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

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTABLISHMENT)
OF SWITCHED ACCESS RATES FOR) ORDER GRANTING
WESTERN TELEPHONE COMPANY) PETITION TO INTERVENE
)
)
) TC96-110
)

On June 26, 1996, Western Telephone Company (Western) filed for approval by the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) its 1995 Intrastate Switched Access Cost Study. Western filed a Revised Cost Study on July 10, 1996.

On June 27, 1996, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of July 12, 1996, to interested individuals and entities. On July 11, 1996, the Commission received a 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.

On July 30, 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, 49-31-18, 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 found that U S WEST's Petition to Intervene was timely filed and demonstrates good cause to grant intervention. It is therefore

ORDERED that U S WEST's Petition to Intervene is granted.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 6th day of August, 1996.

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| CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE | |
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| 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>Alfredo Kalbo</u> |
| Date: | <u>8/7/96</u> |
| (OFFICIAL SEAL) | |

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Kenneth Stofferahn
KENNETH STOFFERAHN, Chairman

James A. Burg
JAMES A. BURG, Commissioner