

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

**IN THE MATTER OF DETERMINING PRICES)
FOR UNBUNDLED NETWORK ELEMENTS)
(UNES) IN QWEST CORPORATION'S)
STATEMENT OF GENERALLY AVAILABLE)
TERMS (SGAT))**

**ORDER GRANTING
INTERVENTION**

TC01-098

On July 27, 2001, Qwest Corporation (Qwest) filed a petition for the purpose of determining Qwest's forward looking costs to be used in setting the prices for the elements and services contained in Qwest's Statement of Generally Available Terms (SGAT) and setting a scheduling conference for the purpose of adopting a procedural schedule for the orderly progression of this filing. Qwest filed its most recent South Dakota specific total element long run incremental cost (TELRIC) studies for those Unbundled Network Elements offered in Qwest's SGAT. Qwest is not generally seeking changes to those prices already established by this Commission in the AT&T Arbitration (TC96-184). Qwest recommends that this Commission declare those previously established prices to be Qwest's permanent TELRIC-based wholesale prices. For those services that were not addressed in previous pricing decisions of this Commission, Qwest offers its cost studies and supporting materials in support of the prices depicted in its filing. Qwest will not seek cost recovery for its Operations Support Systems until testing of said systems has been successfully completed. Qwest proposes a series of informal workshops to precede the preparation and filing of more formal positions of Staff and any other interested party. At these workshops Qwest will explain and, if requested, provide "hands-on" assistance for the use of its Integrated Cost Model and other cost models. Following the workshop phase, Qwest then proposes that the case move to a more formal schedule that provides for direct and rebuttal testimony and an evidentiary hearing on those issues remaining after the informal workshop process is completed.

On August 2, 2001, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of August 17, 2001, to interested individuals and entities. A Petition for Leave to Intervene was received from AT&T Communications of the Midwest, Inc. (AT&T) on August 14, 2001, and a Petition for Late Filed Intervention was received from Midcontinent Communications, Inc. (Midcontinent) on August 31, 2001.

The Commission has jurisdiction in this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapters 1-26 and 49-31 and ARSD 20:10:01:15.05.

At a regularly scheduled meeting of September 7, 2001, the Commission found that the Petitions to Intervene demonstrated good cause to grant intervention. It is therefore

ORDERED, that the Petitions to Intervene of AT&T and Midcontinent are hereby granted.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 14th day of September, 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: *Delaine Kelso*

Date: 9/14/01

(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

James A. Burg
JAMES A. BURG, Chairman

Pam Nelson
PAM NELSON, Commissioner