

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF)	ORDER GRANTING
INTEGRA TELECOM OF SOUTH DAKOTA,)	CERTIFICATE OF
INC. FOR A CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY TO)	AUTHORITY
PROVIDE TELECOMMUNICATIONS)	
SERVICES, INCLUDING LOCAL EXCHANGE)	TC00-071
SERVICES, IN SOUTH DAKOTA)	

On April 14, 2000, the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received an application for a certificate of authority from Integra Telecom of South Dakota, Inc. (Integra).

Integra intends to provide local exchange and interexchange telecommunications services. A proposed tariff was filed by Integra.

On April 20, 2000, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of May 5, 2000, to interested individuals and entities. No petitions to intervene or comments were filed and at its regularly scheduled August 22, 2000, meeting, the Commission considered Integra's request for a certificate of authority. Commission Staff recommended granting a certificate of authority, subject to rural safeguards and a continuous \$25,000 surety bond. Commission Staff further recommended a waiver of ARSD 20:10:24:02(8) and 20:10:32:03(11).

The Commission finds that it has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapter 49-31, specifically 49-31-3 and 49-31-69 and ARSD 20:10:24:02, 20:10:24:03 and 20:10:32:03. The Commission finds that Integra has met the legal requirements established for the granting of a certificate of authority. Integra has, in accordance with SDCL 49-31-3 and 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 (8) of ARSD 20:10:24:02 and subparagraph (11) of ARSD 20:10:32:03.

The Commission approves Integra's application for a certificate of authority, subject to rural safeguards and a continuous \$25,000 surety bond. The certificate of authority for Integra shall authorize it to offer local exchange services in South Dakota, except in those areas served by a rural telephone company. In the future, should Integra choose to provide local exchange services statewide, with respect to rural telephone companies, Integra 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

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

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 25th day of August, 2000.

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>Melanie Kelso</i></u>
Date: <u><i>8/29/00</i></u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

James A. Burg
JAMES A. BURG, Chairman

Laska Schoenfelder
LASKA SCHOENFELDER, Commissioner