

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

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| IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTABLISHMENT) | ORDER APPROVING |
| OF SWITCHED ACCESS REVENUE) | REVENUE REQUIREMENT |
| REQUIREMENT FOR TRI-COUNTY TELECOM,) | |
| INC.) | TC99-078 |

On July 1, 1999, Tri-County Telecom, Inc. (Tri-County) filed for approval by the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) its 1998 Intrastate Switched Access Cost Study.

On July 8, 1999, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of July 23, 1999, to interested individuals and entities. On July 13, 1999, the Commission voted to assess a filing fee as requested by the Executive Director up to the statutory limit of \$100,000. Staff filed a memorandum on December 10, 1999, with the concurrence of the company, setting forth a recommended revenue requirement and minutes of use. The Commission considered this matter at its December 28, 1999, meeting.

The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL 1-26-17.1, 49-1A-9, 49-31-12.4, 49-31-12.6, 49-31-18, 49-31-19 and ARSD 20:10:01:15.02, 20:10:01:15.05, 20:10:27:07 and 20:10:27:08. Upon review of Tri-County's filing, the Commission found that the revenue requirement and minutes of use as depicted in Staff's memorandum were fair and reasonable and should be approved. As the Commission's final decision in this matter, it is therefore

ORDERED that Tri-County's revenue requirement and minutes of use are hereby approved as revised and shall be incorporated in the Local Exchange Carriers Association's determination of switched access rates. (See TC99-067.)

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 14th day of January, 2000.

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| 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: <u>Delaine Kalbo</u> |
| Date: <u>1/14/00</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