BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING FOR APPROVAL OF A THIRD AMENDMENT TO AN INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT BETWEEN MCLEODUSA TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES, INC. AND QWEST CORPORATION	)))))	ORDER APPROVING THIRD AMENDMENT TO AGREEMENT TC00-119

On August 8, 2000, Qwest Corporation (Qwest), fka U S WEST Communications, Inc. filed for approval by the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) a third amendment to an interconnection agreement between McLeodUSA Telecommunications Services, Inc. (McLeod) and Qwest. The third amendment adds terms, conditions and rates for load coils/bridge taps and DS3 capable loop to the original agreement.

On August 10, 2000, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing of the third amendment to interested individuals and entities. The notice stated that any person wishing to comment on the parties' request for approval had until August 28, 2000, to do so. No comments were filed.

At its duly noticed September 26, 2000, meeting, the Commission considered whether to approve the negotiated third amendment to the agreement between Qwest and McLeod. Commission Staff recommended its approval.

The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapter 49-31, and the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996. In accordance with 47 U.S.C. § 252(e)(2), the Commission found that the third amendment does not discriminate against a telecommunications carrier that is not a party to the third amendment and the third amendment is consistent with the public interest, convenience, and necessity. The Commission unanimously voted to approve the third amendment to the agreement. It is therefore

ORDERED, that the Commission approves the negotiated third amendment to the agreement as described herein.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 29th 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 facsimile or by first class mail, in properly addressed envelopes, with charges prepaid thereon.

By: Delaine Kolbo

Date: 9/29/00

(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

James A. Burg

JAMES A. BURG, Chairman

Pam Nelson

PAM NELSON, Commissioner

Laska Schoenfelder

LASKA SCHOENFELDER, Commissioner