BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE MATTER OF THE PROMOTIONAL INTRASTATE TOLL OFFER FILED BY U S WEST COMMUNICATIONS, INC.	)))	ORDER APPROVING TOLL PROMOTION TC97-143

On August 15, 1997, U S WEST Communications, Inc. (U S WEST), filed an Application with the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) for approval to offer a promotional plan (plan) to its toll customers beginning September 4, 1997. The plan will be targeted to residential customers currently using direct dialing and business customers using direct dialing or Optional Calling Plans. Customers subscribing to this plan will be charged a flat monthly rate for which they receive unlimited toll usage on their intrastate intraLATA station-to-station calls. Customers must enroll in the promotion within 60 days of the effective date and may be offered this rate up to December 31, 1998. U S WEST has reserved the right to discontinue the promotion prior to that date. Qualifying customers will be called via a telemarketing firm or through direct mail notifications. The following monthly rates will be introduced: (1) for residence, $49.00 monthly; and (2) for business, $149.00 monthly.

On August 21, 1997, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of August 29, 1997, to interested individuals and entities. On August 29, 1997, the Commission received a Petition to Intervene from AT&T Communications of the Midwest, Inc. (AT&T); on September 2, 1997, the Commission received a Motion for Leave to Intervene from Dakota Telecommunications Group, Inc. (Dakota). Intervention was granted to both of these parties on September 17, 1997. Both parties have subsequently withdrawn their intervention.

The Commission has jurisdiction in this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapters 1-26 and 49-31, and ARSD Chapter 20:10:01.

The filing requested a proposed effective date of September 4, 1997.

At its duly noticed meeting of October 28, 1997, the Commission considered approval of the application. Commission Staff recommended approval.

The Commission finds that it has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapter 49-31. The Commission decided to approve the revisions (Commissioner Nelson dissenting). It is therefore

ORDERED, that the above-described plan shall be approved.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 3rd day of November, 1997.

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: Melanie Kaebs

Date: 11/5/97

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

JAMES A. BURG, Chairman

PAM NELSON, Commissioner, dissenting

LASKA SCHOENFELDER, Commissioner