

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE REQUEST BY)
D A K O T A C O O P E R A T I V E)
TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC. AND ITS)
SUBSIDIARIES FOR A DETERMINATION OF)
ELIGIBLE TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIER)
STATUS PURSUANT TO 47 U.S.C. § 214)

ORDER GRANTING
INTERVENTION

TC97-030

On March 25, 1997, Dakota Cooperative Telecommunications, Inc., Dakota Telecom, Inc., and Dakota Telecommunications Systems, Inc. (Dakota) filed a request that the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) take steps necessary to implement the regulations relating to the universal service fund and that it be designated as an eligible telecommunications company as that term is used in 47 U.S.C. § 214 for certain exchanges specified in its petition.

On March 27, 1997, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of April 11, 1997, to interested individuals and entities. On April 9, 1997, the Commission received a Petition to Intervene from AT&T Communications of the Midwest, Inc. (AT&T).

On April 28, 1997, at its regularly scheduled meeting, the Commission considered this matter. The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapter 49-31 and ARSD Chapter 20:10:01. The Commission granted AT&T's Petition to Intervene. Therefore it is

ORDERED that AT&T's Petition to Intervene is granted.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 12th day of May, 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: <u><i>Delaine Kolbo</i></u>
Date: <u>5/13/97</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

James A. Burg
JAMES A. BURG, Chairman

Pam Nelson
PAY NELSON, Commissioner

Laska Schoenfelder
LASKA SCHOENFELDER, Commissioner