

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

<b>IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF )</b>	<b>ORDER GRANTING</b>
<b>NEW HORIZONS COMMUNICATIONS CORP. )</b>	<b>CERTIFICATE OF</b>
<b>FOR A CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY TO )</b>	<b>AUTHORITY</b>
<b>PROVIDE LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICES IN )</b>	
<b>SOUTH DAKOTA )</b>	<b>TC14-072</b>

On July 9, 2014, the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received an application from New Horizons Communications Corp. (New Horizons) requesting a certificate of authority to provide local exchange services in South Dakota. On August 11, August 20, and September 8, 2014, New Horizons responded to Staff's data requests. On August 25, 2014, New Horizons submitted revised pages 3 and 8 of the application.

On July 10, 2014, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of July 25, 2014, to interested individuals and entities. No petitions to intervene or comments were filed.

At its regularly scheduled meeting on September 30, 2014, the Commission considered New Horizons' request for a certificate of authority. Commission staff recommended granting a certificate of authority with the conditions that New Horizons 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, and subject to rural safeguards.

The Commission finds that it has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapter 49-31, specifically 49-31-3, 49-31-69 through 49-31-75, and ARSD 20:10:32:03. The Commission finds that New Horizons has met the legal requirements established for the granting of a certificate of authority. New Horizons 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 New Horizons' application for a certificate of authority subject to the condition that New Horizons 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, and subject to rural safeguards. The certificate of authority for New Horizons shall authorize it to provide local exchange telecommunications service in South Dakota, except in those areas served by a rural telephone company. In the future, should New Horizons choose to provide local exchange services statewide, with respect to rural telephone companies, New Horizons will have to come before the Commission in another proceeding before being able to provide local service in that rural service area pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 253(f) which allows the Commission to require a company that seeks to provide service in a rural service area to meet the requirements in 47 U.S.C. § 214(e)(1) for designation as an eligible telecommunications carrier. In addition, the granting of statewide certification will not affect the exemptions, suspensions, and modifications for rural telephone companies found in 47 U.S.C. § 251(f).

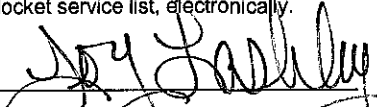
It is therefore

ORDERED, that New Horizons' application for a certificate of authority to provide local exchange services is granted, subject to the conditions that New Horizons not offer any prepaid services, for retail purposes, (including prepaid calling cards) and not accept or require any deposits or advance payments without prior approval of the Commission. It is further

ORDERED, that this certificate of authority authorizes New Horizons to offer its local exchange services in South Dakota, except in those areas served by a rural telephone company. It is further


ORDERED, that this order constitutes New Horizons' certificate of authority as described above.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 2nd day of October, 2014.

<b>CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE</b>	
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:	
Date:	<u>10.3.14</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)	

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

  
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GARY HANSON, Chairman

  
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CHRIS NELSON, Commissioner

  
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KRISTIE FIEGEN, Commissioner