

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

<b>IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING FOR )</b>	<b>ORDER GRANTING</b>
<b>APPROVAL OF A BOUNDARY CHANGE )</b>	<b>AMENDED CERTIFICATES</b>
<b>BETWEEN WEST RIVER )</b>	<b>OF AUTHORITY AND</b>
<b>TELECOMMUNICATIONS COOPERATIVE AND )</b>	<b>ORDER APPROVING</b>
<b>QWEST CORPORATION )</b>	<b>BOUNDARY CHANGE</b>
<b>)</b>	<b>TC03-087</b>

On April 30, 2003, Qwest Corporation (Qwest) filed with the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) a request for approval of a boundary change between West River Telecommunications Cooperative's (West River) McLaughlin Exchange and Qwest's Timber Lake Exchange. On May 14, 2003, West River filed with the Commission a request for approval of the same boundary change. Bud Long Chase and Vern Shelton have requested that they be served by West River's McLaughlin Exchange and be released from Qwest's Timber Lake Exchange. Qwest and West River requested Amended Certificates of Authority pursuant to SDCL 49-31-69. Qwest and West River also requested a waiver of ARSD 20:10:32:03, 1-7, 9-21, and 23 as the Commission already has the information on file.

On June 17, 2003, at its regularly scheduled meeting, the Commission considered the parties' requests for approval of the joint requests for a boundary change, the applications for Amended Certificates of Authority, and waiver of ARSD 20:10:32:03.

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 20:10:32:03. The Commission finds that Qwest and West River have met the legal requirements established for the granting of Amended Certificates of Authority. Qwest and West River have, 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. Further, the Commission finds that there is good cause to waive subparagraphs 1 through 7, 9 through 21, and 23 of ARSD 20:10:32:03. Further, the Commission finds that pursuant to SDCL 49-31-69, the Amended Certificates of Authority shall be granted, that the proposed boundary territory change between Qwest and West River is in the public interest and the requests shall be granted, and ARSD 20:10:32:03, parts 1 through 7, 9 through 21, and 23 shall be waived. As the Commission's final decision in this matter, it is therefore

**ORDERED**, that the requests for Amended Certificates of Authority shall be granted; and it is

**FURTHER ORDERED**, that the proposed boundary territory change between Qwest and West River as set forth on the maps filed with the applications shall be granted; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that ARSD 20:10:32:03, parts 1 through 7, 9 through 21, and 23 shall be waived.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 26<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2003.

<b>CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE</b>
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>Aldine Kalbo</u>
Date: <u>6/26/03</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Robert K. Sahr

ROBERT K. SAHR, Chairman

Gary Hanson

GARY HANSON, Commissioner

James A. Burg

JAMES A. BURG, Commissioner