

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

<b>IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPLAINT FILED )</b>	<b>ORDER DISMISSING</b>
<b>BY JOHN AND SHIRLEY HATCH, PIERRE, )</b>	<b>COMPLAINT AND CLOSING</b>
<b>SOUTH DAKOTA, AGAINST QWEST )</b>	<b>DOCKET</b>
<b>COMMUNICATIONS, INC., WCS TELECOM )</b>	
<b>AND WESTERN COMMUNICATIONS, INC., )</b>	<b>CT99-018</b>
<b>REGARDING UNAUTHORIZED BILLING FOR )</b>	
<b>SERVICES )</b>	

On July 26, 1999, the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a complaint filed by John and Shirley Hatch, Pierre, South Dakota (Complainants), against Qwest Communications, Inc. (Qwest) regarding unauthorized billing for services. The Commission found probable cause in this matter on August 17, 1999, and ordered Qwest to file an answer. A motion by Qwest to dismiss the action was denied on November 1, 1999, by the Commission and at the same time the Commission granted Complainants' request to amend the complaint and add WCS Telecom and Western Communications, Inc. as respondents. A hearing on the merits of the case was scheduled for December 15, 1999, and it was cancelled upon Commission staff being advised that the matter had been resolved. Complainants by letter dated December 17, 1999, advised the Commission that the matter was settled and asked that the matter be dismissed. A stipulation for dismissal was filed with the Commission on January 5, 2000.

The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapters 1-26, 49-13, and 49-31.

On January 6, 2000, at a regularly scheduled meeting, the Commission considered this matter. The Commission voted to dismiss the complaint and close the docket. It is therefore

**ORDERED**, that the complaint shall be dismissed with prejudice and the docket closed.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 12th day of January, 2000.

<p><b>CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE</b></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: _____</p> <p>Date: _____</p> <p align="center">(OFFICIAL SEAL)</p>
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**BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:**

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JAMES A. BURG, Chairman

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PAM NELSON, Commissioner

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LASKA SCHOENFELDER, Commissioner