BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING BY HEARTLAND TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMPANY OF IOWA D/B/A HICKORYTECH FOR CERTIFICATION REGARDING ITS USE OF FEDERAL UNIVERSAL SERVICE SUPPORT	))))))	ORDER GRANTING WAIVER TC06-142

On August 9, 2006, Heartland Telecommunications of Iowa d/b/a HickoryTech (HickoryTech) provided information constituting HickoryTech's plan for the use of its federal universal service support and to otherwise verify that HickoryTech will use all federal universal service support received in a manner that is consistent with the federal universal service provisions of 47 U.S.C. section 254. HickoryTech also seeks a waiver of ARSD 20:10:32:53 as it pertains to the filing deadline of August 1, 2006.

On August 10, 2006, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of August 25, 2006, to interested individuals and entities. No petitions to intervene or comments were filed.

The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapters 1-26, 49-31, and 47 U.S.C. § 254.

On September 12, 2006, at its regularly scheduled meeting, the Commission considered this matter. Commission Staff had no objection to granting the waiver. The Commission voted to grant a waiver of ARSD Section 20:10:32:53. The Commission also voted to defer the matter of certification. It is therefore

ORDERED, that the request for a waiver of ARSD Section 20:10:32:53 is hereby granted and the matter of certification is deferred.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 26th day of September, 2006.

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: Delaine Kolbo

Date:

(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

ROBERT K. SAHR, Chairman

DUSTIN M. JOHNSON, Commissioner

GARY HANSON, Commissioner