

**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 ) TC05-091

On June 29, 2005, Western Telephone Company (Western) filed for approval by the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) its 2004 Intrastate Switched Access Cost Study.

On June 30, 2005, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of July 15, 2005, 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 July 28, 2005, 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 2<sup>nd</sup> day of August, 2005.

<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>Melaine Kalbo</u>
Date: <u>8/4/05</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