

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING BY GRANITE)	ORDER GRANTING
TELECOMMUNICATIONS, LLC FOR AN)	AMENDED CERTIFICATE OF
AMENDED CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY TO)	AUTHORITY
PROVIDE INTEREXCHANGE)	
TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES AND)	TC04-101
LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICES IN SOUTH)	
DAKOTA)	

On October 17, 2003, the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received an application for a certificate of authority from Granite Telecommunications, LLC (Granite).

Granite proposed to offer facilities-based and resold local exchange and resold intrastate interexchange telecommunications services within Qwest's service area in South Dakota. A proposed tariff was filed by Granite.

On October 23, 2003, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of November 7, 2003, to interested individuals and entities. No petitions to intervene or comments were filed and at its regularly scheduled December 2, 2003, meeting, the Commission considered Granite's request for a certificate of authority. Commission Staff recommended granting a certificate of authority, with an effective date of December 17, 2003, subject to rural safeguards, and subject to the condition that Granite not offer prepaid services or require or accept deposits or advance payments without prior approval of the Commission.

On June 8, 2004, Granite filed a \$25,000 surety bond with the Commission and requested that the restrictions be removed from its certificate of authority and that it be allowed to offer prepaid services.

At its regularly scheduled July 6, 2004, meeting, Staff recommended that the Commission reconsider the terms and conditions of Granite's certificate of authority to permit Granite to post a \$25,000 surety bond, and remove the restrictions that Granite not offering a prepaid calling card or require 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 49-31-69 and ARSD 20:10:24:02, 20:10:24:03 and 20:10:32:03. The Commission finds that Granite has met the legal requirements established for the granting of a certificate of authority. Granite has, in accordance with SDCL 49-31-3 and 49-31-71, demonstrated sufficient technical, financial and managerial capabilities to offer telecommunications services in South Dakota.

The Commission approves Granite's application for an amended certificate of

authority, subject to a continuous \$25,000 surety bond, it is therefore

ORDERED, that Granite's application for an amended certificate of authority to provide interexchange telecommunications services and local exchange services is hereby granted, subject to a continuous \$25,000 surety bond.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 15th day of July, 2004.

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: _____
Date: _____

(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

ROBERT K. SAHR, Chairman

GARY HANSON, Commissioner