

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

**IN THE MATTER OF THE INVESTIGATION OF ) ORDER OPENING DOCKET;  
PRICING REGULATION FOR SWITCHED ) NOTICE OF INTERVENTION;  
ACCESS SERVICES PROVIDED BY ) AND NOTICE OF  
COMPETITIVE LOCAL EXCHANGE CARRIERS ) PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE  
)**

**TC10-014**

At its January 5, 2010, meeting, the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) considered the request by Chairman Johnson to open a docket, pursuant to SDCL 49-31-4.1, to consider whether pricing regulation is appropriate for switched access services provided by competitive local exchange companies. SDCL 49-31-4.1 provides that if an investigation conducted by the Commission "indicates that pricing regulation is appropriate for any noncompetitive service because such regulation has a positive impact on universal service and is more reasonable and fair than rate of return regulation, the commission may adopt pricing regulation for any such noncompetitive service."

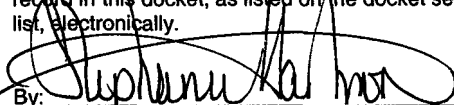
After considering this matter, the Commission unanimously voted to open the docket. Any interested person may file a petition to intervene on or before February 8, 2010. Parties shall file initial testimony on or before March 9, 2010. Reply testimony shall be filed on or before March 30, 2010. The hearing date shall be set in a subsequent order. It is therefore

ORDERED, that a docket to investigate whether pricing regulation is appropriate for switched access services provided by competitive local exchange companies is hereby opened; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that the deadline for intervention is February 8, 2010; and it is

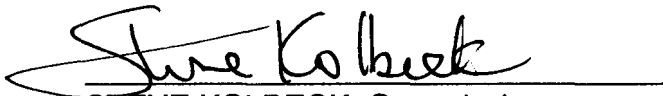
FURTHER ORDERED, that any parties to the proceeding shall follow the procedural schedule as set forth above.

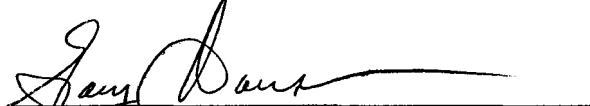
Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 27<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2010.

<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, electronically.
By: <u></u>
Date: <u>1/27/10</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

  
DUSTIN M. JOHNSON, Chairman

  
STEVE KOLBECK, Commissioner

  
GARY HANSON, Commissioner