BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF DISCOUNT NETWORK SERVICES, INC. FOR A CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES IN SOUTH DAKOTA) ORDER GRANTING CERTIFICATE OF) AUTHORITY

TC96-201

)

On December 16, 1996, the Public Utilities Commission (Commission), in accordance with SDCL 49-31-3 and ARSD 20:10:24:02, received an application for a certificate of authority from Discount Network Services, Inc. (Discount).

Discount is a switchless reseller which intends to offer 1+ direct dialing, 800 toll free, travel card, and prepaid calling card service. A proposed tariff was filed by Discount. This service is classified as fully competitive.

On December 19, 1996, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of January 3, 1997, to interested individuals and entities. No petitions to intervene or comments were filed and a regularly scheduled February 11, 1997, meeting, the Commission considered Discount's request for a certificate of authority. Commission Staff recommended granting a certificate of authority subject to Discount obtaining authority from the Secretary of State to do business in South Dakota.

The Commission finds that it has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to Chapter 49-31, specifically 49-31-3 and ARSD 20:10:24:02 and 20:10:24:03. The Commission finds that Discount has met the legal requirements established for the granting of a certificate of authority, except for certification by the South Dakota Secretary of State. Discount has, in accordance with SDCL 49-31-3, demonstrated sufficient technical, financial and managerial capabilities to offer telecommunications services in South Dakota. Subject to the condition proposed by Staff, the Commission approves Discount's application for a certificate of authority. As the Commission's final decision in this matter, it is therefore

ORDERED, that Discount's application for a certificate of authority is granted, subject to Discount receiving a certificate of authority from the Secretary of State, and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that Discount shall file informational copies of tariff changes with the Commission as the changes occur.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 20th day of February, 1997.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

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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:_____

Date:

(OFFICIAL SEAL)

JAMES A. BURG, Chairman

PAM NELSON, Commissioner

LASKA SCHOENFELDER, Commissioner

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