

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPLAINT FILED )	ORDER FINDING
BY HARLAN L. HAMMER, SISSETON, SOUTH )	PROBABLE CAUSE AND
DAKOTA, AGAINST OLS, INC. REGARDING )	NOTICE REQUIRING
SWITCHING TELECOMMUNICATIONS )	ANSWER
SERVICES THROUGH DECEPTIVE TACTICS )	CT99-073

On December 7, 1999, the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a complaint filed by Harlan L. Hammer, Sisseton, South Dakota (Complainant), against OLS, Inc. (OLS) regarding alleged switching telecommunications services through deceptive tactics. Complainant requests that "the PUC should immediately stop OLS from operating in SD and people who have been illegally switched or slammed should receive at least an amount that has been charged by OLS, plus a penalty for lying to people."

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 28, 1999, at a duly noticed meeting, Commission Staff recommended a finding of probable cause due to unresolved factual issues.

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, 49-31-7.1, 49-31-7.2, 49-31-7.3, 49-31-7.4, 49-31-10, 49-31-11, 49-31-38, 49-31-38.1, 49-31-38.2, 49-31-38.3, 49-31-89 through 49-31-97, inclusive, and ARSD Chapters 20:10:01 and 20:10:34. The Commission voted unanimously to find probable cause. It is therefore

ORDERED, that pursuant to ARSD 20:10:01:09, the Commission finds that there is probable cause of an unlawful or unreasonable act, rate, practice, or omission and that the complaint shall be forwarded to OLS and OLS shall satisfy the complaint or file with the Commission its answer in writing within twenty (20) days of service of this order.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 12<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2000.

<p><b>CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE</b></p> <p>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.</p> <p>By: <u><i>Maureen Kellie</i></u></p> <p>Date: <u>1/13/00</u></p> <p align="center">(OFFICIAL SEAL)</p>
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BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

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

*Pam Nelson*  
 PAM NELSON, Commissioner

*Laska Schoenfelder*  
 LASKA SCHOENFELDER, Commissioner