

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING BY U S WEST) COMMUNICATIONS, INC. FOR APPROVAL OF) A NEGOTIATED/ARBITRATED TERMS OF) AGREEMENT FOR INTERCONNECTION,) RESALE, AND UNBUNDLED ELEMENTS) BETWEEN CCCSD, INC. DBA CONNECT! AND) U S WEST COMMUNICATIONS, INC)	ORDER APPROVING AGREEMENT TC99-007
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On January 21, 1999, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a filing from U S WEST Communications, Inc. (U S WEST) for approval of a negotiated interconnection, resale and unbundled elements agreement between U S WEST and CCCSD, Inc. dba Connect! (Connect!) pursuant to 47 U.S.C. §§ 252(a)(1) and 252(e).

On January 28, 1999, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of this filing to interested individuals and entities. The notice stated that any person wishing to comment on the parties' request for approval had until February 10, 1999, to do so. Parties to the agreement then had until twenty days of service of these comments to file written responses. No parties filed comments.

At its duly noticed August 17, 1999, meeting, the Commission considered whether to approve the interconnection agreement between U S WEST and Connect!. Commission Staff recommended approval as just prior to this being considered by the Commission, Connect! was granted a certificate of authority to be engaged in the providing of telecommunications services in South Dakota.

The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapter 49-31, specifically 49-31-81, and the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996. Upon review of the agreement, the Commission found that, as required by 47 U.S.C. § 252(e)(2)(A), the agreement does not discriminate against a telecommunications carrier not a party to the agreement nor is the implementation of this agreement inconsistent with the public interest, convenience, and necessity. It is therefore

ORDERED, that pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 252(e) and 49-31-81, the Commission approves the interconnection agreement which is the subject of this docket.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 26th day of August, 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>Alaine Keeso</i></u>
Date: <u>8/27/99</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