

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE SETTING OF) PERMANENT PRICES, TERMS AND) CONDITIONS FOR INTERCONNECTION WITH) U S WEST COMMUNICATIONS, INC.)	ORDER GRANTING INTERVENTION TC97-181
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In its Order on Reconsideration in Docket TC96-184, In the Matter of the Petition for Arbitration on Behalf of AT&T Communications of the Midwest Inc., with U S WEST Communications, Inc., the Commission stated that the prices, terms, and conditions set by the Commission in that docket were interim prices, terms, and conditions. The Commission further stated that it would open a new docket to set permanent prices, terms, and conditions for interconnection with U S WEST. At its October 28, 1997, meeting, the Commission considered whether to open a docket to set permanent prices, terms, and conditions for interconnection with U S WEST. U S WEST and AT&T both stated that they had no objection to the Commission opening the docket. The Commission unanimously voted to open this docket. On November 17, 1997, Dakota Telecom, Inc., and Dakota Telecommunications Systems, Inc., filed to intervene; on November 26, 1997, AT&T Communications of the Midwest, Inc., filed to intervene.

On November 13, 1997, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of November 28, 1997, to interested individuals and entities.

The Commission has jurisdiction in this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapters 1-26, 49-31 and the Telecommunications Act of 1996.

At a regularly scheduled meeting of December 2, 1997, the Commission found that the petitions to intervene were timely filed and demonstrated good cause to grant intervention. It is therefore

ORDERED that the request for intervention of Dakota Telecom, Inc., Dakota Telecommunications Systems, Inc., and AT&T Communications of the Midwest, Inc., is hereby granted.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 12th day of December, 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: <u><i>Delaine Kelbo</i></u>
Date: <u>12/12/97</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