

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING BY U S WEST ) COMMUNICATIONS, INC. FOR APPROVAL OF ) AN AGREEMENT FOR INTERCONNECTION, ) RESALE, AND UNBUNDLED ELEMENTS ) BETWEEN ADVANCED COMMUNICATIONS ) GROUP, INC. AND U S WEST ) COMMUNICATIONS, INC. )	ORDER APPROVING ADOPTION OF AGREEMENT  TC98-203
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On November 19, 1998, U S WEST Communications, Inc. (U S WEST) and Advanced Communications Group, Inc. (Advanced) filed a negotiated agreement for interconnection, resale, and unbundled elements with the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission).

On November 19, 1998, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of this filing to interested individuals and entities. The notice stated that any person wishing to comment on the agreement had until December 14, 1998, to do so. Commission staff filed its Analysis and Recommendation on November 20, 1998.

At its duly noticed August 17, 1999, meeting, the Commission considered what action to take in this matter. The matter was deferred until the September 8, 1999, regularly scheduled meeting. At this meeting, it was represented to the Commission by representatives of Advanced and Commission Staff Counsel Hoseck that an assignment of the agreement had taken place from Advanced to FirsTel, Inc. With this assignment, Staff Counsel recommended approval of the agreement.

The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapter 49-31, and the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996, more specifically 47 U.S.C. Section 252(e). The Commission voted to approve adoption of the agreement. It is therefore

ORDERED, that the Commission approves the agreement as negotiated between U S WEST and FirsTel, Inc., as successor in interest to Advanced; and it is further

ORDERED, that the docket be closed.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 14<sup>th</sup> day of September, 1999.

<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 facsimile or by first class mail, in properly addressed envelopes, with charges prepaid thereon.
By: <u>Melaine Kelso</u>
Date: <u>9/15/99</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