: 7/3/97

(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

*James A. Burg*  
JAMES A. BURG, Chairman

*Pam Nelson*  
PAM NELSON, Commissioner

*Laska Schoenfelder*  
LASKA SCHOENFELDER, Commissioner

TC97-118	In The Matter Of The Establishment Of Switched Access Rates For West River Telecommunications Cooperative, Hazen, N D. (Staff: HB/KC) West River Telecommunications filed cost study revenue requirements that are included in the Local Exchange Carrier Association switched access rate filing (TC97-061). West River Telecommunications requests that the Commission allow the use of GVNW's cost study model as opposed to the Commission model for revenue requirement and rate development.	06/30/97	07/18/97
<b>FILING OF TYPE 1 PAGING AGREEMENT</b>			
TC97-119	U S WEST Communications, Inc. filed for approval by the Commission the Type 1 Paging Agreement between Community Paging Corporation and U S WEST.	06/30/97	07/18/97
<b>TELECOMMUNICATIONS INFRASTRUCTURE DOCKET OPENED</b>			
TC97-120	The 1997 South Dakota Legislature passed SDCL 49-31-60 through 49-31-68 which outline the legislative intent regarding the state's telecommunications infrastructure. These statutes are effective July 1, 1997. According to SDCL 49-31-60, "[i]t is the intent of the Legislature that South Dakota have a telecommunications infrastructure that meets the advanced communication needs of the state's individual citizens and its communities of interest, including our schools, medical facilities, businesses and all levels of government." The statutes further describe specific network requirements and deployment goals. On June 24, 1997, at its regularly scheduled meeting, the Commission considered whether to open a docket to investigate the current status of South Dakota's telecommunications infrastructure and the telecommunications companies' plans to comply with the statutes. After hearing the comments of the South Dakota Independent Telephone Coalition, U S WEST Communications, Inc., the Bureau of Information and Telecommunications, and MCI Telecommunications Corporation, the Commission unanimously voted to open an investigative docket. The Commission has jurisdiction in this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapter 49-31 and the Telecommunications Act of 1996. It is therefore ORDERED that a docket shall be opened to investigate the current status of South Dakota's telecommunications infrastructure and the telecommunications companies' plans to comply with the statutes.	Opened 07/03/97	NA

Important Notice: The Commission is compiling a list of internet addresses. If you have an internet address please notify the Commission by E-mailing it to Terry Norum at: [terry@doc.state.sd.us](mailto:terry@doc.state.sd.us). Faxing the address to the Commission at: 605-773-3809

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South Dakota Public Utilities Commission State Capitol 500 E. Capitol Pierre, SD 57501-5070 Phone: (800) 332-1782 Fax: (605) 773-3809		<b>TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICE FILINGS</b> These are the telecommunications service filings that the Commission has received for the period of: <b>06/27/97 through 07/03/97</b> If you need a complete copy of a filing faxed, overnight expressed, or mailed to you, please contact Delaine Kolbo within five days of this filing.	
DOCKET NUMBER	TITLE/STAFF/SYNOPSIS	DATE FILED	INTERVENTION DEADLINE
<b>REQUEST FOR CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY</b>			
TC97-116	Application by USA Tele Corp. for a Certificate of Authority to operate as a telecommunications company within the state of South Dakota. (Staff: TS/TZ) "Applicant is a switchless reseller which intends to offer 1+ direct dialing, 800 toll free and travel card (no prepaid calling cards) service through the resale of telephone services provided by facilities-based interexchange carriers."	06/30/97	07/18/97
<b>REQUEST FOR ELIGIBLE TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMPANY STATUS</b>			
TC97-117	McCook Cooperative Telephone Company pursuant to 47 U.S.C. 214(e) and 47 CFR 54.201 hereby seeks designation as an eligible telecommunications carrier within the local exchange areas that constitute its service area in South Dakota. McCook Cooperative Telephone Company is the facilities-based local exchange carrier presently providing local exchange telecommunications services in the following exchanges in South Dakota: Canova (523), Center (247), Spencer (246) and Winfred (485). McCook Cooperative Telephone Company, to its knowledge, is the only carrier today providing local exchange telecommunications services in the above identified exchange area. (Staff: HB/CH)	06/30/97	07/18/97
TC97-121	Kadoka Telephone Company pursuant to 47 U.S.C. 214(e) and 47 CFR 54.201 hereby seeks designation as an eligible telecommunications carrier within the local exchange areas that constitute its service area in South Dakota. Kadoka Telephone Company is the facilities-based local exchange carrier presently providing local exchange telecommunications services in the following exchange: Kadoka (837). Kadoka Telephone Company, to its knowledge, is the only carrier today providing local exchange telecommunications services in the above identified exchange areas. (Staff: HB/CH)	07/03/97	07/18/97
<b>REQUEST FOR WAIVER</b>			
TC97-109	FirsTel, Inc. has filed a request that the Commission waive ARSD 20:10:24:02(7) and 20:10:24:02(12) from the requirements for Certificate of Authority. (Staff: TS/KC) Subdivision 7 is the filing of a map and subdivision 12 is cost support.	07/01/97	07/18/97
<b>NONCOMPETITIVE TELECOMMUNICATIONS FILINGS</b>			

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