

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

<b>IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF ) TELECOMMUNICATIONS COOPERATIVE ) NETWORK, INC. FOR A CERTIFICATE OF ) AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE ) TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES IN ) SOUTH DAKOTA )</b>	<b>ORDER GRANTING CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY  TC98-209</b>
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On December 16, 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 Telecommunications Cooperative Network, Inc. (TCN).

TCN plans to provide 24-hour intrastate interexchange telecommunications services over facilities leased from other carriers. Specifically, TCN proposes to provide intrastate interexchange telecommunications services, including 1+ direct dialed message telecommunications services. A proposed tariff was filed by TCN. The Commission has classified long distance service as fully competitive.

On December 17, 1998, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of December 31, 1998, to interested individuals and entities. No petitions to intervene or comments were filed and at its April 26, 1999, meeting, the Commission considered TCN's request for a certificate of authority. Commission Staff recommended granting a certificate of authority, subject to the condition that TCN not offer a prepaid calling card or require deposits or advance payments without prior approval of the Commission.

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 TCN has met the legal requirements established for the granting of a certificate of authority. TCN 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 TCN's application for a certificate of authority, subject to the condition that TCN not offer a prepaid calling card or require deposits or advance payments without prior approval of the Commission. As the Commission's final decision in this matter, it is therefore

**ORDERED**, that TCN's application for a certificate of authority is hereby granted, subject to the condition that TCN not offer a prepaid calling card or require deposits or advance payments without prior approval of the Commission. It is

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

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 5th day of May, 1999.

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

**BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:**

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: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

(OFFICIAL SEAL)

JAMES A. BURG, Chairman

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PAM NELSON, Commissioner

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LASKA SCHOENFELDER, Commissioner