

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING FOR)	ORDER GRANTING
APPROVAL OF A BOUNDARY CHANGE)	AMENDED CERTIFICATES
BETWEEN VALLEY TELECOMMUNICATIONS)	OF AUTHORITY AND
COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION, INC. AND)	ORDER APPROVING
WEST RIVER TELECOMMUNICATIONS)	BOUNDARY CHANGE
COOPERATIVE)	TC00-139

On September 25, 2000, the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a joint agreement between Valley Telecommunications Coop Assn., Inc. (Valley), Herreid, South Dakota, and West River Telecommunications Cooperative (West River), Hazen, North Dakota, which proposed to set forth a more defined exchange boundary between the Mobridge and Glenham, South Dakota exchanges. The proposal moved the service territory boundary lines along the section lines. According to the filing, no customer or extended area service issues exist. Following data requests from Commission Staff, Valley and West River submitted a joint application for Amended Certificates of Authority which the Commission received on December 5, 2000, pursuant to SDCL 49-31-69. Valley and West River also requested a waiver of ARSD 20:10:32:03, as the Commission already has the information needed on file.

On December 12, 2000, at its regularly scheduled meeting, the Commission considered the parties' request for approval of the joint request for a boundary change, the joint application for Amended Certificates of Authority, and waiver of ARSD 20:10:32:03.

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 20:10:32:03. The Commission finds that Valley and West River have met the legal requirements established for the granting of amended certificates of authority. Valley and West River have, 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 subparagraphs 1 through 7, 9 through 21, and 23 of ARSD 20:10:32:03. Further, the Commission finds that pursuant to SDCL 49-31-69, the Amended Certificates of Authority shall be granted, that the proposed boundary territory change between Valley and West River is in the public interest and the request shall be granted, and ARSD 20:10:32:03, parts 1 through 7, 9 through 21, and 23 shall be waived. As the Commission's final decision in this matter, it is therefore

ORDERED, that the request for Amended Certificates of Authority shall be granted; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that the proposed boundary territory change between Valley and West River shall be granted; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that ARSD 20:10:32:03, parts 1 through 7, 9 through 21, and 23 shall be waived.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 21st day of December, 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: Alaine Halbo

Date: 12/22/00

(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

James A. Burg
JAMES A. BURG, Chairman

Pam Nelson
PAM NELSON, Commissioner

Laska Schoenfelder
LASKA SCHÖENFELDER, Commissioner