

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

**IN THE MATTER OF THE INVESTIGATION OF LOCAL)
COMPETITION ISSUE)**

**ORDER GRANTING
INTERVENTION**

TC96-153

On June 24, 1996, the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) voted to open a docket concerning local competition issues. The docket would investigate what rules or policies should be implemented by the Commission to govern local competition. On November 12, 1996, at an ad hoc meeting, the Commission rescinded its oral decision to establish prices for U S WEST's network elements and interconnection and to establish the wholesale rates for U S WEST's retail services pursuant to the Federal Communications Commission's pricing rules. The Commission has indicated that it wishes to receive comments concerning the regulation of local competition and slamming.

On December 19, 1996, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing of this docket to interested parties. A deadline for intervention of December 30, 1996, was established. Petitions to intervene have been received from the following parties on the date indicated:

MCI Telecommunications Corporation, December 20, 1996;

Dakota Cooperative Telecommunications, Inc. (and subsidiaries Dakota Telecom, Inc. and Dakota Telecommunications Systems, Inc.), December 23, 1996;

PAM Oil, Inc., d.b.a. PAM Communications, December 23, 1996;

McLeod Telemanagement, Inc., December 27, 1996;

AT&T Communications of the Midwest, Inc., December 27, 1996;

Midco Communications, Inc., December 30, 1996;

The South Dakota Independent Telephone Coalition, December 30, 1996;

FirsTel, Inc., December 30, 1996; and

U S WEST Communications, Inc., December 30, 1996.

The Commission has jurisdiction in this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapters 1-26 and 49-31. A regularly scheduled December 31, 1996, meeting, the Commission found that the above listed petitioners'

Petitions to Intervene were timely filed and that they demonstrated good cause to grant intervention. It is therefore

ORDERED that the Petitions to Intervene are granted.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 3rd day of January, 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: _____

Date: _____

(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

KENNETH STOFFERAHN, Chairman

JAMES A. BURG, Commissioner

LASKA SCHOENFELDER,
Commissioner

[CC99orders/includepgs/bottomlinks_insidepg.htm]