

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF )  
U.S. NETWORK SERVICES, INC. FOR A )  
CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE )  
TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES IN )  
SOUTH DAKOTA )

ORDER GRANTING  
CERTIFICATE OF  
AUTHORITY  
  
TC98-126

On July 6, 1998, 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 U.S. Network Services, Inc. (USNS).

USNS proposes to offer within the state of South Dakota 1+ and 101XXXX direct dialing, 800/888 inbound toll-free, and travel card services through the resale of telephone services provided by facilities-based interexchange carriers. A proposed tariff was filed by USNS. The Commission has classified long distance service as fully competitive.

On July 9, 1998, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of July 24, 1998, to interested individuals and entities. No petitions to intervene or comments were filed and at its regularly scheduled August 4, 1998, meeting, the Commission considered USNS' request for a certificate of authority. Commission Staff recommended granting a certificate of authority, subject to the condition that USNS 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 USNS has met the legal requirements established for the granting of a certificate of authority. USNS 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 USNS' application for a certificate of authority, subject to the condition that USNS 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 USNS' application for a certificate of authority is hereby granted, effective September 6, 1998, subject to the condition that USNS not offer a prepaid calling card or require deposits or advance payments without prior approval of the Commission. It is

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

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 14<sup>th</sup> day of August, 1998.

<b>CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE</b>
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><i>Dilaine Kalbo</i></u>
Date: <u>8/14/98</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