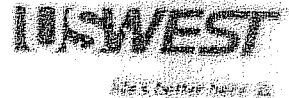


TC00-088

U S WEST, Inc.
1801 California Street, Suite 5100
Denver, Colorado 80202
Phone 303 672-5871
Facsimile 303 295-7069



Alex M. Duarte
Senior Attorney

VIA OVERNIGHT DELIVERY

May 26, 2000

RECEIVED

JUN 01 2000

SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC
UTILITIES COMMISSION

Mr. William Bullard, Jr.
Executive Director
South Dakota Public Utilities Commission
500 East Capitol Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501

Re: Filing of First Amendment to the Interconnection Agreement between Dakota Telecom, Inc. and U S WEST Communications, Inc.

Dear Mr. Bullard:

Pursuant to 20:10:32:21 of the Admin. Rules of South Dakota, enclosed for filing is an original and ten (10) copies of the First Amendment to the Interconnection Agreement between U S WEST Communications, Inc. ("U S WEST") and Dakota Telecom, Inc. ("DTI") for approval by the Commission. DTI and U S WEST entered into an Interconnection Agreement which was approved by the South Dakota Commission effective August 27, 1998. DTI and U S WEST now desire to amend the Interconnection Agreement to allow DTI to originate EAS/local traffic from South Dakota and terminate this traffic in Nebraska. This EAS/Local traffic must be within the same local calling area as defined by U S WEST's current tariffs. This Amendment will also add established rates with regards to this traffic.

The Agreement does not discriminate against other telecommunications carriers, and the Agreement is consistent with the Federal Communications Commission's ("FCC") guidelines for negotiation and performance. Additionally, other telecommunications carriers have the option to adopt any negotiated or arbitrated agreement approved by the Commission.

The Agreement is consistent with the public interest as identified in the state statutes of South Dakota, the Commission's rules, the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996, and rules of the FCC. Expeditious approval of this Agreement will enable DTI to enter the local exchange market and provide customers with increased choices among local exchange services.

DTI has authorized U S WEST to submit this Agreement on DTI's behalf.

Very truly yours,


Alex Duarte

Enclosures

cc:

William Heaston
Dakota Telecom, Inc.
29705 453rd Avenue
Irene, South Dakota 57037-6001

Colleen Sevoid
Manager - Public Policy
U S WEST Communications, Inc.
125 S. Dakota Avenue, 8th Floor
Sioux Falls, SD 57194

U S WEST, Inc. Law Department
Counsel, Interconnection
1801 California Street, 49th Floor
Denver, Colorado 80202

RECEIVED

JUN 01 2000

**FIRST AMENDMENT TO AMENDED AGREEMENT FOR
LOCAL WIRELINE NETWORK INTERCONNECTION
AND SERVICE RESALE BETWEEN**

**SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC
UTILITIES COMMISSION**

**DAKOTA TELECOM, INC.
AND
U S WEST COMMUNICATIONS, INC.**

This First Amendment ("Amendment") is made and entered into by and between Dakota Telecom, Inc. ("DTI") and U S WEST Communications, Inc. ("U S WEST"). This Amendment shall be deemed effective upon approval by the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission ("SDPUC") and shall run concurrently with the Interconnection Agreement (the "Agreement") between U S WEST and DTI (the "Parties").

RECITALS

WHEREAS, DTI and U S WEST entered into that the Agreement for service in the state of South Dakota, first approved by the SDPUC on August 27, 1997. Subsequently, on September 17, 1998, the Parties filed an Amended Negotiated Interconnection Agreement, which was approved by the SDPUC on October 21, 1998; and

WHEREAS, the Parties wish to amend the Amended Agreement under the terms, conditions, and rates contained herein as follows:

NOW THEREFORE, the Parties agree to the following change to the Amended Agreement:

DESCRIPTION OF AMENDMENT AND MODIFICATIONS

This Amendment is made in order to allow DTI to originate EAS/local traffic from South Dakota and terminate this traffic in Nebraska. However, this EAS/Local traffic must be within the same local calling area as defined by U S WEST's current tariffs.

