

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF ) THE SOUTHLAND CORPORATION FOR A ) CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE ) TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES IN ) SOUTH DAKOTA )	ORDER GRANTING CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY  TC97-027
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On March 19, 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 The Southland Corporation (Southland).

Southland proposes to offer discretionary, switched access prepaid calling card services. Southland does not propose to offer alternative operator services to the transient public. A proposed tariff was filed by Southland. The Commission has classified long distance service as fully competitive.

On March 20, 1997, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of April 4, 1997, to interested individuals and entities. No petitions to intervene or comments were filed and at its regularly scheduled May 13, 1997, meeting, the Commission considered Southland's 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 Southland has met the legal requirements established for the granting of a certificate of authority. Southland 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 Southland's application for a certificate of authority. As the Commission's final decision in this matter, it is therefore

ORDERED, that Southland's application for a certificate of authority is hereby granted. It is

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

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 21<sup>st</sup> day of May, 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>          Debra Kalkb          </u>
Date: <u>          5/22/97          </u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

  
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JAMES A. BURG, Chairman

  
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PAM NELSON, Commissioner