

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

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| IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING FOR) APPROVAL OF AN AMENDMENT TO AN) INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT BETWEEN) QWEST CORPORATION AND HOULTON) ENTERPRISES, INC. D/B/A GUARANTEED) PHONE SERVICE) |) | ORDER APPROVING AMENDMENT TO AGREEMENT TC05-040 |
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On February 25, 2005, Qwest Corporation (Qwest) filed for approval by the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) an amendment to an interconnection agreement between Houlton Enterprises, Inc. d/b/a Guaranteed Phone Service (Houlton) and Qwest. This amendment is intended to amend and supersede those provisions of Houlton's existing and all future interconnection or other agreements only as they relate to the offering of Unbundled Mass Market Switching or Unbundled Enterprise Switching and Unbundled Shared Transport in combination with other network elements as part of the Unbundled Network Element Platform and Batch Hot Cuts.

On March 3, 2005, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing of the amendment to interested individuals and entities. The notice stated that any person wishing to comment on the parties' request for approval had until March 17, 2005, to do so. No comments were filed.

At its duly noticed March 29, 2005, meeting, the Commission considered whether to approve the negotiated amendment to the agreement between Qwest and Houlton. Commission Staff recommended its approval.

The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapter 49-31, and the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996. In accordance with 47 U.S.C. § 252(e)(2), the Commission found that the amendment does not discriminate against a telecommunications carrier that is not a party to the amendment and the amendment is consistent with the public interest, convenience, and necessity. The Commission unanimously voted to approve the amendment to the agreement. It is therefore

ORDERED, that the Commission approves the negotiated amendment to the agreement as described herein.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 7th day of April, 2005.

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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 facsimile or by first class mail, in properly addressed envelopes, with charges prepaid thereon. |
| By: <u><i>Delaine Kaelo</i></u> |
| Date: <u>4/8/05</u> |
| (OFFICIAL SEAL) |

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Gary Hanson
GARY HANSON, Chairman

Robert K. Sahr
ROBERT K. SAHR, Commissioner

Dustin M. Johnson
DUSTIN M. JOHNSON, Commissioner