

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF)
ASSOCIATED NETWORK PARTNERS, INC.)
FOR A CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY TO)
PROVIDE TELECOMMUNICATIONS)
SERVICES IN SOUTH DAKOTA)

**ORDER GRANTING
CERTIFICATE OF
AUTHORITY**

TC97-048

On April 28, 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 Associated Network Partners, Inc. (ANPI).

ANPI requested authority to resell intraLATA and interLATA, intrastate WATS and MTS long distance services to retail providers who will resell them throughout South Dakota. ANPI proposes to operate as a switchless reseller. A proposed tariff was filed by ANPI. The Commission has classified long distance service as fully competitive.

On May 1, 1997, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of May 16, 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 ANPI's request for a certificate of authority. Commission Staff recommended granting a certificate of authority.

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 ANPI has met the legal requirements established for the granting of a certificate of authority. ANPI has, in accordance with SDCL 49-31-3, demonstrated sufficient technical, financial and managerial capabilities to offer telecommunications services in South Dakota. The Commission approves ANPI's application for a certificate of authority. As the Commission's final decision in this matter, it is therefore

ORDERED, that ANPI's application for a certificate of authority is hereby granted. It is

FURTHER ORDERED, that ANPI shall file informational copies of tariff changes with the Commission as the changes occur.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 17th day of October, 1997.

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 first class mail, in properly addressed envelopes, with charges prepaid thereon.
By: <u><i>Alaine Kalbo</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