

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING FOR)	ORDER APPROVING THIRD
APPROVAL OF THIRD AND FOURTH)	AND FOURTH
AMENDMENTS TO AN INTERCONNECTION)	AMENDMENTS TO
AGREEMENT BETWEEN QWEST)	AGREEMENT
CORPORATION AND IONEX)	
COMMUNICATIONS NORTH, INC.)	TC01-015

On February 20, 2001, Qwest Corporation (Qwest) filed for approval by the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) third and fourth amendments to an interconnection agreement between Ionex Communications North, Inc. (Ionex) and Qwest. The third amendment is made in order to replace the Interim Line Sharing Agreement Ionex entered into on May 11, 2000, and to add terms, conditions and rates for Line Sharing as set forth in Attachment 1 to the amendment. The fourth amendment reduces the intervals for (a) physical collocation (both caged and cageless) to forty-five (45) days, and (b) collocation augments to thirty (30) days based on certain terms and conditions set forth in the amendment.

On February 22, 2001, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing of the third and fourth amendments to interested individuals and entities. The notice stated that any person wishing to comment on the parties' request for approval had until March 12, 2001, to do so. No comments were filed.

At its duly noticed April 17, 2001, meeting, the Commission considered whether to approve the negotiated third and fourth amendments to the agreement between Qwest and Ionex. Commission Staff recommended its approval.

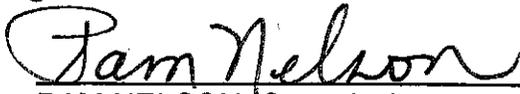
The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapter 49-31, and the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996. In accordance with 47 U.S.C. § 252(e)(2), the Commission found that the third and fourth amendments do not discriminate against a telecommunications carrier that is not a party to the third and fourth amendments and the third and fourth amendments are consistent with the public interest, convenience, and necessity. The Commission unanimously voted to approve the third and fourth amendments to the agreement. It is therefore

ORDERED, that the Commission approves the negotiated third and fourth amendments to the agreement as described herein.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 24th day of April, 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><i>Nellaine Kolbe</i></u>
Date: <u>4/24/01</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

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