

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

**IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF)
SPECIAL ACCOUNTS BILLING GROUP, INC.)
FOR A CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY TO)
PROVIDE TELECOMMUNICATIONS)
SERVICES IN SOUTH DAKOTA)**

**ORDER GRANTING
CERTIFICATE OF
AUTHORITY**

TC98-191

On October 28, 1998, 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 Special Accounts Billing Group, Inc. (Special Accounts Billing).

Special Accounts Billing seeks authority to resell intrastate telecommunications services statewide, the services are to include 1+ interexchange services such as MTS, out-WATS, in-WATS, and Calling Card services. A proposed tariff was filed by Special Accounts Billing. The Commission has classified long distance service as fully competitive.

On October 29, 1998, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of November 13, 1998, to interested individuals and entities. No petitions to intervene or comments were filed and at its regularly scheduled November 25, 1998, meeting, the Commission considered Special Accounts Billing's request for a certificate of authority. Commission Staff recommended granting a certificate of authority, subject to the condition that Special Accounts Billing not offer a prepaid calling card or require deposits or advance payments without prior approval of the 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 Special Accounts Billing has met the legal requirements established for the granting of a certificate of authority. Special Accounts Billing 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 Special Accounts Billing's application for a certificate of authority, subject to the condition that Special Accounts Billing not offer a prepaid calling card or require deposits or advance payments without prior approval of the Commission. As the Commission's final decision in this matter, it is therefore

ORDERED, that Special Accounts Billing's application for a certificate of authority is hereby granted, effective December 28, 1998, subject to the condition that Special Accounts Billing not offer a prepaid calling card or require deposits or advance payments without prior approval of the Commission. It is

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

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 4th day of December, 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 first class mail, in properly addressed envelopes, with charges prepaid thereon.

By: *Dildine Kaelo*

Date: 12/8/98

(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

James A. Burg

JAMES A. BURG, Chairman

Pam Nelson

PAM NELSON, Commissioner

Laska Schoenfelder

LASKA SCHOENFELDER, Commissioner