

TC97-173

DOCKET NO. _____

TC97-173

EWT/S

In the Matter of _____

IN THE MATTER OF THE
APPLICATION OF VISTA
COMMUNICATIONS, INC. FOR A
CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY TO
PROVIDE TELECOMMUNICATIONS
SERVICES IN SOUTH DAKOTA

Public Utilities Commission of the State of South Dakota

DATE	MEMORANDA
10/31/97	Filed and docketed;
11/16/97	T.C. Fed. Filing;
7/14/98	Letter Requesting Withdrawal of Application;
8/11/98	Order Closing Docket;
8/11/98	Docket Closed

8.75.4410107

TC97-173

RECEIVED

OCT 31 1997

SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC
UTILITIES COMMISSION

EARLY, LENNON, PETERS & CROCKER, P.C.

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

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KALAMAZOO, MICHIGAN 49007-4752
TELEPHONE (616) 381-8844
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ROBERT M. TAYLOR
PATRICK D. CROCKER
ANDREW J. DORRICH**
NICOLETTE G. HAHN***
ROBERT G. LENNON****

OF COUNSEL
VINCENT T. EARLY
HON. C. H. MULLEN
THOMPSON BENNETT

JOSEPH J. BURGE
(1988 - 1992)

*Also admitted in Iowa.

**Also admitted in California and North Carolina.

*** Also admitted in New York, Illinois, and Washington, D.C.

October 30, 1997

Executive Director
South Dakota Public Utilities Commission
State Capitol
Pierre, South Dakota 57501-5070

Re: VISTA COMMUNICATIONS, II, C.

Dear Sir:

Enclosed for filing with the Commission please find an original and ten (10) copies of the above captioned corporation's Application for a Certificate of Authority to transact the business of a reseller of interexchange telecommunications services within South Dakota, along with a check in the amount of \$250.00 to cover filing fees relating to same.

Also enclosed is an exact duplicate of this letter. Please date-stamp the duplicate and return same to me in the enclosed postage pre-paid, addressed envelope.

Should you have any questions concerning this filing, please contact me.

Very truly yours,

EARLY, LENNON, PETERS & CROCKER, P.C.

Patrick D. Crocker
PDC/dt

01444.57.2

TC97-173

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OCT 31 1997

SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

BEFORE THE
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE MATTER OF:

THE APPLICATION OF VISTA)
COMMUNICATIONS, INC.)
FOR A CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE)
AND NECESSITY TO TRANSACT THE BUSINESS)
OF A RESELLER OF INTEREXCHANGE)
TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES AND)
FOR APPROVAL OF ITS INITIAL TARIFF)

DOCKET NO. _____

APPLICATION FOR AUTHORIZATION

VISTA COMMUNICATIONS, INC. (hereinafter "Applicant") respectfully requests that the Public Utilities Commission of the State of South Dakota (hereinafter referred to as "Commission") grant Applicant authority pursuant to SDCL 49-31-3 and in accordance with ARSD 20:10:24:02 to provide intrastate telecommunications services to the public within South Dakota through the resale of similar services offered by other interexchange carriers ("IXCs") in the state. Applicant further requests that the Commission approve its initial proposed tariff. Applicant, for purposes of verification, and in evidence of its fitness to operate and the public need for its services, offers the following information in support of this Application:

Identification of the Applicant

1. Applicant maintains its headquarters at:
821 Westpoint Parkway, Suite 920
Westlake, Ohio 44145
Telephone (800) 701-6000
Fax (800) 701-6001
2. Applicant's toll free number is 800-701-6000.

3. Applicant is incorporated under the laws of the State of South Dakota. A copy of the Company's Articles of Incorporation is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

4. Correspondence regarding this Application should be directed to:

Patrick D. Crocker
EARLY, LENNON, PETERS & CROCKER, P.C.
900 Comerica Building
Kalamazoo, MI 49007-4752
(616) 381-8844

5. The name of Applicant's Registered Agent, and the address of the registered office of the corporation in South Dakota is:

Ronald D. Olinger
117 E. Capitol
P.O. Box 66
Pierre, South Dakota 57501-0066

Description of Authority Requested

6. Applicant seeks authority to operate as a reseller of intrastate telecommunications services to the public on a statewide basis. Applicant seeks authority to offer a full range of "1+" interexchange telecommunications services on a resale basis. Specifically, Applicant seeks authority to provide MTS, out-WATS, in-WATS and Calling Card services.

7. Applicant does not intend to provide operator services, 900 or 700 services.

8. Applicant owns no transmission facilities. Applicant will offer service to its subscribers using facilities of the communications networks of AT&T, other facilities-based IXCs and the local exchange telephone companies ("LECs").

9. Applicant has no plans at this time to construct any telecommunications transmission facilities of its own and seeks no construction authority by means of this Application. Applicant will operate exclusively as a reseller.

10. Applicant will abide by all rules governing telecommunications resellers which the Commission has promulgated or may promulgate in the future, unless application of such rules is specifically waived by the Commission.

Proposed Services

11. Applicant is a wholesale supplier of long distance services to other resellers, rebillers, aggregators and similar medium to high volume business users. Applicant combines high quality transmission services with very competitive rates, flexible end user billing, professional customer service and excellent reporting to create a unique blend which meets the individualized needs of such business customers.

12. Applicant's services are designed to be especially attractive to resellers, rebillers and aggregators who desire to repackage the offering and reoffer it to small and medium sized businesses.

13. Applicant intends to engage in "switchless" resale. Applicant will arrange for the traffic of underlying subscribers to be routed directly over the networks of Applicant's network providers.

14. Applicant is committed to the use of ethical sales practices. All distributors of its products must commit in writing to market Applicant's services in a professional manner, and to fairly and accurately portray Applicant's services and the charges for them.

Description and Fitness of Applicant

15. Applicant's officers have extensive managerial, financial and technical experience with which to execute the business plan described herein. Applicant's management personnel represent a broad spectrum of business and technical disciplines, possessing many years of individual and aggregate telecommunications experience. In support of Applicant's managerial

and technical ability to provide the services for which authority is sought herein, Applicant submits a description of the background and experience of its current management team as Exhibit B. In support of Applicant's financial ability to provide the proposed services, Applicant attaches a recent Income Statement and Balance Sheet as Exhibit C.

Public Interest Considerations

16. Applicant's entry into the South Dakota marketplace is in the public interest because Applicant intends to make a uniquely attractive blend of service quality, network management and reporting, and low rates available. Namely, Applicant's offering ultimately will enable small and medium businesses in South Dakota to obtain long distance services at rates which previously were available only to larger businesses.

17. In addition to the direct benefits delivered to the public by its services, Applicant's entry into the South Dakota marketplace will benefit the public indirectly by increasing the competitive pressure felt by existing IXCs, spurring them to lower costs and improve services in response.

Requested Regulatory Treatment.

18. Applicant is a non-dominant reseller of interexchange telecommunications services. Applicant requests to be regulated by the Commission in the same relaxed fashion extended to other, similarly situated resellers.

Initialed Proposed Tariff

19. Applicant proposes to offer service pursuant to the rules, regulations, rates and other terms and conditions included in Applicant's initial proposed tariff which is attached hereto as Exhibit D. Billing, payment, credit, deposit and collection terms are set forth in Applicant's initial proposed tariff.

Compliance with ARSD 20:10:24:02

20. In accordance with ARSD 20:10:24:02, Applicant provides the following information:

- (1). The name, address and telephone number of Applicant:

Vista Communications, Inc.
821 Westpoint Parkway, Suite 920
Westlake, Ohio 44145
Telephone (800) 701-6000
Fax (800) 701-6001

- (2). Applicant shall provide services under the name Vista Communications, Inc.

- (3). (a) See paragraph 2 of this Application.

(b) Applicant has no principal office in South Dakota. Applicant's registered agent is set forth in paragraph 4 hereinabove.

- o A copy of Applicant's Articles of Incorporation is attached as Exhibit A.
Applicant's Officers and Directors are as follows:

Thomas M. Coughlin - President
Courtney A. Maroon - Vice President
Philip Bethune - Secretary/Treasurer

- (d) A list of the names and addresses of Applicant's current Officers and Board of Directors:

Thomas M. Coughlin - President
821 Westpoint Parkway, Suite 920
Westlake, Ohio 44145

Courtney A. Maroon - Vice President
821 Westpoint Parkway, Suite 920
Westlake, Ohio 44145

Philip Bethune - Secretary/Treasurer
821 Westpoint Parkway, Suite 920
Westlake, Ohio 44145

- (c) The names of Applicant's shareholders and numbers of shares held by each:

Thomas M. Conaghan 450

Philip A. Pelhune 50

- (f) No corporation, association, partnership or corporation own any interest in Applicant.
- (g) Applicant owns or controls no subsidiaries.
- (4) Applicant is a corporation organized under the laws of Ohio.
- (5) See paragraph 5 of the Application.
- (6) See paragraph 6 of the Application.
- (7) Applicant shall offer services on all equal access areas within the State of South Dakota. Accordingly, Applicant does not attach a map describing service boundaries.
- (8) See Exhibits C and D attached hereto.
- (9) All complaints and regulatory matters should be directed to Applicant's attorney as set forth in paragraph 3 of this Application.

