

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

<b>IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING BY FORT )</b>	<b>ORDER GRANTING</b>
<b>RANDALL TELEPHONE COMPANY FOR )</b>	<b>INTERVENTION</b>
<b>DESIGNATION AS AN ELIGIBLE )</b>	
<b>TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIER )</b>	<b>TC97-075</b>

On June 12, 1997, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission), received a filing from Fort Randall Telephone Company (Fort Randall) pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 214(e) and 47 C.F.R. 54.201 requesting designation as an eligible telecommunications carrier within the local exchange areas that constitute its service area in South Dakota. Fort Randall is the facilities-based local exchange carrier presently providing local exchange telecommunications services in the following exchanges in South Dakota: Centerville (563), Hermosa (255), Lake Andes (491,487), Tabor (463), Tyndall (589), Viborg (326) and Wagner (384). Fort Randall, to its knowledge, is the only carrier meeting the eligibility requirements of 47 U.S.C. § 214(e) and C.F.R. 54.201 in its exchanges.

On June 12, 1997, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of June 27, 1997, to interested individuals and entities. On June 27, 1997, the Commission received a petition to intervene from Dakota Telecommunications Systems, Inc. (DTS) and Dakota Telecom, Inc. (DTI).

The Commission finds that it has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapters 1-26 and 49-34A and ARSD 20:10:01:15.05.

On July 15, 1997, at its regularly scheduled meeting, the Commission considered the Petition to Intervene. The Commission finds that the petition of DTS and DTI was timely filed and demonstrates good cause to grant intervention. It is therefore

ORDERED, that DTS and DTI shall be granted intervention and shall be considered a party in this matter.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 29<sup>th</sup> day of July, 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 facsimile or by first class mail, in properly addressed envelopes, with charges prepaid thereon.
By: <u><i>Aldine Kalbs</i></u>
Date: <u>7/30/97</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