

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTABLISHMENT)	ORDER APPROVING
OF SWITCHED ACCESS RATES FOR WEST)	REVENUE REQUIREMENT
RIVER COOPERATIVE TELEPHONE)	
COMPANY)	TC97-059

On May 30, 1997, West River Cooperative Telephone Company (West River) filed for approval by the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) its 1996 Intrastate Switched Access Cost Study.

On June 5, 1997, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of June 20, 1997, to interested individuals and entities. On June 19, 1997, the Commission received a Petition for Leave to Intervene from U S WEST Communications, Inc. (U S WEST). The Commission granted U S WEST's Petition to Intervene. The Commission also voted to assess a \$1,000 filing fee. On November 18, 1997, the Commission granted U S WEST's motion for withdrawal from this docket. The Commission considered this matter at its January 8, 1998, meeting. Commission Staff recommended approval of the revenue requirement.

The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL 1-26-17.1, 49-1A-9, 49-31-12.4, 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 20:10:27:08. Upon review of West River's filing, the Commission found that the revenue requirement was fair and reasonable and should be approved. As the Commission's final decision in this matter, it is therefore

ORDERED that West River's revenue requirement is hereby approved as filed and shall be incorporated in the Local Exchange Carriers Association's determination of switched access rates. (See TC97-061.)

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 21st day of January, 1998.

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>William Kalkbrenner</i></u>
Date: <u>1/23/98</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