Applicant's Cost for Underlying Transport Services

20. Applicant proposes to resell services within South Dakota in excess of Applicant's cost of purchasing services from Applicant's underlying carrier (Wiltel). Applicant purchases intrastate services from above mentioned ^{AT T, Sprint, cable & wireless} for approximately \$.095 per minute.

00-201-44-8

Conclusion

21. A decision by the Commission to grant Applicant a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity is plainly in the public interest. Applicant will introduce important new products and services at very competitive rates as well as enhance the competitiveness of the overall long distance market in South Dakota.

WHEREFORE, VISTA COMMUNICATIONS, INC., respectfully requests that this Commission grant it authority to transact the business of a reseller of interexchange telecommunications services within the State of South Dakota, that the Commission regulate it in a streamlined fashion, and that the Commission approve Applicant's initial proposed tariff effective on the date of the order granting authority.

Respectfully submitted,

VISTA COMMUNICATIONS, INC.

Dated: 11-10-07

By: 

Patrick D. Crocker
EARLY, LENNON, PETERS
& CROCKER, P.C.
900 Comerica Building
Kalamazoo, MI 49007-4752

Its: Attorneys

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VERIFICATION

Thomas M. Coughlin, President of VISTA COMMUNICATIONS, INC., first being duly sworn on oath, deposes and says that he has read the foregoing Application and verifies that the statements made therein are true and correct to the best of his knowledge, information, and belief.

VISTA COMMUNICATIONS, INC.

By: Thomas M. Coughlin, Jr.
Thomas M. Coughlin

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this 25th day of oct, 1996
by Thomas M. Coughlin.

Thomas M. Coughlin, Jr.
Notary Public

For the County of _____

My Commission Expires: _____

THOMAS M. COUGHLIN, JR., Attorney at Law
Notary Public - State of Ohio
My commission has no expiration date
Section 147.02 D.R.C.

81.75.4418

EXHIBIT A

State of South Dakota



OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION BUSINESS CORPORATION

I, JOYCE HAZELTINE, Secretary of State of the State of South Dakota, hereby certify that the Articles of Incorporation of VISTA COMMUNICATIONS, INC. duly signed and verified, pursuant to the provisions of the South Dakota Business Corporation Act, have been received in this office and are found to conform to law.

ACCORDINGLY and by virtue of the authority vested in me by law, I hereby issue this Certificate of Incorporation and attach hereto a duplicate of the Articles of Incorporation of VISTA COMMUNICATIONS, INC.



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of South Dakota, at Pierre, the Capital, this October 1, 1997.

Joyce Hazeltime
JOYCE HAZELTINE
Secretary of State

OCT-7-97 TUE 10:41 AM CORP GUAR TR

FAX NO. 2155639410

P. 5

SECRETARY OF STATE
STATE CAPITOL
500 E. CAPITOLPIERRE, SD 57501-5077
605773-4846

ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

Executed by the undersigned for the purpose of forming a South Dakota Business Corporation under Chapter 47 of SDCI.

Roger Heggland
The name of the corporation is VISTA COMMUNICATIONS, INC.

ARTICLE I

RECEIVED

OCT 1 1997

ARTICLE II

S.D. SEC. OF STATE

The period of existence is perpetual

ARTICLE III

The purposes for which the corporation is organized. To market and sell telecommunication products and services as both an agent and a principal.

ARTICLE IV

The number of shares which it shall have authority to issue, itemized by class, par value of shares, shares without par value, and series, if any, within a class:

Number	Class	Series	Par value per share or statement that shares are without par value
1,000	Common	---	\$1.00 per share

ARTICLE V

The preferences, limitations, designation and relative rights of each class or series of stock:

ARTICLE VI

The corporation will not commence business until consideration of the value of at least One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) has been received for the issuance of shares.

ARTICLE VII

The complete address, including the street address or a statement that there is no street address, of its registered office is 117 East Capitol,Pierre, SDZIP 57501and the name if its registered agent at such address is Ronald D. Olinger

ARTICLE VIII

The number of directors constituting the initial board of directors is three and the names and addresses of the persons who are to serve as directors:

Name	Address
<u>Thomas M. Coughlin</u>	<u>821 Westpoint Pkwy Ste 920, Westlake, OH 44145</u>
<u>Courtney A. Maroon</u>	<u>821 Westpoint Pkwy Ste 920, Westlake, OH 44145</u>
<u>Philip Bethune</u>	<u>821 Westpoint Pkwy Ste 920, Westlake, OH 44145</u>
_____	_____
_____	_____

ARTICLE IX

The names and addresses of the incorporators:

Name	Address
Courtney A. Maroon	821 Westpoint Pkwy, Ste 920, Westlake, OH 44145
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

ARTICLE X
(Other provisions)

These Articles may be amended in the manner authorized by law at the time of amendment.

ALL INCORPORATORS MUST SIGN BELOW AND SIGNATURES MUST BE NOTARIZED.

Dated Sept 23 19 97

Courtney A. Maroon
Courtney A. Maroon _____

STATE OF DHIO

COUNTY OF CUYAHOGA

On this the 23rd day of September 19 97, before me personally appeared Courtney A. Maroon
_____ known to me
or satisfactorily proven to be the person(s) who are described in, and who executed the within instrument and
acknowledged to me that she/he/they executed the same.

My Commission Expires October 29 2001

Maisha M. Pitt
Notary Public

Notarial Seal

The Consent of Appointment below must be signed by the registered agent

CONSENT OF APPOINTMENT BY THE REGISTERED AGENT

I, Ronald D. Olinger, hereby give my consent to serve as the
(name of registered agent)

registered agent for VISTA COMMUNICATIONS, INC.
(corporate name)

Dated 9/30 19 97

Ronald D. Olinger
(signature of registered agent)

43-707-4428

EXHIBIT B

014445

RESUMES

Thomas Coughlin

Chief Executive Officer

Mr. Coughlin founded Vista communications in 1989. Since then, Vista has reached monthly revenues of \$2.5 million. As well as being the CEO of Vista communications, Tom is currently serving his second term on the Board of Directors for the Telecommunications Resellers Association. TRA is the national trade association representing over 550 companies involved in the resale of domestic and international long distance, local, wireless and enhanced telecommunications services. He is also the Chairman of the Public Relations Committee for TRA. Tom is a past president for Cleveland Fastener Products. He is a graduate of the University of Miami with a B.S. in Marketing.

Philip Bethune

President

Mr. Bethune assists in product development, preparation of a budget for continuing growth, and performs all necessary accounting duties. Philip is a member of the Society of Telecommunications Professionals. He is a past controller for the Cleveland-based company Travaco Management Systems. Prior to his association with Travaco, Philip was an area manager for Southeast Service Corporation in Charleston, South Carolina. He is a graduate of The Citadel with a B.S. in Accounting.

Shirley Link

Vice President of Operations

Ms. Link has been with Vista Communications since it was founded. She performs management and administrative duties. Previously, Shirley was the Vice President of Operations for Clifton Phone Systems Inc. in Cleveland. Prior to her association with Clifton Phone Systems, Shirley was a project manager for the Edward J. Debartolo Corporation in Cleveland. She is a graduate of Cleveland State University.

0144-4-10-6

Bob Patriarco

Director of Information Systems

Mr. Patriarco manages the information technology infrastructure at Vista Communications. Robert brings strong client/server, Internet and emerging technology knowledge. Before joining Vista, he was a computer consultant for Paragon Consulting, Inc. where he consulted for many Cleveland based companies. Prior to his association with Paragon, Robert developed many diverse financial systems as an analyst/programmer at KeyCorp in Cleveland. He is a graduate of Kent State University with a Bachelors of Business Administration in Management Information Systems.

Courtney Maroon

Regulatory Affairs Officer

Mrs. Maroon is responsible for state certifications and the management of informal complaints. Courtney has developed excellent rapport with the Public Service Commissions and Attorney Generals in all 50 states. She is responsible for maintaining a flawless formal complaint record. Prior to joining Vista, Courtney worked for Avenues Magazine in Cleveland. She graduated cum laude from the University of Vermont with a B.S. in Environmental Studies.

Mark Little

Director of Business Development

Mr. Little is involved in the research and development of new products, cost control, reporting, and acts as customer service manager. He came to Vista from Baltimore where he was government accounts representative with a computer engineering firm. Prior to his association with Rep-Tron, he worked in Myrtle Beach, SC for Inacom as a commercial accounts representative. Mr. Little graduated from The Citadel, with a B.A. in English.

Melissa Seeley

Director of Marketing Relations

Ms. Seeley is responsible for the daily interaction between Vista, the telemarketing companies, the verifiers and the carriers. This includes the provisioning of ANIs and the weekly payment to the telemarketing firms. Melissa recently graduated cum laude from Miami University with a B.A. in political science.

