

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTABLISHMENT) ORDER APPROVING TARIFF
OF SWITCHED ACCESS RATES FOR THE) REVISIONS
LOCAL EXCHANGE CARRIERS ASSOCIATION)
(LECA)) **TC98-090**

On April 30, 1998, the Local Exchange Carriers Association (LECA) filed for approval by the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) revised pages of its LECA Tariff No. 1. LECA stated: "The purpose of these revisions is to include data for exchanges acquired from U S WEST. The attached rates are proposed to be effective upon PUC approval of the corresponding cost studies." LECA filed further revisions to its Tariff No. 1 on May 29, 1998, July 24, 1998, December 1, 1998, and December 7, 1998. LECA further filed on July 24, 1998, a rate revision request due to the decrease in intrastate switched access minutes for McCook Cooperative Telephone Company (McCook) due to the tornado at Spencer, South Dakota, on May 30, 1998, which resulted in the loss of approximately 100 access lines.

On April 30, 1998, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of May 15, 1998, to interested individuals and entities. The matter was heard by the Commission on December 7, 1998. Commission Staff recommended approval of the request to permit McCook to adjust its minutes of use for loss of minutes associated with the loss of customers due to the Spencer tornado as well as approval of the tariff revisions filed on December 1 and December 7, 1998, and to reject the tariffs filed on April 30, 1998, May 29, 1998, and July 24, 1998.

The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL 1-26-17.1, 49-1A-9, 49-31-12.2, 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 LECA's filing, the Commission found that the proposed tariff revisions were fair and reasonable and should be approved. As the Commission's final decision in this matter, it is therefore

ORDERED that McCook will be allowed to adjust its minutes of use for loss of minutes associated with the loss of customers due to the Spencer tornado. It is further

ORDERED that LECA's proposed tariff revisions are hereby approved as filed on December 1 and December 7, 1998. The tariffs filed on April 30, 1998, May 29, 1998, and July 24, 1998, are rejected. The tariff revisions shall be effective for telecommunications services rendered on and after January 1, 1999.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 11th day of December, 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><i>Helaine Kees</i></u>
Date: <u>12/11/98</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