

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

**IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF)
P.D.S., INC. D/B/A PHONE DEBIT SYSTEMS,)
INC. FOR A CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY TO)
PROVIDE TELECOMMUNICATIONS)
SERVICES IN SOUTH DAKOTA)**

**ORDER GRANTING
CERTIFICATE OF
AUTHORITY

TC99-095**

On September 13, 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 P.D.S., Inc. d/b/a Phone Debit Systems, Inc. (P.D.S.).

P.D.S. proposes to offer debit card service. A proposed tariff was filed by P.D.S. The Commission has classified long distance service as fully competitive.

On September 16, 1999, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of October 1, 1999, to interested individuals and entities. No petitions to intervene or comments were filed and at its November 15, 1999, meeting, the Commission considered P.D.S.'s request for a certificate of authority. Commission Staff recommended granting a certificate of authority, subject to P.D.S. furnishing the Commission with a surety bond. Commission Staff further recommended a waiver of ARSD 20:10:24:02(8).

The Commission finds that it has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapter 49-31, specifically 49-31-3 and ARSD 20:10:24:02 and 20:10:24:03. The Commission finds that P.D.S. has met the legal requirements established for the granting of a certificate of authority. P.D.S. has, in accordance with SDCL 49-31-3, demonstrated sufficient technical, financial and managerial capabilities to offer telecommunications services in South Dakota. Further, the Commission finds that there is good cause to waive ARSD 20:10:24:02(8). The Commission approves P.D.S.'s application for a certificate of authority, subject to P.D.S. furnishing the Commission with a surety bond. As the Commission's final decision in this matter, it is therefore

ORDERED, that P.D.S.'s application for a certificate of authority is hereby granted, subject to P.D.S. furnishing the Commission with a surety bond. It is

FURTHER ORDERED, that the Commission finds good cause to waive ARSD 20:10:24:02(8).

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

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 24th day of November, 1999.

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 first class mail, in properly addressed envelopes, with charges prepaid thereon.
By: <u>Delaine Kelbo</u>
Date: <u>11/24/99</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