

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING BY MOUNT)
RUSHMORE TELEPHONE COMPANY FOR) ORDER APPROVING
APPROVAL OF SWITCHED ACCESS RATES) SWITCHED ACCESS RATES
)
) TC98-211

On December 16, 1998, Mount Rushmore Telephone Company (Mount Rushmore) filed for approval by the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) its revised switched access tariff sheets. This filing reflects the switched access rates as determined by dividing the Commission approved revenue requirement by the Commission approved minutes of use for the cost study companies operating in South Dakota, excluding U S WEST Communications, Inc.

On December 16, 1998, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of December 24, 1998, to interested individuals and entities. The Commission considered this matter at its December 30, 1998, meeting. Commission Staff recommended approval.

The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL 1-26-17.1, 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, 20:10:27:08, 20:10:27:11 and 20:10:27:12. Upon review of Mount Rushmore's filing, the Commission found that the revised switched access rates were fair and reasonable and should be approved. As the Commission's final decision in this matter, it is therefore

ORDERED that Mount Rushmore's revised switched access rates are hereby approved and shall become effective January 1, 1999.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 15th day of January, 1999.

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><i>Helaine Kalbo</i></u>
Date: <u>1/19/99</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