

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF)	ORDER GRANTING
GLOBAL TELELINK SERVICES, INC. D/B/A)	CERTIFICATE OF
SOUTH DAKOTA GTS FOR A CERTIFICATE)	AUTHORITY
OF AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE)	
INTEREXCHANGE TELECOMMUNICATIONS)	TC00-184
SERVICES AND LOCAL EXCHANGE)	
SERVICES IN SOUTH DAKOTA)	

On November 15, 2000, the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received an application for a certificate of authority from Global TeleLink Services, Inc. d/b/a South Dakota GTS (Global).

Global proposes to offer a wide variety of traditional local voice and data telecommunications services to consumers and other telecommunications carriers in South Dakota. These services may include single and multi-line residential and business services, CENTREX, high-capacity private line, ISDN, digital subscriber line, frame relay services, directory listing services, and optional CLASS service features. A proposed tariff was filed by Global.

On November 16, 2000, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of December 1, 2000, to interested individuals and entities. South Dakota Independent Telephone Coalition, Inc. filed to intervene on December 1, 2000, and withdrew its petition to intervene on December 12, 2000. At its regularly scheduled January 17, 2001, meeting, the Commission considered Global's request for a certificate of authority. Commission Staff recommended granting a certificate of authority, subject to the condition that Global not offer a prepaid calling card or require deposits or advance payments without prior approval of the Commission, and subject to rural safeguards.

The Commission finds that it has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapter 49-31, specifically 49-31-3 and 49-31-69 and ARSD 20:10:24:02, 20:10:24:03 and 20:10:32:03. The Commission finds that Global has met the legal requirements established for the granting of a certificate of authority. Global has, in accordance with SDCL 49-31-3 and 49-31-71, demonstrated sufficient technical, financial and managerial capabilities to offer telecommunications services in South Dakota.

The Commission approves Global's application for a certificate of authority, subject to the condition that Global not offer a prepaid calling card or require deposits or advance payments without prior approval of the Commission, and subject to rural safeguards. The certificate of authority for Global shall authorize it to offer local exchange services in South Dakota, except in those areas served by a rural telephone company. In the future, should Global choose to provide local exchange services statewide, with respect to rural

telephone companies, Global will have to come before the Commission in another proceeding before being able to provide local service in that rural service area pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 253(f) which allows the Commission to require a company that seeks to provide service in a rural service area to meet the requirements in 47 U.S.C. § 214(e)(1) for designation as an eligible telecommunications carrier. In addition, the granting of statewide certification will not affect the exemptions, suspensions, and modifications for rural telephone companies found in 47 U.S.C. § 251(f). It is therefore

ORDERED, that Global's application for a certificate of authority to provide interexchange telecommunications services and local exchange services is granted, subject to the condition that Global not offer a prepaid calling card or require deposits or advance payments without prior approval of the Commission; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that Global shall file informational copies of tariff changes with the Commission as the changes occur; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that the Commission shall authorize Global to offer its local exchange services in South Dakota, except in those areas served by a rural telephone company.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 24th day of January, 2001.

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>Alldine Kelbo</u>
Date:	<u>1/25/01</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)	

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Pam Nelson
PAM NELSON, Vice Chairman

Laska Schoenfelder
LASKA SCHOENFELDER, Commissioner