

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTABLISHMENT) OF SWITCHED ACCESS RATES FOR WEST) RIVER TELECOMMUNICATIONS) COOPERATIVE)	ORDER APPROVING REVENUE REQUIREMENT TC97-118
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On June 30, 1997, West River Telecommunications Cooperative (West River) filed for approval by the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) its 1996 Intrastate Switched Access Cost Study. On November 14, 1997, and December 15, 1997, West River filed revised Cost Studies.

On July 3, 1997, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of July 18, 1997, to interested individuals and entities. On July 11, 1997, the Commission received a Petition for Leave to Intervene from U S WEST Communications, Inc. (U S WEST). The Commission granted U S WEST's Petition to Intervene. The Commission also voted to assess a \$1,000 filing fee. West River filed for and received Commission approval to use its own cost study program. On November 18, 1997, the Commission granted U S WEST's motion for withdrawal from this docket. The Commission considered this matter at its January 8, 1998, meeting. Commission Staff recommended approval of the revised revenue requirement received on December 15, 1997, allocated to South Dakota.

The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL 1-26-17.1, 49-1A-9, 49-31-12.4, 49-31-12.6, 49-31-18, 49-31-19 and ARSD 20:10:01:15.02, 20:10:01:15.05, 20:10:27:07 and 20:10:27:08. Upon review of West River's filings, the Commission found that the revised revenue requirement of December 15, 1997, was fair and reasonable and should be approved. As the Commission's final decision in this matter, it is therefore

ORDERED that West River's revenue requirement is hereby approved as revised on December 15, 1997, and shall be incorporated in the Local Exchange Carriers Association's determination of switched access rates. (See TC97-061.)

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 21st day of January, 1998.

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: <u>Aldair Kalbo</u>
Date: <u>1/23/98</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

James A. Burg
JAMES A. BURG, Chairman

Pam Nelson
PAM NELSON, Commissioner

Laska Schoenfelder
LASKA SCHOENFELDER, Commissioner