

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF)
NOVA TELECOM, INC. FOR A CERTIFICATE)
OF AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE)
TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES IN)
SOUTH DAKOTA)

ORDER GRANTING
CERTIFICATE OF
AUTHORITY

TC98-058

On February 23, 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 Nova Telecom, Inc. (Nova).

Nova is a reseller which intends to offer 1+ direct dialing, 800 toll free, travel card and prepaid calling card service through the resale of telephone services provided by facilities-based interexchange carriers. A proposed tariff was filed by Nova. The Commission has classified long distance service as fully competitive.

On February 26, 1998, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of March 13, 1998, to interested individuals and entities. No petitions to intervene or comments were filed and at its regularly scheduled April 22, 1998, meeting, the Commission considered Nova'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 Nova has met the legal requirements established for the granting of a certificate of authority. Nova 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 Nova's application for a certificate of authority. As the Commission's final decision in this matter, it is therefore

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

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

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 28th day of April, 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: <u>Melanie Kalbo</u>
Date: <u>4/29/98</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