

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

<b>IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF )</b>	<b>ORDER GRANTING</b>
<b>WORLDCOM TECHNOLOGIES, INC. FOR A )</b>	<b>CERTIFICATE OF</b>
<b>CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE )</b>	<b>AUTHORITY</b>
<b>TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES, )</b>	
<b>INCLUDING LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICES, IN )</b>	<b>TC97-110</b>
<b>SOUTH DAKOTA )</b>	

On June 25, 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 WorldCom Technologies, Inc. (WorldCom).

WorldCom proposes to provide MTS, WATS, 800, calling card and debit card services. WorldCom also proposes to provide local exchange and exchange access services. A proposed tariff was filed by WorldCom.

On June 26, 1997, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of July 11, 1997, to interested individuals and entities. No petitions to intervene or comments were filed and at its regularly scheduled October 9, 1997, meeting, the Commission considered WorldCom's request for a certificate of authority. Commission Staff recommended granting a certificate of authority, subject to rural safeguards. Commission Staff further recommended a waiver of 20:10:24:02(6), (7), (8), (11) and (12). WorldCom has furnished the Commission with a surety bond. WorldCom is to surrender its previously issued certificates of authority to the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission.

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 WorldCom has met the legal requirements established for the granting of a certificate of authority. WorldCom has, in accordance with SDCL 49-31-1, demonstrated sufficient technical, financial and managerial capabilities to offer telecommunications services in South Dakota. Further, the Commission finds that there is good cause to waive subparagraphs (6), (7), (8), (11) and (12) of ARSD 20:10:24:02.

The Commission approves WorldCom's application for a certificate of authority, subject to rural safeguards. The certificate of authority for WorldCom shall authorize it to offer local exchange services in those areas in South Dakota where U S WEST Communications, Inc. is the incumbent local exchange carrier. In the future, should WorldCom choose to provide local exchange services statewide, with respect to rural telephone companies, WorldCom will have to come before the Commission in another proceeding before being able to provide local service in that rural service area pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 253(f) which allows the Commission to require a company that seeks to provide service in a rural service area to meet the requirements in 47 U.S.C. § 214(e)(1) for designation as an eligible telecommunications carrier. In addition, the granting of

statewide certification will not affect the exemptions, suspensions, and modifications for rural telephone companies found in 47 U.S.C. § 251(f). It is therefore

ORDERED, that WorldCom's application for a Certificate of Authority to provide telecommunications services, including local exchange services, is granted; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that WorldCom shall file informational copies of tariff changes with the Commission as the changes occur; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that the Commission shall authorize WorldCom to offer its services in those areas in South Dakota where U S WEST Communications, Inc. is the incumbent local exchange carrier; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that the Commission finds good cause to waive subparagraphs (6), (7), (8), (11) and (12) of ARSD 20:10:24:02; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that WorldCom shall surrender and return to the Commission those certificates of authority granted to WorldCom, Inc., and MFS Intelenet of South Dakota, Inc.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 17<sup>th</sup> day of October, 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>Alvin Keels</i></u>
Date: <u>10/20/97</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