

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING FOR ) APPROVAL OF A SEVENTH AMENDMENT TO ) AN INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT ) BETWEEN QWEST CORPORATION AND ) MCLEODUSA TELECOMMUNICATIONS ) SERVICES, INC. )	ORDER APPROVING SEVENTH AMENDMENT TO AGREEMENT  TC00-204
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On December 20, 2000, McLeodUSA Telecommunications Services, Inc. (McLeod) filed for approval by the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) a seventh amendment to an interconnection agreement between Qwest Corporation (Qwest) and McLeod. The seventh amendment includes terms and conditions associated with the business-to-business relationship.

On December 21, 2000, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing of the seventh amendment to interested individuals and entities. The notice stated that any person wishing to comment on the parties' request for approval had until January 9, 2001, to do so. No comments were filed.

At its duly noticed January 17, 2001, meeting, the Commission considered whether to approve the negotiated seventh 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 seventh amendment does not discriminate against a telecommunications carrier that is not a party to the seventh amendment and the seventh amendment is consistent with the public interest, convenience, and necessity. The Commission unanimously voted to approve the seventh amendment to the agreement. It is therefore

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

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 24<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2001.

<b>CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE</b>
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: <u>Allema Kalbo</u>
Date: <u>1/25/01</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Pam Nelson

PAM NELSON, Vice Chairman

Laska Schoenfelder

LASKA SCHOENFELDER, Commissioner