

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING BY SOUTH)	ORDER APPROVING
DAKOTA INDEPENDENT TELEPHONE)	AGREEMENT
COALITION FOR APPROVAL OF)	
RECIPROCAL TRANSPORT AND)	TC98-048
TERMINATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN)	
COMMNET CELLULAR, INC. AND VENTURE)	
COMMUNICATIONS, INC.)	

On February 6, 1998, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a filing from the South Dakota Independent Telephone Coalition (SDITC) seeking approval of a reciprocal transport and termination agreement between CommNet Cellular, Inc. and Venture Communications, Inc., pursuant to 47 U.S.C. §§ 252(a)(1) and 252(e).

On February 12, 1998, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of this filing to interested individuals and entities. The notice stated that any person wishing to comment on the parties' request for approval had until March 5, 1998, to do so. Parties to the agreement had until March 26, 1998, to file written responses to the comments. SDITC filed its response to staff's analysis on April 14, 1998.

At its duly noticed April 22, 1998, meeting, the Commission considered whether to approve the negotiated agreement between CommNet Cellular and Venture. Commission Staff recommended approval.

The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapter 49-31, and the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996. Upon review of the agreement, the Commission found that, as required by 47 U.S.C. § 252(e)(2)(A), the agreement does not discriminate against a telecommunications carrier not a party to the agreement nor is the implementation of this agreement inconsistent with the public interest, convenience, and necessity. It is therefore

ORDERED, that pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 252(e) the Commission approves the negotiated agreement.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 4th day of May, 1998.

<p>CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE</p> <p>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.</p> <p>By: <u><i>Delaine Kalbo</i></u></p> <p>Date: <u><i>5/5/98</i></u></p> <p align="center">(OFFICIAL SEAL)</p>

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

James A. Burg
 JAMES A. BURG, Chairman

Pam Nelson
 PAM NELSON, Commissioner

Laska Schoenfelder
 LASKA SCHOENFELDER, Commissioner