

Telecommunications Orders - Issued 1997

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF SWITCHED ACCESS RATES FOR WEST RIVER TELECOMMUNICATIONS COOPERATIVE)))	ORDER GRANTING WAIVER OF COMMISSION'S COST STUDY MODEL TC97-118
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On June 30, 1997, West River Telecommunications Cooperative (West River) filed for approval by the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) its 1996 Intrastate Switched Access Cost Study. This information was provided to the Local Exchange Carriers Association for use in their intrastate access rate filing. West River also requested the Commission waive the requirement that it use the Commission's cost study model and instead allow the use of GVNW's cost study model.

On July 3, 1997, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of July 18, 1997, to interested individuals and entities. On July 11, 1997, the Commission received a Petition for Leave to Intervene from U S WEST Communications, Inc. (U S WEST). On July 29, 1997, a regularly scheduled meeting, the Commission granted U S WEST's Petition to Intervene and assessed West River a \$1,000 filing fee. On August 18, 1997, a regularly scheduled meeting, the Commission considered West River's request to waive the requirement that West River use the Commission's cost study model and instead allow the use of GVNW's cost study model.

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 finds that it is appropriate to waive the requirement that West River use the Commission's cost study model and allow the use of GVNW's cost study model. It is therefore

ORDERED that use of the Commission's cost study model is hereby waived and instead West River shall be allowed to use GVNW's cost study model.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 3rd day of September, 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: _____

Date: _____

(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

JAMES A. BURG, Chairman

PAM NELSON, Commissioner

LASKA SCHOENFELDER, Commissioner

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