

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING FOR ) APPROVAL OF AN INTERCONNECTION ) AGREEMENT BETWEEN MCLEODUSA ) TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES, INC. ) AND MIDCONTINENT COMMUNICATIONS, ) INC. )	ORDER APPROVING AGREEMENT  TC03-064
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On April 2, 2003, the Commission received for approval a filing of an Interconnection Agreement between McLeodUSA Telecommunications Services, Inc. (McLeod) and Midcontinent Communications, Inc. (Midcontinent).

On April 3, 2003, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing to interested individuals and entities. The notice stated that any person wishing to comment on the parties' request for approval had until April 22, 2003, to do so. No comments were filed.

At its duly noticed May 6, 2003, meeting, the Commission considered whether to approve the agreement between McLeod and Midcontinent. 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 agreement does not discriminate against a telecommunications carrier that is not a party to the agreement and the agreement is consistent with the public interest, convenience, and necessity. The Commission unanimously voted to approve the agreement. It is therefore

ORDERED, that the Commission approves the agreement.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 16<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2003.

<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>William Kalbo</u>
Date: <u>5/19/03</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Robert K. Sahr  
ROBERT K. SAHR, Chairman

Gary Hanson  
GARY HANSON, Commissioner

James A. Burg  
JAMES A. BURG, Commissioner