

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

<b>IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF )</b>	<b>ORDER GRANTING</b>
<b>UNITED SYSTEMS ACCESS TELECOM, INC. )</b>	<b>CERTIFICATE OF</b>
<b>FOR A CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY TO )</b>	<b>AUTHORITY</b>
<b>PROVIDE INTEREXCHANGE )</b>	
<b>TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES IN )</b>	<b>TC01-166</b>
<b>SOUTH DAKOTA )</b>	

On October 26, 2001, 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 United Systems Access Telecom, Inc. (USA Telecom).

USA Telecom proposes to offer resold interexchange telecommunication services in South Dakota. A proposed tariff was filed by USA Telecom. The Commission has classified long distance service as fully competitive.

On November 1, 2001, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of November 16, 2001, to interested individuals and entities. No petitions to intervene or comments were filed and at its December 12, 2001, meeting, the Commission considered USA Telecom's request for a certificate of authority. Commission Staff recommended granting a certificate of authority, subject to the condition that USA Telecom not offer a prepaid calling card or require deposits or advance payments without prior approval of the Commission. 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 USA Telecom has met the legal requirements established for the granting of a certificate of authority. USA Telecom 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 USA Telecom's application for a certificate of authority, subject to the condition that USA Telecom not offer a prepaid calling card or require deposits or advance payments without prior approval of the Commission. As the Commission's final decision in this matter, it is therefore

ORDERED, that USA Telecom's application for a certificate of authority is hereby granted, effective December 26, 2001, subject to the condition that USA Telecom not offer a prepaid calling card or require deposits or advance payments without prior approval of the Commission. It is

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

FURTHER ORDERED, that USA Telecom shall file informational copies of tariff changes with the Commission as the changes occur.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 20<sup>th</sup> day of December, 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 first class mail, in properly addressed envelopes, with charges prepaid thereon.

By: Delaine Kelbo

Date: 12/21/01

(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

James A. Burg  
JAMES A. BURG, Chairman

Pam Nelson  
PAM NELSON, Commissioner