

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE INVESTIGATION OF)
 THE PRACTICE OF LONG DISTANCE) ORDER OPENING DOCKET
 RESELLERS TO OPERATE WITHIN THE)
 STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA WITHOUT AN) TC97-050
 IDENTIFYING PIC NUMBER)

All certified long distance resellers are not required to obtain a Primary Interstate Carrier (PIC) number with which to identify them as a customer's long distance carrier. The Public Utilities Commission (Commission) has fielded a number of concerns regarding the difficulties local exchange carriers and customers are experiencing when trying to identify a customer's long distance carrier. Commission Staff has also encountered difficulties when attempting to obtain such information.

On April 15, 1997, at a regularly scheduled meeting, Commission Staff recommended that the Commission open a docket in this matter.

The Commission has jurisdiction in this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapter 49-13 and 49-31. The Commission unanimously voted to open a docket on this matter. It is therefore

ORDERED that a docket be opened to investigate the practice of long distance resellers operating within the state of South Dakota without an identifying PIC number.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 2nd day of May, 1997.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE	
<p>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.</p>	
By:	<u>Alaine Kelso</u>
Date:	<u>5/2/97</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