BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPLAINT FILED BY ALLEN AND JOYCE BECKLER, ABERDEEN, SOUTH DAKOTA, AGAINST OLS, INC. REGARDING SWITCHING OF SERVICES THROUGH DECEPTIVE TELEMARKETING PRACTICES ORDER DISMISSING COMPLAINT AND CLOSING DOCKET

CT99-063

On November 22, 1999, the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a complaint filed by Allen and Joyce Beckler, Aberdeen, South Dakota (Complainants), against OLS, Inc. (OLS) regarding alleged switching of services through deceptive telemarketing practices. Complainants request that all assessed charges be dropped and that \$1000 in penalties be paid to them.

Pursuant to ARSD 20:10:01:08.01 and 20:10:01:09, if a complaint cannot be settled without formal action, the Commission shall determine if the complaint shows probable cause of an unlawful or unreasonable act, rate, practice or omission to go forward with the complaint.

On December 14, 1999, at a duly noticed meeting, Commission Staff recommended a finding of probable cause due to unresolved factual issues. The Commission voted unanimously to find probable cause. A hearing scheduled for May 4, 2000, was cancelled as a settlement had been reached by the parties.

The Commission finds that it has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapters 1-26, 49-13, including 49-13-1 through 49-13-14, inclusive, and SDCL Chapter 49-31, including 49-31-3, 49-31-7, 49-31-7, 49-31-7, 49-31-7, 49-31-7, 49-31-7, 49-31-7, 49-31-38, 49-31-97, inclusive, and ARSD Chapters 20:10:01 and 20:10:34.

On May 17, 2000, at a regularly scheduled meeting, the Commission considered this matter. Upon recommendation of Commission Staff, the Commission voted to dismiss the complaint and close the docket. It is therefore

ORDERED, that the complaint shall be dismissed and the docket closed.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 23 nd day of May, 2000.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION: 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. A. BURG, Chairman Date PAM NELSON, Commissioner (OFFICIAL SEAL) LÁSKA SCHOENFELDER, Commissioner