

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTABLISHMENT)
OF SWITCHED ACCESS RATES FOR U S)
WEST COMMUNICATIONS, INC.)
)
ORDER GRANTING
INTERVENTION AND
SUSPENDING TARIFF
TC96-107

On June 24, 1996, U S WEST Communications, Inc. (U S WEST) filed for approval by the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) its 1995 Intrastate Switched Access Rate Study.

On June 27, 1996, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of July 12, 1996, to interested individuals and entities. The following companies sought intervention: Sprint Communications Company (Sprint) on July 5, 1996; MCI Telecommunications Corporation (MCI) on July 9, 1996; Express Communications, Inc. (Express) on July 9, 1996; AT&T Communications of the Midwest, Inc. (AT&T) on July 10, 1996; Telecommunications Action Group (TAG)¹ on July 11, 1996; and Dakota Cooperative Telecommunications, Inc. (DCT) on July 12, 1996.

The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapters 1-26 and 49-31 and ARSD 20:10:01:15.02, 20:10:01:15.05, 20:10:27:07, 20:10:27:08 and 20:10:27:14.

On July 30, 1996, at its regularly scheduled meeting, the Commission considered this matter. Commission Staff recommended that pursuant to SDCL 49-31-12.4(2), the Commission suspend the increase in rates for 120 days. The Commission found that Sprint, MCI, Express, AT&T, TAG and DCT's Petitions to Intervene were timely filed and demonstrated good cause to grant intervention. The Commission further found that pursuant to SDCL 49-31-12.4, that the rate increase be suspended for 120 days. It is therefore

ORDERED that Sprint, MCI, Express, AT&T, TAG and DCT's Petitions to Intervene are granted; and it is further

ORDERED that the tariff sheets be suspended for 120 days from the proposed effective date of the rate.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 9th day of August, 1996.

<p align="center">CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE</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: <u>Deanne Kalbo</u></p> <p>Date: <u>8/9/96</u></p> <p align="center">(OFFICIAL SEAL)</p>

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Kenneth Stofferahn
KENNETH STOFFERAHN, Chairman

James A. Burg
JAMES A. BURG, Commissioner

¹TAG members include Midco Communications, TCIC Communications, TeleTech, FirstTel, and Tel Serv.