

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

**IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING BY RDST,)
INC. FOR APPROVAL OF RELIEF OF) AMENDED CERTIFICATE OF
CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENT TO POST) AUTHORITY
SURETY BOND)
)
) **TC02-043****

On April 21, 1999, the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received an application for a certificate of authority from RDST, Inc. (RDST).

RDST sought authority to provide 1+ and 101XXXX direct outbound dialing, 800/888 toll-free inbound dialing, travel card and prepaid calling card service. A proposed tariff was filed by RDST.

On April 23, 1999, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of May 7, 1999, to interested individuals and entities. No petitions to intervene or comments were filed and at its June 22, 1999, meeting, the Commission granted RDST's request for a certificate of authority, subject to a continuous surety bond.

On March 15, 2002, the Commission received notice that Travelers Casualty and Surety Company of America would cancel Bond No. 103186600 on May 25, 2002. On May 7, 2002, RDST filed for bond relief. RDST requested that the requirement to post a continuous \$25,000 bond be removed and agreed to restrictions on its certificate of authority from offering prepaid services and collecting customer deposits and advanced payments.

At its regularly scheduled May 9, 2002, meeting, Staff recommended that the Commission reconsider the terms and conditions of RDST's certificate of authority to remove the requirement that the certificate of authority be subject to a continuous \$25,000 bond and impose a new restriction that RDST not offer a prepaid calling card or require or accept 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 RDST has met the legal requirements established for the granting of an amended certificate of authority. RDST 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 RDST's application for an amended certificate of authority, subject to the condition that RDST not offer a prepaid calling card or require or accept deposits or advance payments without prior approval of the Commission. As the Commission's final decision in this matter, It is therefore

ORDERED, that RDST's application for an amended certificate of authority to provide interexchange telecommunications services is granted, subject to the removal of the condition of a surety bond, and subject to the condition that RDST not offer a prepaid calling card or require or accept deposits or advance payments without prior approval of the Commission.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 16th day of May, 2002

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:	<u>Alfredo Kasbo</u>
Date:	<u>5/17/02</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)	

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

James A. Burg
JAMES A. BURG, Chairman

Pam Nelson
PAM NELSON, Commissioner

Robert K. Sahr
ROBERT K. SAHR, Commissioner