

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF)
NORSTAR COMMUNICATIONS, INC. D/B/A)
BUSINESS SAVINGS PLAN FOR A)
CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE)
TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES IN)
SOUTH DAKOTA)

ORDER GRANTING
CERTIFICATE OF
AUTHORITY

TC00-097

On June 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 Norstar Communications, Inc. d/b/a Business Savings Plan (Norstar).

Norstar proposes to offer MTS, in-WATS, out-WATS and calling card services. A proposed tariff was filed by Norstar. The Commission has classified long distance service as fully competitive.

On June 22, 2000, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of July 7, 2000, to interested individuals and entities. No petitions to intervene or comments were filed and at its September 13, 2000, meeting, the Commission considered Norstar's request for a certificate of authority. Commission Staff recommended granting a certificate of authority, subject to the condition that Norstar not offer a prepaid calling card or require deposits or advance payments without prior approval of the Commission.

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 Norstar has met the legal requirements established for the granting of a certificate of authority. Norstar has, in accordance with SDCL 49-31-3, demonstrated sufficient technical, financial and managerial capabilities to offer telecommunications services in South Dakota. The Commission approves Norstar's application for a certificate of authority, subject to the condition that Norstar 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 Norstar's application for a certificate of authority is hereby granted, subject to the condition that Norstar not offer a prepaid calling card or require deposits or advance payments without prior approval of the Commission. It is

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

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 19th day of September, 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>Helaine Kalbo</i></u>
Date: <u>9/20/00</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