

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

**IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTABLISHMENT) ORDER ASSESSING FILING
OF SWITCHED ACCESS REVENUE) FEE
REQUIREMENT FOR WESTERN TELEPHONE)
COMPANY) TC03-100**

On June 26, 2003, Western Telephone Company (Western) filed for approval by the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) its 2002 Intrastate Switched Access Cost Study.

On July 3, 2003, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of July 18, 2003, to interested individuals and entities.

SDCL 49-31-12.6 authorizes the Commission to require a deposit of up to one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) in the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission's (SDPUC) regulatory assessment fee fund to defray Commission expenses incident to analyzing and ruling upon this type of filing.

The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL 1-26-17.1, 49-1A-9, 49-31-12.6, 49-31-18, 49-31-19 and ARSD 20:10:01:15.02, 20:10:01:15.05, 20:10:27:07 and 20:10:27:08.

On September 16, 2003, at its regularly scheduled meeting, the Commission, pursuant to SDCL 49-31-12.6, unanimously voted to assess Western a \$1,000 filing fee, subject to additional amounts as requested by the Executive Director up to the statutory limit of \$100,000. It is therefore

ORDERED, that Western shall deposit an initial assessment of \$1,000 in the SDPUC regulatory assessment fee fund and shall deposit any additional amounts as requested by the Executive Director up to the statutory limit of \$100,000.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 23rd day of September, 2003.

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>Delaine Kalbo</i></u>
Date:	<u>9/25/03</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)	

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Robert K. Sahr
ROBERT K. SAHR, Chairman

Gary Hanson
GARY HANSON, Commissioner