

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTABLISHMENT) OF SWITCHED ACCESS REVENUE) REQUIREMENT FOR WESTERN TELEPHONE) COMPANY)	ORDER APPROVING REVENUE REQUIREMENT TC98-083
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On April 29, 1998, Western Telephone Company (Western) filed for approval by the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) its 1997 Intrastate Switched Access Cost Study.

On April 30, 1998, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of May 15, 1998, to interested individuals and entities. On May 28, 1998, the Commission voted to assess a \$3,000 filing fee. Staff filed a memorandum on October 13, 1998, with the concurrence of the company, setting forth a recommended revenue requirement and minutes of use. The Commission considered this matter at its November 3, 1998, meeting.

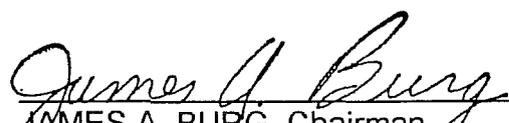
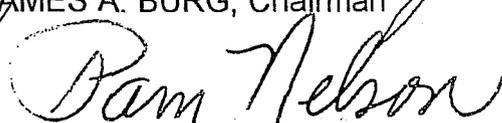
The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL 1-26-17.1, 49-1A-9, 49-31-12.4, 49-31-12.6, 49-31-18, 49-31-19 and ARSD 20:10:01:15.02, 20:10:01:15.05, 20:10:27:07 and 20:10:27:08. Upon review of Western's filing, the Commission found that the revenue requirement and minutes of use as depicted in Staff's memorandum was fair and reasonable and should be approved. (Commissioner Schoenfelder dissenting.) As the Commission's final decision in this matter, it is therefore

ORDERED that Western's revenue requirement and minutes of use are hereby approved as revised and shall be incorporated in the Local Exchange Carriers Association's determination of switched access rates. (See TC98-090.)

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 9th day of November, 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: <u> Allaine Kalbo </u>
Date: <u> 11/10/98 </u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

 _____ JAMES A. BURG, Chairman	 _____ PAM NELSON, Commissioner
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LASKA SCHOENFELDER, Commissioner
dissenting