BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE MATTER OF ESTABLISHING DISCOUNT RATES FOR INTRASTATE TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES PROVIDED TO SCHOOLS AND LIBRARIES	))))))	ORDER GRANTING INTERVENTION AND ADOPTING PROPOSED DISCOUNTS FOR SCHOOLS AND LIBRARIES TC97-058

On May 20, 1997, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a petition from Commission Staff pertaining to the May 8, 1997, Federal Communications Commission's (FCC) Order on universal service. The petition requested the Commission to adopt the discount rates implemented by the FCC for interstate telecommunications services for schools and libraries as the discount rates for intrastate telecommunications services provided for schools and libraries. The petition further requested the expeditious processing of the docket. At an ad hoc meeting on May 28, 1997, the Commission opened a docket in this matter. Notice of a June 5, 1997, intervention deadline was transmitted electronically to interested parties on May 29, 1997.

The Commission has jurisdiction in this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapter 49-31.

The Commission received timely petitions to intervene from AT&T Communications of the Midwest, Inc. (AT&T) and the South Dakota Independent Telephone Coalition (SDITC). Petitions for late intervention were received from Dakota Cooperative Telecommunications, Inc. (DCT), MCI Telecommunications Corporation (MCI), and U S WEST Communications, Inc. (U S WEST).

At an ad hoc meeting on June 10, 1997, the Commission unanimously found that the Petitions to Intervene demonstrated good cause to grant intervention. All the parties represented at the meeting supported the adoption of the proposed discounts. The Commission unanimously decided to adopt the proposed discounts for schools and libraries as requested by Staff. It is therefore

ORDERED that the Petitions to Intervene of AT&T, SDITC, DCT, MCI, and U S WEST are granted; it is further

ORDERED that the proposed discounts for schools and libraries be adopted. It is further

ORDERED that Docket TC97-058 is hereby closed.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 20th 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: Delaine Kolbo

Date: 6/20/97

(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

James A. Burg

JAMES A. BURG, Chairman

Pam Nelson

PAM NELSON, Commissioner

Laska Schoenfelder

LASKA SCHOENFELDER, Commissioner