EXHIBIT C

VISTA GROUP INTERNATIONAL, INC.
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES - INCOME TAX BASIS
APRIL 30, 1997

ASSETS

Current Assets

Cash	\$ 56,750
Federal tax deposit	2,963
Note receivable - Officer	<u>42,357</u>

Total Current Assets \$ 102,070

Property and equipment (at cost)

Office equipment	153,035
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	<u>(73,276)</u>

Net Property and Equipment 79,759

Other Assets

CSV - Officer's life	3,500
Investment in subsidiary	1,000
Deposit - Worker's Compensation	<u>10</u>
	<u>4,510</u>

Total Assets \$ 186,339

LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY

Current Liabilities

Accounts payable	\$ 470,907
Note payable - Officer	<u>3,000</u>

Total Current Liabilities \$ 473,907

Shareholders' Equity

Capital stock	500
Accumulated deficit	<u>(288,068)</u>

Shareholders' Equity (287,568)

Total Liabilities and Shareholders' Equity \$ 186,339

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VISTA GROUP INTERNATIONAL, INC.
STATEMENT OF REVENUE AND EXPENSES - INCOME TAX BASIS
FOR THE FOUR MONTHS ENDED APRIL 30, 1997

Revenue

Commissions and net remittances from carrier \$622,187

Operating Expenses

Automobile expense	14,782	
Bank charges	20	
Consulting fees	24,185	
Depreciation	1,883	
Dues & subscriptions	2,136	
Equipment rental	1,726	
Freight	345	
Hospitalization	5,403	
Industry publications	100	
Insurance - Automobile	2,805	
Legal	11,921	
Licenses	354	
Miscellaneous	474	
Office expense	13,267	
Payroll service expense	1,429	
Postage	2,287	
Rent	12,347	
Repairs & maintenance	3,347	
Seminars	3,050	
Taxes - Other	3,046	
Telemarketing expense	244,044	
Telephone	2,535	
Telephone - long distance	86,063	
Travel & entertainment	32,635	
Utilities	598	
Wages	<u>60,670</u>	<u>531,452</u>

Net Income

\$ 90,735

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VISTA GROUP INTERNATIONAL, INC.
STATEMENT OF RETAINED EARNINGS - INCOME TAX BASIS
FOR THE FOUR MONTHS ENDED APRIL 30, 1997

Accumulated deficit - Beginning	\$ (378,803)
Net Income	<u>90,735</u>
Accumulated deficit - Ending	<u>\$ (288,068)</u>

EXHIBIT D

VISTA COMMUNICATIONS, INC.

S.D.P.U.C. Tariff No. 1
Original Page No. 1

SOUTH DAKOTA TELECOMMUNICATIONS TARIFF

This Tariff contains the descriptions, regulations, and rates applicable to the furnishing of service and facilities for telecommunications services within the State of South Dakota by Vista Communications, Inc. ("Company"). This tariff is on file with the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission, and copies may also be inspected, during normal business hours, at the following location: 821 Westpoint Parkway, Suite 920, Westlake, Ohio 44145.

Issued:

Effective:

Issued by: Thomas Coughlin, President
821 Westpoint Parkway, Suite 920
Westlake, Ohio 44145

CHECK SHEET

The title page and pages 1-36 inclusive of this Tariff are effective as of the date shown. Original and revised sheets, as named below, comprise all changes from the original Tariff in effect on the date indicated.

<u>SHEET</u>	<u>REVISION</u>	<u>SHEET</u>	<u>REVISION</u>
1	Original	22	Original
2	Original	23	Original
3	Original	24	Original
4	Original	25	Original
5	Original	26	Original
6	Original	27	Original
7	Original	28	Original
8	Original	29	Original
9	Original	30	Original
10	Original	31	Original
11	Original	32	Original
12	Original	33	Original
13	Original	34	Original
14	Original	35	Original
15	Original	36	Original
16	Original		
17	Original		
18	Original		
19	Original		
20	Original		
21	Original		

* New or Revised Sheets

Issued:

Effective:

Issued by: Thomas Coughlin, President
821 Westpoint Parkway, Suite 920
Westlake, Ohio 44145

CONCURRING, CONNECTING AND OTHER PARTICIPATING CARRIERS

CONCURRING CARRIERS:

No Concurring Carriers

CONNECTING CARRIERS:

No Connecting Carriers

OTHER PARTICIPATING CARRIERS:

No Participating Carriers

Issued:

Effective:

Issued by: Thomas Coughlin, President
821 Westpoint Parkway, Suite 920
Westlake, Ohio 44145

TARIFF FORMAT

Sheet Numbering - Sheet numbers appear in the upper right hand corner of the page. Sheets are numbered sequentially and from time to time new pages may be added to the Tariff. When a new page is added between existing pages, a decimal is added to the preceding page number. For example, a new page added between Sheets 3 and 4 would be numbered 3.1.

Paragraph Numbering Sequence - There are nine levels of paragraph coding. Each level of coding is subservient to its next higher level:

- 2.
- 2.1.
- 2.1.1.
- 2.1.1.A.
- 2.1.1.A.1.
- 2.1.1.A.1.(a).
- 2.1.1.A.1.(a).I.
- 2.1.1.A.1.(a).I.(i).
- 2.1.1.A.1.(a).I.(i).(1).

Check Sheets - When a Tariff filing is made with the Commission, an updated check sheet accompanies the Tariff filing. The check sheet lists the pages contained in the Tariff, with a cross reference to the current revision number. When new pages are added, the check sheet is changed to reflect the revision, all revisions made in a given filing are designed by an asterisk (*). There will be no other symbols used on this page if these are the only changes made to it. The Tariff user should refer to the latest check sheet to find out if a particular page is the most current on file with the Commission.

Issued:

Effective:

Issued by: Thomas Coughlin, President
821 Westpoint Parkway, Suite 920
Westlake, Ohio 44145

0144
:57
:26

VISTA COMMUNICATIONS, INC.

S.D.P.U.C. Tariff No. 1
Original Page No. 5

APPLICABILITY

This Tariff contains the Service offerings, rates, terms and conditions applicable to the furnishing of intrastate interexchange telecommunications services within the State of South Dakota by Vista Communications, Inc. ("Company").

Issued:

Effective:

Issued by: Thomas Coughlin, President
821 Westpoint Parkway, Suite 920
Westlake, Ohio 44145

EXPLANATION OF SYMBOLS

- (D) To signify discontinued material
- (I) To signify a rate or charge increase
- (M) To signify material relocated without change in text or rate
- (N) To signify new material
- (R) To signify a reduction
- (T) To signify a change in text but no change in rate or regulation

Issued:

Effective:

Issued by: Thomas Coughlin, President
821 Westpoint Parkway, Suite 920
Westlake, Ohio 44145

8144578

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Issued:

Effective:

Issued by: Thomas Coughlin, President
821 Westpoint Parkway, Suite 920
Westlake, Ohio 44145

9201 JUN 4 1988

VISTA COMMUNICATIONS, INC.

S.D.P.U.C. Tariff No. 1

Original Page No. 8

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Issued:

Effective:

Issued by: Thomas Coughlin, President
821 Westpoint Parkway, Suite 920
Westlake, Ohio 44145

01444-5738

VISTA GROUP INTERNATIONAL, INC.

S.D.P.U.C. Tariff No. 1

Original Page No. 9

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Issued:

Effective:

Issued by: Thomas Coughlin, President
821 Westpoint Parkway, Suite 920
Westlake, Ohio 44145

1. TECHNICAL TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

For the purpose of this Tariff, the following definitions will apply:

Access Coordination

Provides for the design, ordering, installation, coordination, pre-service testing, service turn-up and maintenance on a Company or Customer provided Local Access Channel.

Administrative Change

A change in Customer billing address or contact name.

Alternate Access

Alternate Access is a form of Local Access except that the provider of the Service is an entity, other than the Local Exchange Carrier, authorized or permitted to provide such Service. The charges for Alternate Access may be subject to private agreement rather than published or special tariff if permitted by applicable governmental rules.

Application for Service

A standard Company order form which includes all pertinent billing, technical and other descriptive information which will enable the Company to provide a communication Service as required.

ASR

ASR (Access Service Request) means an order placed with a Local Access Provider for Local Access.

Authorized User

A person, firm, corporation or other entity that either is authorized by the Customer to receive or send communications or is placed in a position by the Customer, either through acts or omissions, to send or receive communications.

Bandwidth

The total frequency band, in hertz, allocated for a channel.

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VISTA COMMUNICATIONS, INC.

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Bill Date

The date on which billing information is compiled and sent to the Customer.

Call

A completed connection between the Calling and Called Stations.

Called Station

The telephone number called.

