

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF)	ORDER GRANTING
PATHNET, INC. FOR A CERTIFICATE OF)	CERTIFICATE OF
AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE)	AUTHORITY
TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES IN)	
SOUTH DAKOTA)	TC00-018

On February 16, 2000, 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 Pathnet, Inc. (Pathnet).

Pathnet intends to offer point-to-point private line services ranging from DS-0 to OC-n, using TDM technology. Pathnet further plans to offer TDM-based special access services. Pathnet also plans to offer data services, including digital subscriber line (xDSL) services. Pathnet intends to offer these private line, special access and data services primarily to other carriers and to Internet service providers. Pathnet further plans to offer exchange services in which it will provide link and extended link (including transport) services connecting other telecommunications providers' switches to their end users. A proposed tariff was filed by Pathnet. The Commission has classified long distance service as fully competitive.

On February 17, 2000, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of March 3, 2000, to interested individuals and entities. No petitions to intervene or comments were filed and at its June 20, 2000, meeting, the Commission considered Pathnet's request for a certificate of authority. Commission Staff recommended granting a certificate of authority, subject to a continuous \$25,000 surety bond. Commission Staff further recommended a waiver of ARSD 20:10:24:02(11).

The Commission finds that it has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapter 49-31, specifically 49-31-3 and ARSD 20:10:24:02 and 20:10:24:03. The Commission finds that Pathnet has met the legal requirements established for the granting of a certificate of authority. Pathnet 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 subparagraph (11) of ARSD 20:10:24:02. The Commission approves Pathnet's application for a certificate of authority, subject to a continuous \$25,000 surety bond. As the Commission's final decision in this matter, it is therefore

ORDERED, that Pathnet's application for a certificate of authority is hereby granted, subject to a continuous \$25,000 surety bond. It is

FURTHER ORDERED, that the Commission finds good cause to waive subparagraph (11) of ARSD 20:10:24:02. It is

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

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 28th day of June, 2000.

<p style="text-align: center;">CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE</p> <p>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.</p> <p>By: _____</p> <p>Date: _____</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(OFFICIAL SEAL)</p>

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

JAMES A. BURG, Chairman

PAM NELSON, Commissioner

LASKA SCHOENFELDER, Commissioner