

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF)	ORDER GRANTING
CONNECT!LD, INC. FOR A CERTIFICATE OF)	CERTIFICATE OF
AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE)	AUTHORITY
TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES IN)	
SOUTH DAKOTA)	TC99-104

On November 4, 1999, 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 Connect!LD, Inc. (Connect).

Connect proposes to offer presubscribed "1+" and toll free inbound services throughout the state of South Dakota. A proposed tariff was filed by Connect. The Commission has classified long distance service as fully competitive.

On November 12, 1999, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of November 26, 1999, to interested individuals and entities. No petitions to intervene or comments were filed and at its January 6, 2000, meeting, the Commission considered Connect's request for a certificate of authority. Commission Staff recommended granting a certificate of authority, subject to the condition that Connect 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 Connect has met the legal requirements established for the granting of a certificate of authority. Connect 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 Connect's application for a certificate of authority, subject to the condition that Connect 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 Connect's application for a certificate of authority is hereby granted, subject to the condition that Connect not offer a prepaid calling card or require deposits or advance payments without prior approval of the Commission. It is

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

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

<p style="text-align: center;">CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE</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 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>

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

JAMES A. BURG, Chairman

PAM NELSON, Commissioner

LASKA SCHOENFELDER, Commissioner