

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING BY)	ORDER REOPENING
WESTERN TELEPHONE COMPANY FOR AN)	DOCKET; ORDER
EXTENSION OF DEADLINE FOR FILING ITS)	APPROVING SETTLEMENT
2006 COST STUDY)	STIPULATION AND ORDER
)	DISMISSING AND CLOSING
)	DOCKET
)	TC06-074

On June 28, 2006, the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a petition from Western Telephone Company (Western) requesting the Commission grant an extension of the six month filing deadline for its 2006 intrastate switched access cost study.

On June 29, 2006, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of July 14, 2006, to interested individuals and entities. No petitions to intervene or comments were filed.

The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL 1-26-17.1, 49-1A-9, 49-31-12.6, 49-31-18, 49-31-19 and ARSD 20:10:01:15.02, 20:10:01:15.05, 20:10:27:07 and 20:10:27:08. On August 8, 2006, at its regularly scheduled meeting, the Commission found good cause to grant the requested extension until December 31, 2006, and unanimously voted to grant the requested extension until December 31, 2006.

On November 8, 2006, the Commission received a Settlement Stipulation signed by the parties.

At its regularly scheduled meeting of November 14, 2006, the Commission considered whether to reopen this docket, approve the Settlement Stipulation and dismiss and close this docket. The Commission voted unanimously to reopen this docket, to approve the Settlement Stipulation and dismiss and close the docket. It is therefore

ORDERED, that this docket is hereby reopened, the Settlement Stipulation is approved and the docket is dismissed and closed.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 4th day of December, 2006.

<p>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 facsimile or by first class mail, in properly addressed envelopes, with charges prepaid thereon.</p> <p>By: <u><i>Delaine Kalbo</i></u></p> <p>Date: <u>12/6/06</u></p> <p align="center">(OFFICIAL SEAL)</p>

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Dustin M. Johnson
DUSTIN M. JOHNSON, Commissioner

Gary Hanson
GARY HANSON, Commissioner