

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

<b>IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF SWITCHED ACCESS RATES FOR U S WEST COMMUNICATIONS, INC.</b>	) ) )	<b>ORDER FOR AND NOTICE OF PREHEARING CONFERENCE ON CONTINUATION OF HEARING  TC96-107</b>
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A hearing was held in this docket on October 9 and 10, 1996, before the Public Utilities Commission (Commission). At a regularly scheduled meeting of the Commission on December 9, 1996, the Commission moved to reopen the record for the taking of more evidence. On January 27, 1997, the Commission granted a Motion from AT&T Communications of the Midwest, Inc. (AT&T) to disapprove the rate increase and close this docket. The matter was appealed to the Circuit Court, Sixth Judicial Circuit, which reversed and remanded the matter to the Commission. The Commission, acting under Court direction to handle this manner forthwith, hereby

ORDERS that a Prehearing Conference in the above referenced docket shall be held on July 2, 1997, at 8:15 a.m. in Room 412 of the Capitol Building, Pierre, South Dakota.

Parties participating in the prehearing conference should anticipate that the Commission may enter an oral procedural order and parties should also anticipate that they will be expected to give firm commitments to the Commission as to the time necessary for them to prepare for the reopened hearing and list the number of witnesses they expect to call. **PARTIES SHOULD ALSO BEAR IN MIND THAT THE CIRCUIT COURT HAS DIRECTED THE COMMISSION TO HANDLE THIS MATTER FORTHWITH.** In order to assist the parties, the Commission will consider whether to include the following as part of its prehearing order:

1. ordering staff to conduct an on site review of U S WEST consisting of sampling of all cost study inputs in order to address deficiencies which the Commission found as part of its motion to reopen this record on December 9, 1996;
2. give U S WEST the opportunity to present additional evidence to address deficiencies which the Commission found as part of its motion to reopen this record on December 9, 1996;
3. give intervenors the opportunity to present additional evidence to address deficiencies which the Commission found as part of its motion to reopen this record on December 9, 1996; and
4. issue other procedural rulings and guidelines.

Pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, this hearing is being held in a physically accessible

location. Please contact the Public Utilities Commission at 1-800-332-1782 at least 48 hours prior to the hearing if you have special needs so arrangements can be made to accommodate you.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 23rd day of June, 1997.

**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.

BY ORDER OF THE  
COMMISSION:

Commissioners Burg, Nelson and  
Schoenfelder

By: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

WILLIAM BULLARD, JR.

(OFFICIAL SEAL)

Executive Director

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