Calling Station

The telephone number from which a Call originates

Cancellation of Order

A Customer initiated request to discontinue processing a Service order, either in part or in its entirety, prior to its completion. Cancellation charges will be assessed for each Circuit-end or Dedicated Access line canceled from an order prior to its completion by the Company, under the following circumstances: (1) if the LEC has confirmed in writing to the Company that the Circuit-end or Dedicated Access line will be installed; or (2) if the Company has already submitted facilities orders to and interconnecting telephone company.

Channel or Circuit

A dedicated communications path between two or more points having a Bandwidth or Transmission Speed specified in this Tariff and selected by a Customer.

Commission

South Dakota Public Utilities Commission

Company

Vista Communications, Inc.

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Company Recognized National Holidays

The following are Company Recognized National Holidays determined at the location of the originator of the Call: New Year's Day, Martin Luther King Day, President's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Columbus Day, Veteran's Day, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day.

The evening rate is used unless a lower rate would normally apply. When a Call begins in one rate period and ends in another, the rate in effect in each rate period applies to the portion of the Call occurring within that rate period. In the event that a minute is split between two rate periods, the rate in effect at the start of that minute applies.

Customer

The person, firm, corporation or governmental unit which orders Service and which is responsible for the payment of charges and for compliance with the Company's Tariff regulations. A Customer is considered to be an account for billing purposes. The term Customer also includes an entity that remains presubscribed to the Company Service after its account(s) are removed from the Company's billing system, subsequently continues to use Company's network, and is billed by a local exchange carrier for such use, or otherwise uses Service for which no other Customer is obligated to compensate Company.

Customer Premises/Customer's Premises

Locations designated by a Customer where Service is originated/terminated whether for its own communications needs or for the use of its resale customers.

DCS

DCS means Digital Cross-Connect System.

Dedicated Access/Special Access

Dedicated Local Access between the Customer's Premises or serving wire center and the Company's Point-of-Presence for origination or termination of Calls.

DS-0

DS-0 means Digital Signal Level 0 Service and is a 64 Kbps signal.

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DS-1

DS-1 means Digital Signal Level 1 Service and is a 1.544 Mbps signal.

DS-0 with VF Access

DS-0 Service with VF Local Access facilities provides for the transmission of analog voice and/or data within 300 Hz to 3000 Hz frequency range.

DS-0 with DDS Access

DS-0 Service with VF Local Access facilities provides for the transmission of digital data at speeds 2.4, 4.8, 9.6 or 56 Kbps.

Due Date

The Due Date is the date on which payment is due.

Expedite

A Service order initiated at the request of the Customer that is processed in a time period shorter than the Company's standard Service interval.

FCC

Federal Communications Commission

Individual Case Basis (ICB)

Individual Case Basis (ICB) determinations involve situations where complex Customer-specific Company arrangements are required to satisfactorily serve the Customer. The nature of such Service requirements makes it difficult or impossible to establish general tariff provisions for such circumstances. When it becomes possible to determine specific terms and conditions for such offerings, they will be offered pursuant to such terms and conditions.

Installation

The connection of a Circuit, Dedicated Access line, or port for new, changed or an additional Service.

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Interexchange Service

Interexchange Service means that portion of a communications channel between a Company-designated Point-of-Presence in one exchange and a Point-of-Presence in another exchange.

Interruption

Interruption shall mean a condition whereby the Service or a portion thereof is inoperative, beginning at the time of notice by the Customer to Company that such Service is inoperative and ending at the time of restoration.

Kbps

Kilobits per second.

LATA (Local Access Transport Area)

A geographical area established for the provision and administration of communications Service of a local exchange company.

Local Access

Local Access means the Service between a Customer Premises and a Company designated Point-of-Presence.

Local Access Provider

Local Access Provider means an entity providing Local Access.

Local Exchange Carrier (LEC)

The local telephone utility that provides telephone exchange services.

Mbps

Megabits per second.

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Multiplexing

Multiplexing is the sequential combining of lower bit rate Private Line Services onto a higher bit rate Private Line Service for more efficient facility capacity usage or vice versa.

N/A

Not available.

Nonrecurring Charges

Nonrecurring Charges are one-time charges.

Payment Method

The manner which the Customer designates as the means of billing charges for Calls using the Company's Service.

Physical Change

The modification of an existing Circuit, Dedicated Access line or port, at the request of the Customer, requiring some Physical Change or retermination.

Point-of-Presence (POP)

A Company-designated location where a facility is maintained for the purpose of providing access to its Service.

Primary Route

The route which, in the absence of Customer-designated routing or temporary re-routing, would be used by the Company in the provision of Service.

Private Line

A dedicated transmission channel furnished to a customer without intermediate switching arrangements for full-time customer use.

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Private Line Service

A dedicated full-time transmission Service utilizing dedicated access arrangements.

Rate Center

A specified geographical location used for determining mileage measurements.

Requested Service Date

The Requested Service Date is the date requested by the Customer for commencement of Service and agreed to by the Company.

Restore

To make Service operative following an interruption by repair, reassignment, re-routing, substitution of component parts, or otherwise, as determined by the carrier(s) involved.

Route Diversity

Two channels which are furnished partially or entirely over two physically separate routes.

Service

Service means any or all Service(s) provided pursuant to this Tariff.

Service Commitment Period

The term elected by the Customer and stated on the Service order during which the Company will provide the Services subscribed to by the Customer. The term can be monthly or in the case of Private Line Services for a period of up to 5 years.

Special Promotional Offerings

Special trial offerings, discounts, or modifications of its regular Service offerings which the Company may, from time to time, offer to its Customers for a particular Service. Such offerings may be limited to certain dates, times, and locations.

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Start of Service Date

The Requested Service Date or the date Service first is made available by the Company whichever is later.

Tariff

The current Intrastate Services Tariff and effective revisions thereto filed by the Company with the Commission.

Transmission Speed

Data transmission speed or rate, in bits per seconds (bps).

Two-Way Conversation

A Two-Way Conversation is a telephone conversation between or among two or more parties.

VF

VF is voice frequency or voice-grade Service designed for private-line Service. Normal transmission is in the 300 hertz to 3000 hertz frequency band.

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2. RULES AND REGULATIONS

2.1. Description and Limitations of Services

- 2.1.1. Intrastate Telecommunications Service ("Service") is the furnishing of Company communication Services contained herein between specified locations under the terms of this Tariff.
- 2.1.2. Any member of the general public (including any natural person or legally organized entity such as a corporation, partnership, or governmental body) is entitled to obtain Service under this Tariff, provided that the Company reserves the right to deny Service: (A) to any Customer that, in the Company's reasonable opinion, presents an undue risk of nonpayment, (B) in circumstances in which the Company has reason to believe that the use of the Service would violate the provisions of this Tariff or any applicable law or if any applicable law restricts or prohibits provision of the Service, or (C) if insufficient facilities are available to provide the Service (in such cases Company shall make best efforts to accommodate the needs of all potential Customers by means of facility improvements or purchases, of capacity, if such efforts will, in the Company's opinion, provide the Company with a reasonable return on its expenditures), but only for so long as such unavailability exists.
- 2.1.3. Company, when acting at the Customer's request and as its authorized agent, will make reasonable efforts to arrange for Service requirements, such as special routing, Diversity, Alternate Access, or circuit conditioning.
- 2.1.4. Service is offered in equal access exchanges subject to the availability of facilities and the provisions of this Tariff. Company reserves the right to refuse to provide Service to or from any location where the necessary facilities and/or equipment are not available.
- 2.1.5. Service may be discontinued after five business days written notice to the Customer if:
- 2.1.5.A. the Customer is using the Service in violation of this Tariff; or
- 2.1.5.B. the Customer is using the Service in violation of the law or Commission regulation.
- 2.1.6. Service begins on the date that billing becomes effective and is provided on the basis of a minimum period of at least one month, 24 hours per day. For the purposes of computing charges in this Tariff, a month is considered to have 30 days.

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- 2.1.7. Service will be provided until canceled, by the Customer on not less than thirty (30) days' written notice from the date of postmark on the letter giving notice of cancellation.
- 2.1.8. Nothing herein, or in any other provision of this Tariff, or in any marketing materials issued by the Company shall give any person any ownership, interest, or proprietary right in any code or 800 number issued by the Company to its Customers.
- 2.1.9. The Company reserves the right to discontinue furnishing Services or billing options, upon written notice, when necessitated by conditions beyond its control. Conditions beyond the Company's control include, but are not limited to, a Customer's having Call volume or a calling pattern that results, or may result, in network blockage or other Service degradation which adversely affects Service to the calling party, the Customer, or other Customers of the Company.
- 2.1.10. Except as otherwise provided in this Tariff or as specified in writing by the party entitled to receive Service, notice may be given orally or in writing to the persons whose names and business addresses appear on the executed Service order and the effective date of any notice shall be the date of delivery of such notice, not the date of mailing. By written notice, Company or Customer may change the party to receive notice and/or the address to which such notice is to be delivered. In the event no Customer or Company address is provided in the executed Service order, notice shall be given to the last known business address of Customer or, as appropriate.
- 2.2 Other Terms and Conditions
- 2.2.1. The name(s) of the Customer(s) desiring to use the Service must be stipulated in the application for Service.
- 2.2.2. The Customer agrees to operate the Company provided equipment in accordance with instructions of the Company or the Company's agent. Failure to do so will void the Company liability for interruption of Service and may make Customer responsible for damage to equipment pursuant to Section 2.2.3 below.
- 2.2.3. Customer agrees to return to the Company all Company-provided equipment delivered to Customer within five (5) days of termination of the Service in connection with which the equipment was used. Said equipment shall be in the same condition as when delivered to Customer, normal wear and tear only excepted. Customer shall reimburse the Company, upon demand, for any costs incurred by the Company due to Customer's failure to comply with this provision.

