

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF )  
AMERICAN TELECOMMUNICATIONS )  
SYSTEMS, INC. FOR A CERTIFICATE OF )  
AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE )  
TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES IN )  
SOUTH DAKOTA )

ORDER GRANTING  
CERTIFICATE OF  
AUTHORITY

TC97-015

On February 18, 1997, 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 American Telecommunications Systems, Inc. (ATS).

ATS intends to offer 1+ direct dialing, 800 toll free, and travel card (no prepaid calling cards) service through the resale of telephone services provided by facilities-based interexchange carriers. A proposed tariff was filed by ATS. The Commission has classified long distance service as fully competitive.

On February 20, 1997, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of March 7, 1997, to interested individuals and entities. No petitions to intervene or comments were filed and at its regularly scheduled April 1, 1997, meeting, the Commission considered ATS' request for a certificate of authority. Commission Staff recommended granting a certificate of authority.

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 ATS has met the legal requirements established for the granting of a certificate of authority. ATS has, in accordance with SDCL 49-31-3, demonstrated sufficient technical, financial and managerial capabilities to offer telecommunications services in South Dakota. The Commission approves ATS' application for a certificate of authority. As the Commission's final decision in this matter, it is therefore

ORDERED, that ATS' application for a certificate of authority is hereby granted, effective April 18, 1997. It is

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

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 12<sup>th</sup> day of April, 1997.

<b>CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE</b>
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 first class mail, in properly addressed envelopes, with charges prepaid thereon.
By: <u>Melaine Kalbo</u>
Date: <u>4/10/97</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

James A. Burg  
JAMES A. BURG, Chairman

Pam Nelson  
PAM NELSON, Commissioner

Laska Schoenfelder  
LASKA SCHOENFELDER, Commissioner