

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

IN THE MATTER OF REVISIONS AND/OR ) ORDER OPENING DOCKET  
ADDITIONS TO THE COMMISSION'S )  
SWITCHED ACCESS RULES CODIFIED IN ) RM05-002  
ARSD 20:10:27 THROUGH 20:10:29 )

In petitions for intervention filed by interexchange carriers in all of the switched access revenue requirement dockets pending before the Commission, petitioners alleged deficiencies in the cost study methodologies embodied in the Commission's rules as applied by local exchange carriers. Petitioners indicated in their filings that their concerns involve industry-wide policy issues, such as the proper regulatory treatment of investments in joint-use plant serving both regulated and unregulated services. Petitioners suggested that a rulemaking proceeding might be the appropriate mechanism for consideration of these issues of general applicability. Staff placed this matter on the agenda so that the Commission could consider whether a rulemaking docket should be opened to consider revisions and/or additions to the Commission's switched access rules and, if so, what the scope of that proceeding should be.

The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapter 1-26, 49-31-18 and 49-31-19. On October 4, 2005, the Commission considered this matter. The Commission voted unanimously to open a rulemaking docket to consider revisions and/or additions to the Commission's switched access rules. It is therefore

ORDERED, that a rulemaking docket shall be opened to consider revisions and/or additions to the Commission's switched access rules. It is

FURTHER ORDERED, that any individual or entity may file with the Commission comments and proposed rules to amend the existing switched access rules on or before February 3, 2006.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 14<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2005.

<b>CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE</b>
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: <u><i>Reidina Koeb</i></u>
Date: <u>12/14/05</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

*Gary Hanson*  
GARY HANSON, Chairman

*Robert K. Sahr*  
ROBERT K. SAHR, Commissioner

*Dustin M. Johnson*  
DUSTIN M. JOHNSON, Commissioner