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- 2.2.4. A Customer shall not use any service-mark or trademark of the Company or refer to the Company in connection with any product, equipment, promotion, or publication of the Customer without prior written approval of the Company.
- 2.2.5. In the event suit is brought or any attorney is retained by the Company to enforce the terms of this Tariff, the Company shall be entitled to recover, in addition to any other remedy, reimbursement for reasonable attorneys' fees, court costs, costs of investigation and other related expenses incurred in connection therewith.
- 2.2.6. The provision of Service will not create a partnership or joint venture between the Company and the Customer nor result in joint Service offerings to their respective Customers.
- 2.2.7. The rate or volume discount level applicable to a Customer for a particular Service or Services shall be the rate or volume discount level in effect at the beginning of the monthly billing period applicable to the Customer for the particular Service or Services. When a Service is subject to a minimum monthly charge, account charge, port charge or other recurring charge or Nonrecurring Charge for both intrastate and interstate Service, only one such charge shall apply per account and that charge shall be the interstate charge.
- 2.2.8. Service requested by Customer and to be provided pursuant to this Tariff shall be requested on Company Service Order forms in effect from time to time or Customer's forms accepted in writing by an authorized headquarters representative of the Company (collectively referred to as "Service Orders").
- 2.2.9. If an entity other than the company (e.g., another carrier or a supplier) imposes charges on the Company in connection with a Service that entity's charges will be passed through to the Customer also.
- 2.2.10. The Service Commitment Period for any Service shall be established by the Service Order relevant thereto and commence on the Start of Service Date. Upon expiration, each Service Commitment Period for such Service shall automatically be extended subject to written notice of termination by either Company or Customer as of a date not less than thirty (30) days after delivery of said notice to the other. The charges for Interexchange Service during any such extension shall not exceed the then current Company month-to-month charges applicable to such Service.
- 2.3. Liability
- 2.3.1. Except as provided otherwise in this Tariff, the Company shall not be liable to Customer or any
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other person, firm or entity for any failure of performance hereunder if such failure is due to any cause or causes beyond the reasonable control of the Company. Such causes shall include, without limitation, acts of God, fire, explosion, vandalism, cable cut, storm or other similar occurrence, any law, order, regulation, direction, action or request of the United States government or of any other government or of any civil or military authority, national emergencies, insurrections, riots, wars, strikes, lockouts or work stoppages or other labor difficulties, supplier failures, shortages, breaches or delays, or preemption of existing Services to restore service in compliance with Part 64, Subpart D, Appendix A, of the FCC's Rules and Regulations.

- 2.3.2. With respect to the Services contained herein and except as otherwise provided herein, the Company's liability shall not exceed an amount equal to the charge applicable to a one minute Call to the Called Station at the time the affected Call was made. If the initial minute rate is higher than the additional minute rate, the higher rate shall apply. For those Services with monthly recurring charges, the Company's liability is limited to an amount equal to the proportionate monthly recurring charges for the period during which Service was affected.
- 2.3.3. The Company is not liable for any act or omission of any other company or companies (including any Company affiliate that is a participating or concurring carrier) furnishing a portion of the Service or facilities, equipment, or Services associated with such Service.
- 2.3.4. The Customer is responsible for taking all necessary legal steps for interconnecting the Customer provided terminal equipment with the Company facilities. The Customer shall ensure that the signals emitted into the Company's network do not damage Company equipment, injure personnel or degrade Service to other Customers. The Customer is responsible for securing all licenses, permits, rights-of-way, and other arrangements necessary for such interconnection. In addition, the customer shall comply with applicable LEC signal power limitations.
- 2.3.5. The Company may rely on Local Exchange Carriers or other third parties for the performance of other Services such as Local Access. Upon Customer request and execution and delivery of appropriate authorizing documents, the Company may act as agent for Customer in obtaining such other Services. Customer's liability for charges hereunder shall not be reduced by untimely installation or non-operation of Customer provided facilities and equipment.
- 2.3.6. The failure to give notice of default, to enforce or insist upon compliance with any of the terms or conditions herein, the waiver of any term or conditions herein, or the granting of an extension of time for performance by the Company or the Customer shall not constitute the permanent waiver of any term or condition herein. Each of the provisions shall remain at all time in full force and effect until modified in writing.

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- 2.3.7. The Company shall not be liable to the Customer or any other person, firm or entity in any respect whatsoever as a result of mistakes, accidents, errors, omissions, interruptions, delays, or defects in Service (collectively "Defects"). Defects caused by or contributed to, directly or indirectly, by any act or omission of Customer or its customers, affiliates, agents, representatives, invitees, licensees, successors or assigns or which arise from or are caused by the use of facilities or equipment of Customer or related parties shall not result in the imposition of any liability whatsoever upon the Company, and Customer shall pay to the Company any reasonable costs, expenses, damages, fees or penalties incurred by the Company as a result thereof, including penalties incurred by the Company as a result thereof, including costs of Local Access Providers' labor and materials. In addition, all or a portion of the Service may be provided over facilities of third parties, or sold by third parties, and the Company shall not be liable to Customer or any other person, firm or entity in any respect whatsoever arising out of Defects caused by such third parties. THE COMPANY SHALL NOT BE LIABLE FOR ANY DIRECT, INDIRECT, CONSEQUENTIAL, SPECIAL, ACTUAL, PUNITIVE OR ANY OTHER DAMAGES, OR BUSINESS INTERRUPTION, FOR ANY LOST PROFITS OF ANY KIND OR NATURE WHATSOEVER ARISING OUT OF ANY DEFECTS OR ANY OTHER CAUSE. THE COMPANY'S LIABILITY, IF ANY, WITH REGARD TO THE DELAYED INSTALLATION OF THE COMPANY'S FACILITIES OR COMMENCEMENT OF SERVICE SHALL NOT EXCEED \$1,000. THIS WARRANTY AND THESE REMEDIES ARE EXCLUSIVE AND IN LIEU OF ALL OTHER WARRANTIES OR REMEDIES, WHETHER EXPRESS, IMPLIED OR STATUTORY, INCLUDING WITHOUT LIMITATION IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. IN THE EVENT OF AN INTERRUPTION IN SERVICE OR ANY DEFECT IN THE SERVICE WHATSOEVER, NEITHER COMPANY NOR ANY AFFILIATED OR UNAFFILIATED THIRD PARTY, THIRD PARTY PROVIDER OR OPERATOR OF FACILITIES EMPLOYED IN THE PROVISION OF THE SERVICE SHALL BE LIABLE FOR ANY DIRECT, INDIRECT, CONSEQUENTIAL, SPECIAL, ACTUAL, PUNITIVE OR ANY OTHER DAMAGES, OR FOR ANY LOST PROFITS OF ANY KIND OR NATURE WHATSOEVER.
- 2.3.8. With respect to the routing of Calls by the Company to public safety answering points or municipal Emergency Service providers, Company liability, if any, will be limited to the lesser of: (a) the actual monetary damages incurred and proved by the Customer as the direct result of the Company's action, or failure to act, in routing the Call, or (b) the sum of \$1,000.00.
- 2.3.9. In the event parties other than Customer (e.g., Customer's customers) shall have use of the Service directly or indirectly through Customer, then Customer agrees to forever indemnify and hold Company and any affiliated or unaffiliated third-party, third-party provider or operator of facilities employed in provision of the Service harmless from and against any and all claims,

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demands, suits, actions, losses, damages, assessments or payments which may be asserted by said parties arising out of or relating to any Defects.

- 2.3.10. In the event that Company is required to perform a Circuit redesign due to inaccurate information provided by the Customer; or, circumstances in which such costs and expenses are caused by the Customer or reasonably incurred by the Company for the benefit of the Customer, the Customer is responsible for the payment of all such charges.

2.4. Cancellation of Service by a Customer

- 2.4.1. If a Customer cancels a Service order before the Service begins, before completion of the Minimum Period, or before completion of some other period mutually agreed upon by the Customer and the Company, a charge will be levied upon the Customer for the nonrecoverable portions of expenditures or liabilities incurred expressly on behalf of the Customer by the Company and not fully reimbursed by Installation and monthly charges. If, based on a Service order by a Customer, any construction has either begun or been completed, but no Service provided, the nonrecoverable costs of such construction shall be borne by the Customer.

