

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

**IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF )  
BUYERS UNITED, INC. D/B/A BUYERSONLINE )  
AND D/B/A UNITED CARRIER NETWORKS )  
FOR A CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY TO )  
PROVIDE INTEREXCHANGE )  
TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES IN )  
SOUTH DAKOTA )**

**ORDER GRANTING  
CERTIFICATE OF  
AUTHORITY**

**TC02-163**

On September 23, 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 Buyers United, Inc. d/b/a BuyersOnline and d/b/a United Carrier Networks (Buyers United).

Buyers United intends to resell intrastate long distance and provide in a limited capacity, internet services throughout South Dakota. A proposed tariff was filed by Buyers United. The Commission has classified long distance service as fully competitive.

On September 26, 2002, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of October 11, 2002, to interested individuals and entities. No petitions to intervene or comments were filed and at its November 20, 2002, meeting, the Commission considered Buyers United's request for a certificate of authority. Commission Staff recommended granting a certificate of authority, subject to the condition that Buyers United 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 Buyers United has met the legal requirements established for the granting of a certificate of authority. Buyers United 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 Buyers United's application for a certificate of authority, subject to the condition that Buyers United 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 Buyers United's application for a certificate of authority to provide interexchange telecommunications services is hereby granted, effective November 22, 2002, subject to the condition that Buyers United 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 Buyers United shall file informational copies of tariff changes with the Commission as the changes occur.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of December, 2002.

<p style="text-align: center;"><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 first class mail, in properly addressed envelopes, with charges prepaid thereon.</p> <p>By: <u><i>Nelaine Kalbo</i></u></p> <p>Date: <u>12/3/02</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">(OFFICIAL SEAL)</p>
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BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

*James A. Burg*  
JAMES A. BURG, Chairman

*Pam Nelson*  
PAM NELSON, Commissioner

*Robert K. Sahr*  
ROBERT K. SAHR, Commissioner