

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

<b>IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING BY U S WEST )          COMMUNICATIONS, INC. FOR APPROVAL OF )          TARIFF PAGES FOR ITS ACCESS SERVICE )          TARIFF IMPLEMENTING ITS INTRALATA )          TOLL DIALING PARITY PLAN )</b>	<b>ORDER APPROVING          REVISED TARIFF PAGES           TC99-053</b>
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On May 3, 1999, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a filing from U S WEST Communications, Inc. (U S WEST) for approval of its Access Service Tariff pages implementing its IntraLATA Toll Dialing Parity Plan. On June 1, 1999, U S WEST filed a Petition for Cost Recovery Charge requesting recovery of its costs associated with the implementation and conversion of intraLATA equal access in South Dakota in 1999. U S WEST requests approval of an equal access recovery charge of \$.001136 per minute of use in accordance with its equal access cost study. U S WEST further requests that this charge be recovered over a three year period of time with true-ups annually.

On May 6, 1999, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of May 21, 1999, to interested individuals and entities. The Commission granted intervention by Order dated June 22, 1999 to the South Dakota Independent Telephone Coalition (SDITC) and AT&T Communications of the Midwest, Inc. (AT&T). On September 3, 1999, the Commission received a late-filed Petition to Intervene from Sprint Corporation. At its September 8, 1999, meeting, the Commission denied Sprint's Petition to Intervene. On September 10, 1999, U S WEST filed a Motion for a 30-Day Continuance of Hearing Date and Expedited Consideration. On September 17, 1999, AT&T filed a Motion for Extension of Time to File Testimony. The Commission granted both motions. A Stipulation and Settlement Agreement was filed with the Commission on November 1, 1999. At the hearing held on November 2, 1999, the Commission considered the Stipulation. The matter was deferred at that time so that the parties could clarify some of the issues within the Stipulation. An Amended Stipulation and Settlement Agreement was filed on November 30, 1999, and approved by the Commission on December 14, 1999.

The following tariff sheets were filed with regard to the Access Service Tariff:

<u>Section</u>	<u>Page</u>	<u>Release</u>
1	8	2
1	9	3
6	134	2
6	154	4
13	Index 2	2
13	3	3

13	3.1	1
13	3.2	1
13	3.3	1
13	3.4	1

At its duly noticed meeting on December 28, 1999, the Commission considered this matter. Commission Staff recommended approval of the filing.

The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapter 49-31 and 47 U.S.C. §§ 251 and 252. The Commission unanimously voted to approve the above revisions to U S WEST's Access Service Tariff. It is therefore

ORDERED, that the Commission approves the above-referenced U S WEST revisions to its Access Service Tariff.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 12th day of January, 2000.

<p><b>CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE</b></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 facsimile or 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>
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BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

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 JAMES A. BURG, Chairman

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 PAM NELSON, Commissioner

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 LASKA SCHOENFELDER, Commissioner