

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

<b>IN THE MATTER OF THE FILINGS BY THE )</b>	<b>ORDER FOR AND NOTICE</b>
<b>FOLLOWING TELECOMMUNICATIONS )</b>	<b>OF HEARING</b>
<b>COMPANIES FOR DESIGNATION AS )</b>	
<b>ELIGIBLE TELECOMMUNICATIONS )</b>	
<b>CARRIERS: )</b>	

<b>DICKEY RURAL TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE )</b>	<b>TC97-176</b>
<b>)</b>	

<b>DICKEY RURAL COMMUNICATIONS, INC. )</b>	<b>TC97-177</b>
<b>)</b>	

<b>NEBCOM, INC. )</b>	<b>TC97-179</b>
<b>)</b>	

<b>RED RIVER TELECOM, INC. )</b>	<b>TC97-180</b>
<b>)</b>	

<b>VALLEY TELEPHONE COMPANY )</b>	<b>TC97-182</b>
<b>)</b>	

<b>FARMERS MUTUAL TELEPHONE COMPANY )</b>	<b>TC97-183</b>
<b>)</b>	

<b>CHEYENNE RIVER SIOUX TRIBE TELEPHONE )</b>	<b>TC97-184</b>
<b>AUTHORITY )</b>	

<b>CONSOLIDATED TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE )</b>	<b>TC97-185</b>
<b>)</b>	

<b>CTC COMMUNICATIONS, INC. )</b>	<b>TC97-186</b>
<b>)</b>	

The South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received requests from the above captioned telecommunications companies requesting designation as eligible telecommunications carriers.

The Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filings and the intervention deadlines to interested individuals and entities.

The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapters 1-26 and 49-31, including 1-26-18, 1-26-19, 49-31-3, 49-31-7, 49-31-7.1, 49-31-11, and 47 U.S.C. § 214(e)(1) through (5).

The issues at the hearing shall be as follows: (1) whether the above captioned telecommunications companies should be granted designation as eligible telecommunications carriers, and (2) what service areas shall be established by the Commission.

A hearing shall be held at 1:30 P.M., on Tuesday, December 2, 1997, in Room 464, State Capitol, Pierre, South Dakota. It shall be an adversary proceeding conducted pursuant to SDCL Chapter 1-26. All parties have the right to be present and to be represented by an attorney. These rights and other due process rights shall be forfeited if not exercised at the hearing. If you or your representative fail to appear at the time and place set for the hearing, the Final Decision will be based solely on the testimony and evidence provided, if any, during the hearing or a Final Decision may be issued by default pursuant to SDCL 1-26-20. After the hearing the Commission will consider all evidence and testimony that was presented at the hearing. The Commission will then enter Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and a Final Decision regarding this matter. As a result of this hearing, the Commission may either grant or deny the request from any of the above captioned telecommunications companies requesting designation as an eligible telecommunications carrier, and the Commission shall establish service areas for eligible telecommunications carriers. The Commission's decision may be appealed by the parties to the state Circuit Court and the state Supreme Court as provided by law. It is therefore

ORDERED that a hearing shall be held at the time and place specified above on the issues of whether the above captioned telecommunications companies should be granted designation as eligible telecommunications carriers, and the Commission shall establish service areas for eligible telecommunications carriers.

Pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, this hearing is being held in a physically accessible location. Please contact the Public Utilities Commission at 1-800-332-1782 at least 48 hours prior to the hearing if you have special needs so arrangements can be made to accommodate you.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 21 day of November, 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>William H. Kalbo</i></u>
Date:	<u>11/21/97</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)	

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:  
Commissioners Burg, Nelson and  
Schoenfelder

*William H. Bullard, Jr.*  
WILLIAM BULLARD, JR.  
Executive Director