

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF)	ORDER GRANTING
HJN TELECOM, INC. FOR A CERTIFICATE OF)	CERTIFICATE OF
AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE LOCAL EXCHANGE)	AUTHORITY
SERVICES IN SOUTH DAKOTA)	TC99-008

On January 22, 1999, the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received an application for a certificate of authority from HJN Telecom, Inc. (HJN).

HJN is a reseller which intends to offer all local services provided by the incumbent LECs in areas that are not eligible for a small or rural carrier exemption pursuant to § 251(f)(1) of the federal Act.

On January 28, 1999, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of February 12, 1999, to interested individuals and entities. No petitions to intervene or comments were filed and at its regularly scheduled June 22, 1999, meeting, the Commission considered HJN's request for a certificate of authority. Commission Staff recommended granting a certificate of authority, subject to rural safeguards, and subject to the condition that HJN not offer a prepaid calling card or require deposits or advance payments without prior approval of the Commission. Commission Staff further recommended a waiver of 20:10:32:03(13).

The Commission finds that it has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to Chapter 49-31, specifically 49-31-69 and ARSD 20:10:32:03. The Commission finds that HJN has met the legal requirements established for the granting of a certificate of authority. HJN has, in accordance with SDCL 49-31-71, demonstrated sufficient technical, financial and managerial capabilities to offer telecommunications services in South Dakota. Further, the Commission finds that there is good cause to waive subparagraph (13) of ARSD 20:10:32:03.

The Commission approves HJN's application for a certificate of authority, subject to rural safeguards, and subject to the condition that HJN not offer a prepaid calling card or require deposits or advance payments without prior approval of the Commission. The certificate of authority for HJN shall authorize it to offer local exchange services in those areas in South Dakota where U S WEST Communications, Inc. is the incumbent local exchange carrier. In the future, should HJN choose to provide local exchange services statewide, with respect to rural telephone companies, HJN will have to come before the Commission in another proceeding before being able to provide local service in that rural service area pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 253(f) which allows the Commission to require a company that seeks to provide service in a rural service area to meet the requirements in 47 U.S.C. § 214(e)(1) for designation as an eligible telecommunications carrier. In addition, the granting of statewide certification will not affect the exemptions, suspensions, and modifications for rural telephone companies found in 47 U.S.C. § 251(f). It is therefore

ORDERED, that HJN's application for a certificate of authority to provide telecommunications services, including local exchange services, is granted, subject to the condition that HJN not offer a prepaid calling card or require deposits or advance payments without prior approval of the Commission; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that HJN shall file informational copies of tariff changes with the Commission as the changes occur; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that the Commission shall authorize HJN to offer its local exchange services in those areas in South Dakota where U S WEST Communications, Inc. is the incumbent local exchange carrier; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that the Commission finds good cause to waive subparagraph (13) of ARSD 20:10:32:03.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 25th day of June, 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 Kalke</i></u>
Date: <u>6/25/99</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