

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF ) BLACK HILLS FIBERCOM, L.L.C. FOR ) APPROVAL TO OFFER A DIFFERENT LOCAL ) CALLING AREA )	ORDER GRANTING ) APPROVAL TO OFFER A ) DIFFERENT CALLING AREA ) TC99-056 )
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On May 21, 1999, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received an application from Black Hills FiberCom, L.L.C. (Black Hills). According to its application, Black Hills submitted the application pursuant to the provisions of ARSD 20:10:32:11, to provide a different local calling area than that which is provided by U S WEST Communications, Inc. (U S WEST).

On May 27, 1999, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of June 11, 1999, to interested individuals and entities. On June 11, 1999, U S WEST filed a Petition for Leave to Intervene. At its regularly scheduled June 22, 1999, meeting, the Commission granted U S WEST's request for intervention. On July 23, 1999, U S WEST filed Interrogatories and a Request for Production of Documents. Black Hills filed its response on August 25, 1999. At its regularly scheduled meeting of October 19, 1999, the Commission considered this matter. Black Hills explained its application. U S WEST stated that it did not oppose the granting of the application. Commission Staff recommended approval of the application.


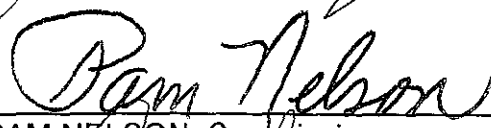
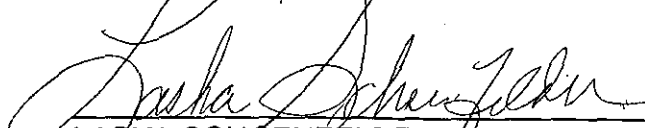
The Commission has jurisdiction in this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapters 1-26 and 49-31 and ARSD 20:10:32:11. The Commission found that Black Hills had shown that the different calling area would not be contrary to universal service, public safety and welfare, quality of service, and consumer rights concerns. It is therefore

ORDERED, that the application of Black Hills for a different local calling area is hereby approved.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 29<sup>th</sup> day of October, 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><i>Hilaine Kalbo</i></u>
Date: <u>10/29/99</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

 _____ JAMES A. BURG, Chairman
 _____ PAM NELSON, Commissioner
 _____ LASKA SCHOENFELDER, Commissioner