

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

**IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF)
NEW CENTURY TELECOM, INC. FOR A)
CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE)
TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES IN)
SOUTH DAKOTA)**

**ORDER GRANTING
CERTIFICATE OF
AUTHORITY

TC97-193**

On December 15, 1997, the Public Utilities Commission (Commission), in accordance with SDCL 49-31-3 and ARSD 20:10:24:02, received an application for a certificate of authority from New Century Telecom, Inc. (New Century).

New Century is a switchless reseller which seeks to provide interstate interexchange long distance telephone service using the networks of various carriers. Intrastate interLATA and intraLATA telecommunications services will also be offered on a resale basis. A proposed tariff was filed by New Century. The Commission has classified long distance service as fully competitive.

On December 18, 1997, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of January 2, 1998, to interested individuals and entities. No petitions to intervene or comments were filed and at its regularly scheduled February 24, 1998, meeting, the Commission considered New Century's request for a certificate of authority. Commission Staff recommended granting a certificate of authority, subject to the condition that New Century not offer a prepaid calling card or require deposits or advance payments without prior approval of the Commission.

The Commission finds that it has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to Chapter 49-31, specifically 49-31-3 and ARSD 20:10:24:02 and 20:10:24:03. The Commission finds that New Century has met the legal requirements established for the granting of a certificate of authority. New Century has, in accordance with SDCL 49-31-3, demonstrated sufficient technical, financial and managerial capabilities to offer telecommunications services in South Dakota. The Commission approves New Century's application for a certificate of authority, subject to the condition that New Century not offer a prepaid calling card or require deposits or advance payments without prior approval of the Commission. As the Commission's final decision in this matter, it is therefore

ORDERED, that New Century's application for a certificate of authority is hereby granted, subject to the condition that New Century not offer a prepaid calling card or require deposits or advance payments without prior approval of the Commission. It is

FURTHER ORDERED, that New Century shall file informational copies of tariff changes with the Commission as the changes occur.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 27th day of February, 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 first class mail, in properly addressed envelopes, with charges prepaid thereon.
By: <u>Hilaine Kalbo</u>
Date: <u>3/2/98</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