BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF FORT RANDALL TELEPHONE COMPANY FOR APPROVAL OF EXTENSION OF WAIVER OF SWITCHED ACCESS RULES	)))))	ORDER GRANTING EXTENSION OF WAIVER OF SWITCHED ACCESS RULES TC98-072

On April 21, 1998, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a petition by Fort Randall Telephone Company (Fort Randall) for an extension of the waiver of the switched access rules granted in TC96-125. Fort Randall requests that it be allowed to continue charging a seven cent switched access rate in all seven of its exchanges until the Commission approves a new rate based on a cost study conducted for all of Fort Randall's exchanges using calendar year 1998 data. Fort Randall did not acquire the Tabor, Centerville and Viborg exchanges until June 1, 1997, and it does not have twelve months of actual operations and traffic information for these three exchanges.

On April 23, 1998, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of May 8, 1998, to interested individuals and entities. No parties have filed for intervention.

At its regularly scheduled meeting of May 28, 1998, the Commission considered the matter along with comments from Staff.

The Commission finds that it has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapters 1-26 and 49-34A and ARSD 20:10:27:02. Further, the Commission finds that it has good cause to grant an extension of the waiver of the switched access rules and petitioner shall file its cost study by May 1, 1999. It is therefore

ORDERED, that the request for an extension of the waiver of switched access rules is hereby granted; and it is further

ORDERED, that petitioner shall file its cost study by May 1, 1999.

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

By: Delaine Kolbo

Date: 6/5/98

(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

James A. Burg

JAMES A. BURG, Chairman

Pam Nelson

PAM NELSON, Commissioner

Laska Schoenfelder

LASKA SCHOENFELDER, Commissioner