

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF)
 TRI-M COMMUNICATIONS, INC. DBA TMC)
 COMMUNICATIONS FOR A CERTIFICATE OF)
 AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE)
 TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES IN)
 SOUTH DAKOTA)

**ORDER GRANTING
 CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY**

TC99-013

On February 3, 1999, 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 TRI-M Communications, Inc. dba TMC Communications (TMC).

TMC intends to provide intrastate long distance telecommunications service, including debit cards, over resold transmission facilities. It will include inbound and outbound services, directory assistance and travel card. A proposed tariff was filed by TMC. The Commission has classified long distance service as fully competitive.

On February 4, 1999, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of February 19, 1999, to interested individuals and entities. No petitions to intervene or comments were filed and at its regularly scheduled March 9, 1999, meeting, the Commission considered TMC's request for a certificate of authority. Commission Staff recommended granting a certificate of authority, subject to the condition that TMC 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 TMC has met the legal requirements established for the granting of a certificate of authority. TMC 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 TMC's application for a certificate of authority, subject to the condition that TMC 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 TMC's application for a certificate of authority is hereby granted, effective April 3, 1999, subject to the condition that TMC not offer a prepaid calling card or require deposits or advance payments without prior approval of the Commission. It is

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

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 15th day of March, 1999.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

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: _____

Date: _____

(OFFICIAL SEAL)

JAMES A. BURG, Chairman

PAM NELSON, Commissioner

LASKA SCHOENFELDER, Commissioner