

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING BY IONEX)
COMMUNICATIONS NORTH, INC. FOR)
APPROVAL OF ITS INTRASTATE SWITCHED)
ACCESS TARIFF AND FOR AN EXEMPTION)
FROM DEVELOPING COMPANY SPECIFIC)
COST-BASED SWITCHED ACCESS RATES)

**ORDER APPROVING
TARIFF AND GRANTING
PETITION FOR WAIVER**

TC06-202

On December 20, 2006, Ionex Communications North, Inc. (Ionex) filed a petition requesting an exemption from developing company-specific cost-based switched access rates, a waiver of ARSD 20:10:27:12 requiring Ionex to base its switched access rates on the costs of all telecommunications companies with less than 100,000 access lines, approval of Ionex's proposed intrastate access tariff containing rates that mirror Qwest's rates, and approval of the switched access rates in the filed tariff.

On January 2, 2007, the Commission considered Ionex's request for approval of its intrastate switched access tariff, an exemption from establishing switched access rates based on company specific costs, a waiver of the use of the formula in ARSD 20:10:27:12, so as to mirror the Qwest Corporation tariffed access rates and a waiver of ARSD 20:10:27:07. The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL 49-31-18, 49-31-19 and ARSD 20:10:27. The Commission voted to grant the petition for exemption from developing company specific cost-based switched access rates pursuant to ARSD 20:10:27:11, grant a waiver of the use of the formula in ARSD 20:10:27:12, so as to mirror the Qwest Corporation tariffed access rates, grant a waiver of ARSD 20:10:27:07, and approve Ionex's intrastate switched access tariff. It is therefore

ORDERED, that Ionex's petition to be exempt from establishing company specific cost-based switched access rates pursuant to ARSD 20:10:27:11 is granted, waivers of ARSD 20:10:27:07 and ARSD 20:10:27:12 are granted, that Ionex be allowed to mirror Qwest Corporation's switched access rates and file adjustments to its switched access rates so long as those adjustments either mirror Qwest Corporation's rates or are lower or until the Commission shall otherwise order, and that Ionex's intrastate switched access tariff is approved, subject to these conditions.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 24th day of January, 2007.

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:	<u><i>Delaine Kolbo</i></u>
Date:	<u>1/25/07</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)	

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Dustin M. Johnson
DUSTIN M. JOHNSON, Chairman

Gary Hanson
GARY HANSON, Commissioner

Steve Kolbeck
STEVE KOLBECK, Commissioner