

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTABLISHMENT)	ORDER ASSESSING FILING
OF SWITCHED ACCESS RATES FOR THE)	FEE AND ORDER
LOCAL EXCHANGE CARRIERS ASSOCIATION)	SUSPENDING ACCESS
)	TARIFF
)	TC05-096

On June 29, 2005, the Local Exchange Carriers Association (LECA) filed for approval by the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) its 2004 Intrastate Switched Access Cost Study. LECA stated: The purpose of these revisions is to implement changes in rates as necessitated by revisions in member companies' revenue requirements and access minutes of use.

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, SDCL 49-31, specifically 49-31-12.4, 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 LECA a \$1,000 filing fee, subject to additional amounts as requested by the Executive Director up to the statutory limit of \$100,000, and to suspend the effective date of LECA's switched access rate for no more than 120 days after the proposed effective date of August 1, 2005.

It is therefore

ORDERED, that LECA 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. It is further

ORDERED, that the effective date for LECA's switched access rate be suspended for no more than 120 days from the proposed effective date of August 1, 2005.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 2nd day of August, 2005.

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: *Aeldine Kalbs*

Date: 8/4/05

(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