The following established rates are effective when the above condition exists:

	Recurring Fixed	Recurring Per Mile	Nonrecurring
Direct Trunked Transport			
DS0 per Trunk			\$275.05
DS0 Over 0 to 8 Miles	\$20.80	\$0.10	
DS0 Over 8 to 25 Miles	\$20.82	\$0.06	
DS0 Over 25 to 50 Miles	\$20.84	\$0.06	
DS0 Over 50 Miles	\$20.84	\$0.04	
DS1 per Trunk			\$324.08
DS1 Over 0 to 8 Miles	\$30.12	\$1.41	
DS1 Over 8 to 25 Miles	\$30.23	\$0.76	
DS1 Over 25 to 50 Miles	\$30.49	\$0.69	
DS1 Over 50 Miles	\$30.60	\$0.47	
DS3 per Trunk			\$324.08
DS3 Over 0 to 8 Miles	\$158.07	\$28.83	
DS3 Over 8 to 25 Miles	\$158.99	\$13.09	
DS3 Over 25 to 50 Miles	\$154.64	\$8.51	
DS3 Over 50 Miles	\$157.81	\$7.27	
		Recurring	Nonrecurring
Multiplexing			
DS1 to DS0		\$223.25	\$327.46
DS3 to DS1		\$256.37	\$320.19
Installation Options			
DS1 Interface, First Trunk			\$348.37
DS1 interface, Each Additional Trunk			\$14.25
DS3 Interface, First Trunk			\$302.67
DS3 Interface, Each Additional Trunk			\$5.17
Local Traffic			
End office call termination, per minute of use		\$0.004131	
Tandem Switched Transport			
Tandem Switching, per Minute of Use		\$0.002594	
	Recurring Fixed	Recurring Per Mile	Nonrecurring
Tandem Transmission			
0 to 8 Miles	\$0.000195	\$0.000005	
8 to 25 Miles	\$0.000197	\$0.000004	
25 to 50 Miles	\$0.000203	\$0.000006	
Over 50 Miles	\$0.000202	\$0.000002	
		Recurring	Nonrecurring
Miscellaneous Charges			
Cancellation Charge (LIS Trunks)	U S WEST's Nebraska Access Service Catalog		
Expedite Charge (LIS Trunks)	U S WEST's Nebraska Access Service Catalog		
Construction Charges		ICB*	ICB*

NOTES:

- * Unless otherwise indicated, rates shown are those proposed by U S WEST witness Al Bergman in Exhibit ALB-2 filed 11/98 in the NE Cost Docket C-1415. Rates are subject to true-up upon completion of the NE Cost Docket C-1415.
- [1] Rates proposed in Nebraska Cost Docket C-1415. The prices for Local Switching, Tandem Switching and Call Termination include an amortization of U S WEST's Reserve Deficiency at \$0.0009 per minute of use. This Reserve Deficiency allocation is applicable for five (5) years.
- [2] ICB, Individual Case Basis pricing.

Except as modified herein, the provisions of the Agreement shall remain in full force and effect. Neither the Agreement nor this Amendment may be further amended or altered except by written instrument executed by an authorized representative of both Parties.

The Parties, intending to be legally bound, have executed this Amendment as of the dates set forth below.

Dakota Telecom, Inc.

Randall Rings
Authorized Signature

Randall Rings
Name Typed or Printed

VP & Secretary
Title

May 2, 2000
Date

U S WEST Communications, Inc.

Elizabeth Stamp
Authorized Signature

Elizabeth Stamp
Name Typed or Printed

Director - Interconnect Negotiations
Title

05/11/00
Date

South Dakota Public Utilities Commission
WEEKLY FILINGS
For the Period of June 1, 2000 through June 7, 2000

If you need a complete copy of a filing faxed, overnight expressed, or mailed to you,
please contact Delaine Kolbo within five business days of this filing.
Phone: 605-773-3705 Fax: 605-773-3809

ELECTRIC

**EL00-020 In the Matter of the Filing by Montana-Dakota Utilities Company for
Approval of its Revised Rate Sheets for its Cogeneration Rates.**

Application by Montana-Dakota Utilities Company to comply with the Commission's Order in Docket F-3365 by remitting annually updated cogeneration rates for approval. No customers will be affected by the proposed changes as there are no customers currently served by these rates.

Staff Analyst: Dave Jacobson
Staff Attorney: Camron Hoseck
Date Docketed: 06/01/00
Intervention Deadline: NA

**EL00-021 In the Matter of the Joint Request for Electric Service Territory
Exception between McCook Electric Cooperative, Inc. and Sioux
Valley-Southwestern Electric Cooperative, Inc.**

On June 5, 2000, the Commission received a joint request for electric service territory exception between McCook Electric Cooperative and Sioux Valley Southwestern Electric Cooperative. The agreement between the two parties seeks an exception to the existing electric service territorial agreement to permit Sioux Valley Southwestern to provide electric service to Smith Farms, Inc. for a seed handling service in the Northeast quarter of Section 25, Township 103, Range 53 West.

