

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

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| IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF) | ORDER GRANTING |
| TELECOM MANAGEMENT, INC. D/B/A) | CERTIFICATE OF |
| PIONEER TELEPHONE FOR A CERTIFICATE) | AUTHORITY |
| OF AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE) | |
| INTEREXCHANGE TELECOMMUNICATIONS) | TC04-105 |
| SERVICES IN SOUTH DAKOTA) | |

On June 23, 2004, 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 Telecom Management, Inc. d/b/a Pioneer Telephone (Pioneer).

Pioneer proposes to offer resold interexchange long distance services to residential and business customers. A proposed tariff was filed by Pioneer. The Commission has classified long distance service as fully competitive.

On June 24, 2004, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of July 9, 2004, to interested individuals and entities. No petitions to intervene or comments were filed and at its July 20, 2004, meeting, the Commission considered Pioneer's request for a certificate of authority. Commission Staff recommended granting a certificate of authority with an effective date of August 23, 2004, subject to the condition that Pioneer not offer any prepaid services (including prepaid calling cards) and not accept or require any 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 Pioneer has met the legal requirements established for the granting of a certificate of authority. Pioneer 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 Pioneer's application for a certificate of authority, subject to the condition that Pioneer not offer any prepaid services (including prepaid calling cards) and not accept or require any deposits or advance payments without prior approval of the Commission. As the Commission's final decision in this matter, it is therefore

ORDERED, that Pioneer's application for a certificate of authority to provide interexchange telecommunications services is hereby granted, effective August 23, 2004, subject to the condition that Pioneer not offer any prepaid services (including prepaid calling cards) and not accept or require any 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 Pioneer shall file informational copies of tariff changes with the Commission as the changes occur.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 27th day of July, 2004.

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| 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: _____ |
| Date: _____ |
| (OFFICIAL SEAL) |

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

ROBERT K. SAHR, Chairman

GARY HANSON, Commissioner

JAMES A. BURG, Commissioner