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BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTABLISHMENT)	ORDER GRANTING LATE
OF SWITCHED ACCESS RATES FOR)	FILED INTERVENTION;
BERESFORD MUNICIPAL TELEPHONE)	ORDER ASSESSING FILING
COMPANY)	FEE
)	TC96-124

On July 10, 1996, Beresford Municipal Telephone Company (Beresford) filed for approval by the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) its 1995 Intrastate Switched Access Cost Study. Beresford filed revisions to its Cost Study on August 13, 1996.

On July 11, 1996, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of July 26, 1996, to interested individuals and entities. On August 7, 1996, the Commission received a Late Filed Petition for Leave to Intervene from U S WEST Communications (U S WEST). U S WEST stated that it is the largest purchaser of switched access from local exchange carriers and it believes that intervention should be granted due to the pecuniary interests involved.

SDCL 49-31-12.6 authorizes the Commission to require a deposit of up to one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) in the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission's (SDPUC) regulatory assessment fee fund to defray Commission expenses incident to analyzing and ruling upon this type of filing.

On August 13, 1996, at its regularly scheduled meeting, the Commission considered this matter. The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL 1-26-17.1, 49-1A-9, 49-31-12.6, 49-31-18, 49-31-19 and ARSD 20:10:01:15.02, 20:10:01:15.05, 20:10:27:07 and 20:10:27:14.

The Commission, pursuant to ARSD 20:10:01:15.02, found that denial of U S WEST's petition would be detrimental to the public interest and that U S WEST should be allowed to intervene. The Commission further finds that pursuant to SDCL 49-31-12.6, Beresford shall be assessed \$1,000 initially, subject to additional amounts as requested by the Executive Director up to the statutory limit. It is therefore

ORDERED that U S WEST's Petition to Intervene is granted; and it is further

ORDERED that Beresford deposit an initial assessment of \$1,000 in the SDPUC regulatory fee fund and shall deposit any additional amounts as requested by the Executive Director.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 14th day of August, 1996.

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:	<u> Melaine Kelbo </u>
Date:	<u> 8/15/96 </u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)	

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

James A. Burg
JAMES A. BURG, Commissioner

Laska Schoenfelder
LASKA SCHOENFELDER, Commissioner

ORDERED, that the hearing shall be held on this matter December 2, 1996. The hearing will begin on December 2, 1996, at 3:00 p.m. in Room 412 in the State Capitol, Pierre, South Dakota.

Pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, this hearing is being held in a physically accessible location. Please contact the Public Utilities Commission at 1-800-332-1782 at least 48 hours prior to the hearing if you have special needs so arrangements can be made to accommodate you.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 22nd day of November, 1996.

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:	<u><i>Delaine Kalbo</i></u>
Date:	<u>11/22/96</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)	

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:
Commissioners Stofferahn, Burg,
Schoenfelder

William Bullard, Jr.
WILLIAM BULLARD, JR.
Executive Director