OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPLAINT FILED BY CLAUDE GLANZER, CARPENTER, SOUTH DAKOTA, AGAINST U S WEST COMMUNICATIONS, INC. REGARDING TELEPHONE SERVICE OUTAGES AND INADEQUATE SERVICE

ORDER FINDING
PROBABLE CAUSE AND
NOTICE REQUIRING
ANSWER
TC98-012

On January 20, 1998, the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a complaint filed by Claude Glanzer, Carpenter, South Dakota, against U S WEST Communications, Inc. (U S WEST). Mr. Glanzer stated, "The U S WEST telephone lines serving our farm cannot supply us with services that we are in need of and are being charged to us on our local phone bill. We cannot get Internet, Caller Id, and a second line. Noisy phone lines. If electricity is cut off '911' won't work." Mr. Glanzer is requesting that the phone lines be replaced or updated.

Pursuant to ARSD 20:10:01:08.01 and 20:10:01:09, if a complaint cannot be settled without formal action, the Commission shall determine if the complaint shows probable cause of an unlawful or unreasonable act, rate, practice or omission to go forward with the complaint.

On February 3, 1998, at a duly noticed meeting, the Commission considered the complaint. U S WEST recommended that probable cause be found so that it could respond to the complaint in writing.

The Commission finds that it has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL 49-13-1, 49-13-4, 49-13-13, 49-13-14.1, 49-31-3, 49-31-7, 49-31-7.1, 49-31-11 and ARSD 20:10:01:08.01 and 20:10:01:09. The Commission voted unanimously to find probable cause, it is therefore

ORDERED, that pursuant to ARSD 20:10:01:09, the Commission finds that there is probable cause of an unlawful or unreasonable act, rate, practice, or omission and that the complaint shall be forwarded to U S WEST and U S WEST shall file with the Commission its answer in writing within twenty (20) days of service of this order.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 13th 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 facsimile or by first class mail, in properly addressed envelopes, with charges prepaid thereon. By:
Date: 2/13/98
(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

TAMES A. BURG, Chairman

PAM NELSON, Commissioner

LASKA SCHOENFELDER, Commissioner