

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF)	ORDER GRANTING
CONVERGIA, INC. FOR A CERTIFICATE OF)	CERTIFICATE OF
AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE INTEREXCHANGE)	AUTHORITY
TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES IN)	
SOUTH DAKOTA)	TC03-043

On January 30, 2003, 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 Convergia, Inc. (Convergia).

Convergia proposes to provide switched and dedicated "One Plus" service, switched and dedicated toll-free service and postpaid and prepaid calling card service. A proposed tariff was filed by Convergia. The Commission has classified long distance service as fully competitive.

On February 6, 2003, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of February 21, 2003, to interested individuals and entities. No petitions to intervene or comments were filed and at its March 4, 2003, meeting, the Commission considered Convergia's request for a certificate of authority. Commission Staff recommended granting a certificate of authority, subject to the condition that Convergia not offer a prepaid calling card or require or accept 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 Convergia has met the legal requirements established for the granting of a certificate of authority. Convergia 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 Convergia's application for a certificate of authority, subject to the condition that Convergia not offer a prepaid calling card or require or accept deposits or advance payments without prior approval of the Commission. As the Commission's final decision in this matter, it is therefore

ORDERED, that Convergia's application for a certificate of authority to provide interexchange telecommunications services is hereby granted effective April 2, 2003, subject to the condition that Convergia not offer a prepaid calling card or require or accept deposits or advance payments without prior approval of the Commission. It is

FURTHER ORDERED, that the Commission waives ARSD 20:10:24:02(8). It is

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

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 7th day of March, 2003.

<p style="text-align: center;">CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE</p> <p>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.</p> <p>By: <u>Nelaine Kalbo</u></p> <p>Date: <u>3/11/03</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">(OFFICIAL SEAL)</p>

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Robert K. Sahr

ROBERT K. SAHR, Chairman

Gary Hanson

GARY HANSON, Commissioner

James A. Burg

JAMES A. BURG, Commissioner