- 2.4.2. Upon thirty (30) days' prior written notice, either Customer or Company shall have the right, without cancellation charge or other liability, to cancel the affected portion of the Service, if the Company is prohibited by governmental authority from furnishing said portion, or if any material rate or term contained herein and relevant to the affected Service is substantially changed by order of the highest court of competent jurisdiction to which the matter is appeal, the Federal Communications Commission, or other local, state or federal government authority.

2.5. Cancellation for Cause by the Company

- 2.5.1. Upon nonpayment of any sum owing to the Company, or upon a violation of any of the provisions governing the furnishing of Service under this Tariff, the Company may, upon five business days written notification to the Customer, except in extreme cases, without incurring any liability, immediately discontinue the furnishing of such Service. The written notice may be separate and apart from the regular monthly bill for service. Customer shall be deemed to have canceled Service as of the date of such disconnection and shall be liable for any cancellation charges set forth in this Tariff.
- 2.5.2. Without incurring any liability, the Company may discontinue the furnishing of Service(s) to a Customer upon five business days written notice if the Company deems that such action is necessary to prevent or to protect against fraud or to otherwise protect its personnel, agents,

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facilities or Services under the following circumstances, except under extreme cases where the customer may be disconnected immediately and without notice:

- 2.5.2.A. if the Customer refuses to furnish information to the Company regarding the Customer's credit-worthiness, its past or current use of common carrier communications Services or its planned use of Service(s);
- 2.5.2.B. if the Customer provides false information to the Company regarding the Customer's identity, address, credit-worthiness, past or current use of Customer communications Services, or its planned use of the Company Service(s);
- 2.5.2.C. if the Customer states that it will not comply with a request of the Company for reasonable security for the payment for Service(s);
- 2.5.2.D. if the Customer has been given five business days written notice in a separate mailing by the Company of any past due amount (which remains unpaid in whole or in part) for any of the Company's communications Services to which the Customer either subscribes or had subscribed or used;
- 2.5.2.E. in the event of unauthorized use.
- 2.5.2.F. Following the disconnection of service for any of these reasons, the Company or the local exchange utility acting as Company agent, will notify the telephone user/customer that service was disconnected and why. The notice will include all reasons for the disconnection and will include a toll-free number where an end user/customer can obtain additional information. Notice shall be deemed given upon deposit, postage prepaid, in the U.S. Mail to the end user's/customer's last known address and in compliance with the Commission's rules.

- 2.5.3. The discontinuance of Service(s) by the Company pursuant to this Section does not relieve the Customer of any obligations to pay the company for charges due and owing for Service(s) furnished up to the time of discontinuance. The remedies set forth herein shall not be exclusive and the Company shall at all times be entitled to all rights available to it under either law or equity.

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2.6. Credit Allowance

- 2.6.1. Credit allowance for the interruption of Service is subject to the general liability provisions set forth in this Tariff. Customers shall receive no credit allowance for the interruption of service which is due to the Company's testing or adjusting, negligence of the Customer, or to the failure of channels or equipment provided by the Customer. The Customer should notify the Company when the Customer is aware of any interruption in Service for which a credit allowance is desired. Before giving such notice, the Customer shall ascertain that the trouble is not being caused by any action or omission within Customer's control, or is not in wiring or equipment, if any, furnished by the Customer in connection with the Company's Services.
- 2.6.2. No credit is allowed in the event service must be interrupted in order to provide routine service quality or related investigations.
- 2.6.3. No credit shall be allowed:
- 2.6.3.A. For failure of services or facilities of Customer; or
- 2.6.3.B. For failure of services or equipment caused by the negligence or willful acts of Customer.
- 2.6.4. Credit for an interruption shall commence after Customer notifies Company of the interruption and ceases when services have been restored.
- 2.6.5. Credits are applicable only to that portion of Service interrupted.
- 2.6.6. For purposes of credit computation, every month shall be considered to have 720 hours.
- 2.6.7. No credit shall be allowed for an interruption of a continuous duration of less than two hours.

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- 2.6.8. The Customer shall be credited for an interruption of two hours or more at a rate of 1/720th of the monthly recurring charge for the service affected for each hour or major fraction thereof that the interruption continues. Calculations of the credit shall be made in accordance with the following formula.
Credit Formula:

$$\text{Credit} = \frac{A}{720} \times B$$

"A" = outage time in hours

"B" = total monthly charge for affected facility

2.7. Use of Service

- 2.7.1 The Services offered herein may be used for any lawful purpose, including residential, business, governmental, or other use. There are no restrictions on sharing or resale of Services. However, the Customer remains liable for all obligations under this Tariff notwithstanding such sharing or resale and regardless of the Company's knowledge of same. The Company shall have no liability to any person or entity other than the Customer and only as set forth in Section 2.3. The Customer shall not use nor permit others to use the Service in a manner that could interfere with Services provided to others or that could harm the facilities of the Company or others.
- 2.7.2. Service furnished by the Company may be arranged for joint use or authorized use. The joint user or Authorized User shall be permitted to use such Service in the same manner as the Customer, but subject to the following:
- 2.7.2.A. One joint user or Authorized User must be designated as the Customer.
- 2.7.2.B. All charges for the Service will be computed as if the Service were to be billed to one Customer. The joint user or Authorized User which has been designated as the Customer will be billed for all components of the Service and will be responsible for all payments to the Company. In the event that the designated Customer fails to pay the Company, each joint user or Authorized User shall be liable to the Company for all charges incurred as a result of its use of the Company's Service.
- 2.7.3. In addition to the other provisions in this Tariff, Customers reselling company Services shall be responsible for all interaction and interface with their own subscribers or customers. The provision of the Service will not create a partnership or joint venture between Company and

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Customer nor result in a joint communications Service offering to the Customers of either the Company or the Customer.

- 2.7.4. Service furnished by the Company shall not be used for any unlawful or fraudulent purposes.
- 2.7.5. The Customer will be billed directly by the LEC for certain Dedicated Access arrangements selected by the Customer for the provisioning of direct access arrangements. In those instances where the Company at the Customer's request may act as agent in the ordering of such arrangements, the Company will bill the Customer Local Access charges.
- 2.8. Payment Arrangements
- 2.8.1. The Customer is responsible for payment of all charges for Services furnished to the Customer or its joint or Authorized Users. This responsibility is not changed due to any use, misuse, or abuse of the Customer's Service or Customer provided equipment by third parties, the Customer's employees, or the public.
- 2.8.2. The Company's bills are due upon receipt. Amounts not paid within 30 days from the Bill Date of the invoice will be considered past due. Customers will be assessed a late fee on past due amounts in the amount not to exceed the maximum lawful rate under applicable state law. If a Customer presents an undue risk of nonpayment at any time, the Company may require that Customer to pay its bills within a specified number of days and to make such payments in cash or the equivalent of cash.
- 2.8.3. In determining whether a Customer presents an undue risk of nonpayment, the Company shall consider the following factors: (A) the Customer's payment history (if any) with the Company and its affiliates, (B) Customer's ability to demonstrate adequate ability to pay for the Service, (C) credit and related information provided by Customer, lawfully obtained from third parties or publicly available, and (D) information relating to Customer's management, owners and affiliates (if any).
- 2.8.4. Disputes with respect to charges must be presented to the Company in writing within thirty days from the date the invoice is rendered or such invoice will be deemed to be correct and binding on the Customer.
- 2.8.5. If a LEC has established or establishes a Special Access surcharge, the Company will bill the surcharge beginning on the effective date of such surcharge for Special Access arrangements presently in Service. The Company will cease billing the Special Access surcharge upon receipt

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of an Exemption Certificate or if the surcharge is removed by the LEC.

- 2.8.6. In the event the Company incurs fees or expenses, including attorney's fees, in collecting, or attempting to collect, any charges owed the Company, the Customer will be liable to the Company for the payment of all such fees and expenses reasonably incurred.
- 2.8.7. Company will not require deposits or advance payments by Customers for Services.
- 2.9. Assignment
- 2.9.1. The obligations set forth in this Tariff shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the parties hereto and their respective successors or assigns provided, however, the Customer shall not assign or transfer its rights or obligations without the prior written consent of the Company.
- 2.10. Taxes
- 2.10.1. All state and local taxes (i.e., gross receipts tax, sales tax, municipal utilities tax) are listed as separate line items and are not included in the quoted rates.
- 2.10.2. If at any future time a municipality acquires the legal right to impose an occupation tax, license tax, permit fee, franchise fee or other similar charge upon the Carrier, and imposes the same by ordinance or otherwise, such taxes, fees or charges shall be billed to the end users receiving service within the territorial limits of such municipality. Such billing shall allocate the tax, fee or charge among end users uniformly on the basis of each end user's monthly charges for the types of service made subject to such tax, fee or charge.
- 2.10.3. If at any future time a county or other local taxing authority acquires the legal right to impose an occupation tax, license tax, permit fee, franchise fee or other similar charge upon the Carrier, and imposes the same by ordinance or otherwise, such taxes, fees or charges shall be billed to the end users receiving service within the territorial limits of such county or other taxing authority. Such billing shall allocate the tax, fee or charge among end users uniformly on the basis of each end user's monthly charges for the types of service made subject to such tax, fee or charge.
- 2.10.4. When utility or telecommunications assessments, franchise fees, or privilege, license, occupational, excise, or other similar taxes or fees, based on interstate or intrastate receipts are imposed by certain taxing jurisdictions upon the Company or upon local exchange companies and passed on to the Company through or with interstate or intrastate access charges, the amounts of such taxes or fees will be billed to Customers in such a taxing jurisdiction on a prorated basis.

