

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

**IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF)
RIDLEY TELEPHONE COMPANY, LLC FOR A)
CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE)
INTEREXCHANGE TELECOMMUNICATIONS)
SERVICES IN SOUTH DAKOTA)**

**ORDER GRANTING
CERTIFICATE OF
AUTHORITY**

TC02-102

On August 12, 2002, 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 Ridley Telephone Company, LLC (RTC).

RTC proposes to offer a full range of "1+" interexchange telecommunications services on a resale basis. A proposed tariff was filed by RTC. The Commission has classified long distance service as fully competitive.

On August 15, 2002, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of August 30, 2002, to interested individuals and entities. No petitions to intervene or comments were filed and at its October 17, 2002, meeting, the Commission considered RTC's request for a certificate of authority. Commission Staff recommended granting a certificate of authority, subject to the condition that RTC not offer a prepaid calling card or require or accept deposits or advance payments without prior approval of the Commission. Commission Staff further recommended a waiver of ARSD 20:10:24:02(8).

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 RTC has met the legal requirements established for the granting of a certificate of authority. RTC has, in accordance with SDCL 49-31-3, 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 ARSD 20:10:24:02(8). The Commission approves RTC's application for a certificate of authority, subject to the condition that RTC 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 RTC's application for a certificate of authority to provide interexchange telecommunications services is hereby granted, subject to the condition that RTC not offer a prepaid calling card or require or accept deposits or advance payments without prior approval of the Commission. It is

FURTHER ORDERED, that the Commission waives ARSD 20:10:24:02(8). It is

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

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 31st day of October, 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 first class mail, in properly addressed envelopes, with charges prepaid thereon.
By: <u>Melaine Kelbo</u>
Date: <u>11/1/02</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