

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING BY U S WEST COMMUNICATIONS, INC. FOR REVISIONS TO ITS EXCHANGE AND NETWORK SERVICES CATALOG)	ORDER FOR AND NOTICE OF HEARING
)	TC96-206

On December 23, 1996, the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a filing from U S WEST Communications, Inc. (U S WEST) for approval to introduce a new optional dialing capability for the completion of calls. Under the proposal, customers will be able to call a special 1-800 number to reach an interactive voice response platform. After reaching the platform, customers will be given the following options to bill their call: 1-800 U S WEST Calling Card, Third Number, or Collect. An effective date of January 15, 1997, has been requested by U S WEST.

On December 26, 1996, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of January 10, 1997, to interested individuals and entities. The Commission granted intervention to TCIC Communications, Inc. (TCIC), MCI Telecommunications Corporation (MCI), and AT&T Communications of the Midwest, Inc. (AT&T).

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

The issue at the hearing is whether U S WEST's application to revise its Exchange and Network Services Catalog should be approved.

The hearing on U S WEST's application will be held at 1:30 p.m., in Room 412 of the State Capitol Building, in Pierre, South Dakota, on April 15, 1997.

The public is invited to participate by testifying at the hearing. All persons so testifying will be subject to cross-examination by the parties. The order of the proceeding will commence with U S WEST followed by the Intervenor.

The hearing is an adversary proceeding conducted pursuant to SDCL Chapter 1-26. All parties have the right to attend and represent themselves or be represented by an attorney. However, such rights and other due process rights shall be forfeited if not exercised at the hearing. If you or your representative fail to appear at the time and place set for the hearing, the Final Decision will be based solely on testimony and evidence provided, if any, during the hearing or a Final Decision may be issued by default pursuant to SDCL 1-26-20.

The Commission, after examining the evidence and hearing testimony presented by the parties, shall

make Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and a Final Decision. As a result of the hearing the Commission may either approve or reject the application for revisions to its Exchange and Network Services Catalog. The Final Decision made by the Commission may be appealed by the parties to the Circuit Court and the South Dakota Supreme Court as provided by law. It is therefore

ORDERED that a hearing shall be held on U S WEST's application for revisions to its Exchange and Network Services Catalog at the time and place specified above.

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 4th day of April, 1997.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

BY ORDER OF THE
COMMISSION:

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.

Commissioners Burg, Nelson and
Schoenfelder

By: _____

Date: _____

WILLIAM BULLARD, JR.

(OFFICIAL SEAL)

Executive Director

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