

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

**IN THE MATTER OF THE JOINT )  
APPLICATION OF CONSOLIDATED )  
COMMUNICATIONS OPERATOR SERVICES, )  
INC. AND CONSOLIDATED )  
COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK SERVICES, )  
INC. FOR APPROVAL TO TRANSFER THE )  
CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY OF )  
CONSOLIDATED COMMUNICATIONS )  
OPERATOR SERVICES, INC. TO )  
CONSOLIDATED COMMUNICATIONS )  
NETWORK SERVICES, INC. D/B/A )  
CONSOLIDATED COMMUNICATIONS )  
OPERATOR SERVICES )**

**ORDER GRANTING  
TRANSFER OF CERTIFICATE  
OF AUTHORITY**

**TC08-124**

On October 28, 2008, the Public Utilities Commission (Commission), in accordance with SDCL 49-31-3 and ARSD 20:10:24:04.01 and 20:10:24:04.02, received an application for the transfer of a certificate of authority from Consolidated Communications Operator Services, Inc. (CCOS) to Consolidated Communications Network Services, Inc. (CCNS) d/b/a Consolidated Communications Operator Services.

On October 30, 2008, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of November 14, 2008, to interested individuals and entities. No petitions to intervene or comments were filed and at its November 25, 2008, meeting, the Commission considered the request for transfer of certificate of authority. Commission Staff recommended transferring the certificate of authority from CCOS to CCNS, subject to the condition that CCNS not offer any prepaid services (including prepaid calling cards) and not accept or require any deposits or advance payments without prior approval of the Commission.

The Commission finds that it has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to Chapter 49-31, specifically 49-31-3 and ARSD 20:10:24:04.01 and 20:10:24:04.02. The Commission finds that CCNS has met the legal requirements established for the granting of a certificate of authority. CCNS 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 the application for transfer of certificate of authority from CCOS to CCNS, subject to the condition that CCNS not offer any prepaid services (including prepaid calling cards) and not accept or require any deposits or advance payments without prior approval of the Commission. As the Commission's final decision in this matter, it is therefore

**ORDERED**, that the application for transfer of certificate of authority from CCOS to CCNS is hereby granted, effective January 1, 2009, subject to the condition that CCNS not offer any prepaid services (including prepaid calling cards) and not accept or require any deposits or advance payments without prior approval of the Commission.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 9<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2008.

**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, electronically.

By: *Rebecca Kolbo*

Date: *12/9/08*

(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

*Gary Hanson*  
GARY HANSON, Chairman

*Steve Kolbeck*  
STEVE KOLBECK, Commissioner

*Dustin M. Johnson*  
DUSTIN M. JOHNSON, Commissioner