

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF)	ORDER GRANTING
NOR COMMUNICATIONS, INC. FOR A)	CERTIFICATE OF
CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE)	AUTHORITY
TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES IN)	
SOUTH DAKOTA)	TC99-028

On March 30, 1999, 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 Nor Communications, Inc. (Nor).

Nor proposes to offer a full range of 1+ interexchange services, specifically MTS, out-WATS, in-WATS and calling card services. A proposed tariff was filed by Nor. The Commission has classified long distance service as fully competitive.

On April 1, 1999, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of April 16, 1999, to interested individuals and entities. No petitions to intervene or comments were filed and at its July 13, 1999, meeting, the Commission considered Nor's request for a certificate of authority. Commission Staff recommended granting a certificate of authority, subject to the condition that Nor 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 ARSD 20:10:24:02(8).

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 Nor has met the legal requirements established for the granting of a certificate of authority. Nor has, in accordance with SDCL 49-31-3, 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 ARSD 20:10:24:02(8). The Commission approves Nor's application for a certificate of authority, subject to the condition that Nor 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 Nor's application for a certificate of authority is hereby granted, subject to the condition that Nor not offer a prepaid calling card or require deposits or advance payments without prior approval of the Commission. It is

FURTHER ORDERED, that the Commission finds good cause to waive ARSD 20:10:24:02(8). It is

FURTHER ORDERED, that Nor shall file informational copies of tariff changes with the Commission as the changes occur.

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 first class mail, in properly addressed envelopes, with charges prepaid thereon.
By: <u><i>William Kalbo</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