

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF 1-)	ORDER GRANTING
800-RECONEX, INC. D/B/A USTEL FOR A)	CERTIFICATE OF
CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE)	AUTHORITY
INTEREXCHANGE TELECOMMUNICATIONS)	
SERVICES IN SOUTH DAKOTA)	TC03-155

On August 11, 2003, 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 1-800-RECONEX, Inc. d/b/a USTel (RECONEX).

RECONEX proposes to provide interexchange telecommunications services in South Dakota. A proposed tariff was filed by RECONEX. The Commission has classified long distance service as fully competitive.

On August 14, 2003, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of August 29, 2003, to interested individuals and entities. No petitions to intervene or comments were filed and at its October 16, 2003, meeting, the Commission considered RECONEX's request for a certificate of authority. Commission Staff recommended granting a certificate of authority, subject to the condition that RECONEX not offer a prepaid calling card or require or accept deposits or advance payments without prior approval of the Commission. Staff also recommended that the company's Certificate of Authority which was granted in Docket TC97-160 also be amended to state that RECONEX not offer a prepaid calling card or require or accept deposits or advance payments without prior approval of the Commission. RECONEX agreed to this amendment of its local exchange service certification.

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 RECONEX has met the legal requirements established for the granting of a certificate of authority. RECONEX 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 RECONEX's application for a certificate of authority, subject to the condition that RECONEX not offer a prepaid calling card or require or accept deposits or advance payments without prior approval of the Commission, and the condition that RECONEX accept the same restrictions on its local exchange services Certificate of Authority which was issued in Docket TC97-160. As the Commission's final decision in this matter, it is therefore

ORDERED, that RECONEX's application for a certificate of authority to provide interexchange telecommunications services is hereby granted, subject to the condition that RECONEX 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 Order Granting RECONEX a Certificate of Authority for local exchange service in TC97-160 shall be AMENDED and be subject to the condition that RECONEX 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 RECONEX shall file informational copies of tariff changes with the Commission as the changes occur.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 28th day of October, 2003.

<p style="text-align: center;">CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE</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>Alaine Kolbo</i></u></p> <p>Date: <u>10/30/03</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">(OFFICIAL SEAL)</p>
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BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Robert K. Sahr
ROBERT K. SAHR, Chairman

Gary Hanson
GARY HANSON, Commissioner

James A. Burg
JAMES A. BURG, Commissioner