Staff Analyst: Michele Farris
Staff Attorney: Karen Cremer
Date Docketed: 06/05/00
Intervention Deadline: 06/16/00

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

**TC99-086 In the Matter of the Filing for Approval of a First Amendment to the
Interconnection Agreement between DSLnet Communications, LLC
and U S West Communications, Inc.**

A first amendment to an interconnection agreement between DSLnet Communications, LLC and U S WEST Communications, Inc. was filed with the Commission. This amendment adds provisions which include UDIT, ADSL and line conditioning and associated rate elements.

Any party wishing to comment on the amendment may do so by filing written comments with the Commission and the parties to the amendment no later than June 28, 2000. Parties to the amendment may file written responses to the comments no later than twenty days after the service of the comments.

Staff Attorney: Camron Hoseck
Date Docketed: 06/05/00
Comments Due: 06/26/00

TC00-087 In the Matter of the Establishment of Switched Access Revenue Requirement for Midstate Communications, Inc.

Midstate Telephone Company and Heartland Communications, Inc., Kimball, South Dakota, filed a switched access cost study developing a revenue requirement that is included in the revenue requirement used to determine the switched access rates for the Local exchange Carrier Association. Midstate and Heartland were consolidated into Midstate Communications, Inc. on 01/01/00.

Staff Analyst: Heather K. Forney
Staff Attorney: Karen E. Cremer
Date Docketed: 06/01/00
Intervention Deadline: 06/23/00

TC00-088 In the Matter of the Filing for Approval of a First Amendment to an Amended Interconnection Agreement between U S WEST Communications, Inc. and Dakota Telecom, Inc.

A first amendment to an amended agreement for local wireline network interconnection and service resale between Dakota Telecom, Inc. and U S WEST Communications, Inc. was filed with the Commission. This amendment is made in order to allow Dakota Telecom, Inc. to originate EAS/local traffic from South Dakota and terminate this traffic in Nebraska. This EAS/local traffic must be within the same local calling areas as defined by U S WEST's current tariff.

Any party wishing to comment on the agreement may do so by filing written comments with the Commission and the parties to the agreement no later than June 21, 2000. Parties to the amendment may file written responses to the comments no later than twenty days after the service of the comments.

Staff Attorney: Camron Hoseck
Date Docketed: 06/01/00
Comments Due: 06/21/00

TC00-089 In the Matter of OLS, Inc. and Certain John Does.

Commission Staff filed a Motion To Assess Fines and Statutory Penalties against OLS, Inc. The basis for this Motion is the number of complaints which have recently been filed against OLS, Inc. which are alleged to represent a continuing pattern of reckless

disregard for South Dakota law and a disregard for the rights of South Dakota consumers. Staff moves the Commission to assess fines and penalties in accordance with SDCL 49-31-93, 49-31-94, impose other remedies and assess costs associated with processing the complaints.

Staff Analyst: Leni Healy

Staff Attorney: Karen E. Cremer

Date Docketed: 06/06/00

Intervention Deadline: NA

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BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING FOR)
APPROVAL OF A FIRST AMENDMENT TO AN)
AMENDED INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT)
BETWEEN U S WEST COMMUNICATIONS,)
INC. AND DAKOTA TELECOM, INC.)

ORDER APPROVING FIRST
AMENDMENT TO AMENDED
AGREEMENT

TC00-088

On June 1, 2000, U S WEST Communications, Inc. (U S WEST) filed for approval by the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) of a first amendment to an amended interconnection agreement between Dakota Telecom, Inc. (DTI) and U S WEST. The first amendment allows DTI to originate EAS/local traffic from South Dakota and terminate this traffic in Nebraska. This EAS/local traffic must be within the same local calling area as defined by U S WEST's current tariff.

On June 8, 2000, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing of the first amendment to interested individuals and entities. The notice stated that any person wishing to comment on the parties' request for approval had until June 21, 2000, to do so. No comments were filed.

At its duly noticed August 9, 2000, meeting, the Commission considered whether to approve the negotiated first amendment to the amended agreement between U S WEST and DTI. Commission Staff recommended its approval.

The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapter 49-31, and the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996. In accordance with 47 U.S.C. § 252(e)(2), the Commission found that the first amendment does not discriminate against a telecommunications carrier that is not a party to the first amendment and the first amendment is consistent with the public interest, convenience, and necessity. The Commission unanimously voted to approve the first amendment to the amended agreement. It is therefore

ORDERED, that the Commission approves the negotiated first amendment to the amended agreement as described herein.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 16th day of August, 2000.

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.

(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

James A. Burg
JAMES A. BURG, Chairman

Pam Nelson
PAM NELSON, Commissioner

Laska Schoenfelder
LASKA SCHOENFELDER, Commissioner