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Westlake, Ohio 44145

The amount of charge that is prorated to each Customer's bill is determined by the interstate or intrastate telecommunications service provided to and billed to an end user/customer service location in such a taxing jurisdiction with the aggregate of such charges equal to the amount of the tax or fee imposed upon or passed on to the Company.

2.11. Method for Calculation of Airline Mileage

- 2.11.1 The airline mileage between two cities can be calculated using the Vertical (V) and Horizontal (H) coordinates of the serving wire centers associated with the Company's POP locations. The method for calculating the airline mileage is obtained by reference to AT&T's Tariff F.C.C. No. 10 in accordance with the following formula:

$$\text{the square root of: } \frac{(V_1 - V_2)^2 + (H_1 - H_2)^2}{10}$$

where V1 and H1 correspond to the V&H coordinates of City 1 and V2 and H2 correspond to the V&H coordinates of City 2.

Example:	$\frac{V}{5004}$	$\frac{H}{1406}$
City 1	5004	1406
City 2	5987	3424

$$\text{the square root of: } \frac{(5004 - 5987)^2 + (1406 - 3424)^2}{10}$$

The result is 709.83 miles. Any fractional miles are rounded to the next higher whole number; therefore, the airline mileage for this example is 710 miles.

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2.12. Time of Day Rate Periods

2.12.1 Time of Day Rate Periods are determined by the time of day at the location of the Calling station.

The rates shown in Section 4 apply as follows:

DAY: From 8:01 AM to 5:00 PM Monday - Friday

EVENING: From 5:01 PM to 11:00 PM Monday - Friday and Sunday

NIGHT/

WEEKEND: From 11:01 PM to 8:00 AM Everyday

From 8:01 AM to 11:00 PM Saturday

From 8:01 AM to 5:00 PM Sunday

2.13. Special Customer Arrangements

2.13.1 In cases where a Customer requests a special or unique arrangement which may include engineering, conditioning, installation, construction, facilities, assembly, purchase or lease of facilities and/or other special Services not offered under this Tariff, the Company, at this option, may provide the requested Services. Appropriate recurring charges and/or Nonrecurring Charges and other terms and conditions will be developed for the Customer for the provisioning of such arrangements.

2.14. Inspection

2.14.1 The Company may, upon notice, make such tests and inspections as may be necessary to determine that the requirements of this Tariff are being complied with in the installation, operation or maintenance of Customer or the Company equipment. The Company may interrupt the Service at any time, without penalty to the Company, should Customer violate any provision herein.

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2.15. Customer Inquiries and Complaints

- 2.15.1 Customers may direct inquiries and complaints to the Company or the Commission by using the address and toll free number set forth below:

Vista Communications, Inc.
821 Westpoint Parkway
Suite 920
Westlake, Ohio 44145
(800) 701-6000

South Dakota Public Utilities Commission
State Capitol Building
500 East Capitol Avenue
Pierre, South Dakota 57501
(800) 332-1782

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821 Westpoint Parkway, Suite 920
Westlake, Ohio 44145

3. DESCRIPTION OF SERVICES

3.1. Wide Area ("WATS") and Message ("MTS") Toll Services

- 3.1.1. The Company offers WATS and MTS intrastate interexchange long distance service utilizing switched or dedicated access arrangements between the Customers Premises and the Company's facilities for call origination. Call termination is completed through a combination of Company facilities and LEC switched access arrangements.

3.2. 1+ Switched Outbound Service

- 3.2.1. Company's 1+ switched outbound services permit outward calling utilizing premium switched Feature Group D access on both the originating and terminating ends.

3.3. Dedicated Outbound Service

- 3.3.1. Dedicated outbound service permits outward 1+ calling to stations in diverse service areas. Dedicated outbound service is distinguished from other services by the existence of a dedicated, special access connection on one end.

3.4. 800 Switched Service

- 3.4.1. The Company's 800 Switched Inbound Service permits inward calling (via 800 codes) to a specific location utilizing premium switched, Feature Group D access on both ends.

3.5. Dedicated Inbound 800 Service

- 3.5.1. The Company's Dedicated Inbound 800 Service permits inward calling (via 800 codes) to a specific location featuring the use of a dedicated, special access type connection on the terminating end.

3.6. Calling Card Service

- 3.6.1. The Company's Calling Card Service is a customized calling card service with features including voice response or touch-tone dialing.

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3.7. Timing of Calls

- 3.7.1. Long distance usage charges are based on the actual usage of the Company network. Chargeable time begins when a connection is established between the Calling Station and the Called Station. Chargeable time ends when either party "hangs up" thereby releasing the network connection.
- 3.7.2 Unless otherwise specified in this Tariff, the minimum call duration for billing purposes is eighteen (18) seconds. In addition, unless otherwise specified in this Tariff, usage is measured thereafter in six (6) second increments and rounded to the next higher six (6) second period.

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4. RATES AND CHARGES4.1. Usage Rates

4.1.1. The following are the maximum per minute usage charges which apply to all calls.

4.2. Switched Inbound Usage Rates

4.2.1. Company's 1+ switched inbound services offered under various programs permit inbound calling utilizing premium Feature Group D access on the terminating end.

BUSINESS DAY
EVENING/NIGHT/WEEKEND

Mileage	Initial 18 Seconds	Additional 6 Seconds
0 - 292	\$.075	\$.025
293 - 430	\$.075	\$.025
431 +	\$.075	\$.025

4.3. Dedicated Inbound Usage Rates

4.3.1. Company's 1+ dedicated inbound services offered permit inbound calling utilizing dedicated access on the terminating end.

BUSINESS DAY
EVENING/NIGHT/WEEKEND

Mileage	Initial 18 Seconds	Additional 6 Seconds
0 - 292	\$.075	\$.025
293 - 430	\$.075	\$.025
431 +	\$.075	\$.025

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Westlake, Ohio 44145

4.4. Switched Outbound Usage Rates

- 4.4.1. Company's 1+ switched outbound services offered under various programs permit outward calling utilizing premium switched Feature Group D access on both the originating and terminating ends.

**BUSINESS DAY
EVENING/NIGHT/WEEKEND**

Mileage	Initial 18 Seconds	Additional 6 Seconds
0 - 292	\$.075	\$.025
293 - 430	\$.075	\$.025
431 +	\$.075	\$.025

4.5. Dedicated Outbound Usage Rates

- 4.5.1. Company's 1+ dedicated outbound services offered permit outward calling utilizing dedicated access on the originating end.

**BUSINESS DAY
EVENING/NIGHT/WEEKEND**

Mileage	Initial 18 Seconds	Additional 6 Seconds
0 - 292	\$.075	\$.025
293 - 430	\$.075	\$.025
431 +	\$.075	\$.025

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4.6. Calling Card Usage RatesBUSINESS DAY
EVENING/NIGHT/WEEKEND

Mileage	Initial 60 Seconds	Additional 60 Seconds
0 - 292	\$.25	\$.25
293 - 430	\$.25	\$.25
431 +	\$.25	\$.25

4.7. Recurring Charges

4.7.1 Customer will incur a monthly billing charge of \$3.00

4.8. Special Promotional Offering

4.8.1. The Company may from time to time engage in Special Promotional Offerings or Trial Service Offerings limited to certain dates, times or locations designed to attract new subscribers or increase subscriber usage when approved by the Commission. Company will not have special promotional offerings for more than 90 days in any 12 month period. In all such cases, the rates charged will not exceed those specified in Section 4 hereof.

4.9. Emergency Calls

4.9.1. Customer shall configure its PBX or other switch vehicle from which a customer places a call so that 911 emergency calls, where available, and similar emergency calls will be automatically routed to the emergency answering point for the geographical location where the call originated without the intervention of Company.

