

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTABLISHMENT) OF SWITCHED ACCESS REVENUE) REQUIREMENT FOR TRI-COUNTY TELECOM,) INC.)	ORDER ASSESSING FILING FEE TC99-078
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On July 1, 1999, Tri-County Telecom, Inc. (Tri-County) filed for approval by the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) its 1998 Intrastate Switched Access Cost Study.

On July 8, 1999, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of July 23, 1999, to interested individuals and entities.

SDCL 49-31-12.6 authorizes the Commission to require a deposit of up to one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) in the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission's (SDPUC) regulatory assessment fee fund to defray Commission expenses incident to analyzing and ruling upon this type of filing.

The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL 1-26-17.1, 49-1A-9, 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.

On July 13, 1999, at its regularly scheduled meeting, the Commission, pursuant to SDCL 49-31-12.6, unanimously voted to assess Tri-County a filing fee as requested by the Executive Director up to the statutory limit of \$100,000. It is therefore

ORDERED that Tri-County shall deposit in the SDPUC regulatory assessment fee fund an amount as requested by the Executive Director up to the statutory limit of \$100,000.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 16th day of July, 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>William Kolbo</i></u>
Date: <u>7/19/99</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