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601. JUN. 4 1968

NEXT

DOCUMENT (S)

DISREGARD

BACKGROUND

001 JUN 4 4 4 8

1397

VISTA GROUP INTERNATIONAL
DBA VISTA COMMUNICATIONS
621 WESTPOINT PARKWAY, STE. 220
WESTLAKE, OH 44145

HUNTINGTON NATIONAL BANK 205
CLEVELAND, OH 44113
6-15-410

10/23/97

PAY TO THE ORDER OF South Dakota Public Utilities Commission

\$ **250.00

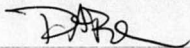
Two Hundred Fifty and 00/100*****

DOLLARS

South Dakota Public Utilities Commission

Security features included. Details on back

MEMO Filing fees



⑈001397⑈ ⑆041000153⑆ 01661644862⑈

TC97-179	Nebcom, Inc. pursuant to 47 U.S.C. 214(e) and 47 C.F.R. 54.201 hereby seeks designation as an eligible telecommunications carrier within the local exchange area that constitutes its service area. Nebcom, Inc. is the facilities-based local exchange carrier presently providing local exchange telecommunications services in the following exchange: (605) 587 North Bristow. Nebcom, Inc., to its knowledge, is the only carrier today providing local exchange telecommunications service in the above exchange area. (Staff: HB/KC)	11/05/97	11/21/97
TC97-180	Red River Telecom, Inc. pursuant to 47 U.S.C. 214(e) and 47 C.F.R. 54.201 hereby seeks designation as an eligible telecommunications carrier within the local exchange area that constitutes its service area in South Dakota. Red River Telecom, Inc. is the facilities-based local exchange carrier presently providing local exchange telecommunications services in the following exchange in South Dakota: (605) 553 South Lidgerwood. Red River Telecom, Inc. to its knowledge, is the only carrier today providing local exchange telecommunications service in the above exchange area. (Staff: HB/CH)	11/05/97	11/21/97
FORMAL COMPLAINT FILED			
TC97-178	Ben Hofer vs U S WEST Communications, Inc. "We live in southern Spink County on the northern end of the Huron area phone line served by U S WEST. We experience frequent phone service outages. These most often happen when there is a weather change. The servicemen tell us that wind drives in snow and dirt in the boxes, or a drop of moisture which shorts out circuits. Mice also have caused outages by being in the boxes. Also, the servicemen tell us the relay equipment is of the oldest style, seldom found in use any more. Our internet connections are slow. The majority (33 of 50 connections) are in the 12.00 to 16,800 bps range. The low capacity of the phone lines may also relate to line noise and weak phone signals we experience. There are no more phone lines available for our use to our farm. Today's agri-business operation is relying increasingly on rapid communication to do business. On one phone line we have: phone, fax and internet, a family residence, a farm/ranch that produces a half million dollars of ag. products annually, and a farm/ranch Bed & Breakfast/farm vacation business (possibility farm)." I ask that the PUC grant the following relief: "PUC should mandate that U S WEST update the lines in our area so that we can operate our ag business, tourism business and personal business in an expedient manner. We need two more lines, which are presently unavailable, to our farm." (Staff: SW/CH)	10/29/97	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: terryn@puc.state.sd.us. If faxing the address to the Commission at: 605-773-3809.

PAGE 2 OF 2

South Dakota Public Utilities Commission State Capitol 500 E. Capitol Pierre, SD 57501-5070 Phone: (800) 332-1782 Fax: (605) 773-3809		TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICE FILINGS These are the telecommunications service filings that the Commission has received for the period of: 10/31/97 through 11/06/97 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
REQUEST FOR CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY			
TC97-173	Application by Vista Communications, Inc. for a Certificate of Authority to operate as a telecommunications company within the state of South Dakota. (Staff: TS/CH) "Applicant seeks authority to offer a full range of 1+ interexchange telecommunications services on a resale basis. Specifically, Applicant seeks authority to provide MTS, out-WATS, in-WATS and Calling Card services. Applicant does not intend to provide operator services, 900 or 700 services."	10/31/97	11/21/97
TC97-174	Application by NTI Telecom, Inc. for a Certificate of Authority to operate as a telecommunications company within the state of South Dakota. (Staff: TS/KC) "Applicant proposes to offer resold intrastate long distance services to the public... The services to be provided are Message Toll Service, Incoming 800, Travel Card services and Operator Services."	10/31/97	11/21/97
NONCOMPETITIVE TELECOMMUNICATIONS FILING			
TC97-175	U S WEST Communications filed to revise the language for Termination Liability Charges in the General Regulations section of its Exchange and Network Services Tariff. (Staff: TS/CH) The reason for the change is "to put the charge in the contracts for the specific services. USWC proposes an effective date of December 1, 1997."	10/31/97	11/21/97
REQUEST FOR ELIGIBLE TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMPANY STATUS			
TC97-176	Dickey Rural Telephone Cooperative pursuant to 47 U.S.C. 214(e) and 47 C.F.R. 54.201 hereby seeks designation as an eligible telecommunications carrier within the local exchange area that constitutes its service area in South Dakota. Dickey Rural Telephone Cooperative is the facilities-based local exchange carrier presently providing local exchange telecommunications services in the following exchanges in South Dakota: (605) 358 South Forbes, (605) 379 South Nelvik, (605) 383 South Guelph, and (605) 687 South Ventura. Dickey Rural Telephone Cooperative, to its knowledge, is the only carrier today providing local exchange telecommunications service in the above exchange area. (Staff: HB/KC)	11/03/97	11/21/97
TC97-177	Dickey Rural Communications, Inc. pursuant to 47 U.S.C. 214(e) and 47 C.F.R. 54.201 hereby seeks designation as an eligible telecommunications carrier within the local exchange area that constitutes its service area in South Dakota. Dickey Rural Communications, Inc. is the facilities-based local exchange carrier presently providing local exchange telecommunications services in the following exchanges in South Dakota: (605) 289 South Ashley, (605) 346 South Ellendale, and (605) 735 South Forman. Dickey Rural Communications, Inc., to its knowledge, is the only carrier today providing local exchange telecommunications service in the above exchange area. (Staff: HB/KC)	11/03/97	11/21/97

PAGE 1 OF 2

EARLY, LENNON, PETERS & CROCKER, P.C.

ATTORNEYS AT LAW
900 COMERICA BUILDING
KALAMAZOO, MICHIGAN 49007-4752
TELEPHONE (616) 361-8844
FAX (616) 349-8525

RECEIVED

JUL 24 1998

SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC
UTILITIES COMMISSION

GEORGE H. LENNON
JOHN T. PETERS, JR.
DAVID G. CROCKER
HAROLD E. FISCHER, JR.
LAWRENCE M. BRENTON
GORDON C. MILLER

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PATRICK D. CROCKER
ANDREW J. VOORBERG
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ROBERT G. LENNON

OF COUNSEL
VINCENT T. EARLY
HOW CH. MULLEN
THOMPSON BENNETT
JOSEPH J. BURGE
(1921 - 1982)

*Also admitted in Iowa

**Also admitted in California and North Carolina

***Also admitted in New York, Illinois and Washington, D.C.

July 23, 1998

Executive Secretary
South Dakota Public Utilities Commission
State Capitol Building
500 East Capitol Avenue
Pierre, South Dakota 57501-5070

Re: VISTA COMMUNICATIONS, INC.
DOCKET NO: TC-97-173

Dear Sir:

We hereby withdraw the above captioned Corporation's Application and respectfully request that the Commission issue an Order reflecting same.

Thank you for your courtesy and cooperation in this matter. Should you have any questions concerning this filing, please contact me.

Very truly yours,

EARLY, LENNON, PETERS & CROCKER, P.C.

Patrick D. Crocker
PDC/pes

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF) ORDER CLOSING DOCKET
VISTA COMMUNICATIONS, INC. FOR A)
CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE) TC97-173
TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES IN)
SOUTH DAKOTA)

On October 31, 1997, the Public Utilities Commission (Commission), in accordance with SDCL 49-31-3 and ARSD 20:10:24 02, received an application for a certificate of authority from Vista Communications, Inc. (Vista).

Vista proposed to offer "a full range of 1+ interexchange telecommunications services on a resale basis. . . [and] to provide MTS, out-WATS, in-WATS and Calling Card Services." Vista did not propose to provide operator services, 900 or 700 services. A proposed tariff was filed by Vista. The Commission has classified long distance service as fully competitive.

On November 6, 1997, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of November 21, 1997, to interested individuals and entities. No petitions to intervene or comments were filed. On July 24, 1998, the Commission received a request from Vista seeking to withdraw its application for a certificate of authority.

On August 4, 1998, at a duly noticed meeting, the Commission considered Vista's request to withdraw its application for a certificate of authority. Commission Staff recommended granting Vista's request to withdraw its application for a certificate of authority.

The Commission finds that it has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to Chapter 49-31, specifically 49-31-3 and ARSD 20:10:24 02 and 20:10:24 03. The Commission finds that Vista's request to withdraw its application for a certificate of authority is reasonable and unanimously voted to close the docket. It is therefore

ORDERED, that Docket TC97-173 is hereby closed.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 14th day of August, 1998.

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 Belaine Keeles

Date 8/14/98

(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

James A. Burg
JAMES A. BURG, Chairman

Pam Nelson
PAM NELSON, Commissioner

Laska Schoenfelder
LASKA SCHOENFELDER, Commissioner