

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

**IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF )  
SPECTROTEL, INC. D/B/A ONETOUCH )  
COMMUNICATIONS D/B/A TOUCH BASE )  
COMMUNICATIONS FOR A CERTIFICATE OF )  
AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE INTEREXCHANGE )  
LONG DISTANCE SERVICES AND LOCAL )  
EXCHANGE SERVICES IN SOUTH DAKOTA )**

**ORDER GRANTING  
CERTIFICATE OF  
AUTHORITY**

**TC11-081**

On August 10, 2011, the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received an application for a certificate of authority to provide interexchange telecommunications services and local exchange services from Spectrotel, Inc. d/b/a OneTouch Communications d/b/a Touch Base Communications (Spectrotel).

On August 11, 2011, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of August 26, 2011, to interested individuals and entities. No petitions to intervene or comments were filed, and at its regularly scheduled September 27, 2011, meeting, the Commission considered Spectrotel's request for a certificate of authority. Commission Staff recommended granting a certificate of authority, subject to the condition that Spectrotel not offer any prepaid services (including prepaid calling cards) and not accept or require any deposits or advance payments without prior approval of the Commission, and subject to rural safeguards.

The Commission finds that it has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapter 49-31, specifically 49-31-3, 49-31-69 through 49-31-75, and ARSD 20:10:24:02 and 20:10:32:03. The Commission finds that Spectrotel has met the legal requirements established for the granting of a certificate of authority. Spectrotel has, in accordance with SDCL 49-31-3 and 49-31-71, demonstrated sufficient technical, financial and managerial capabilities to offer telecommunications services in South Dakota.

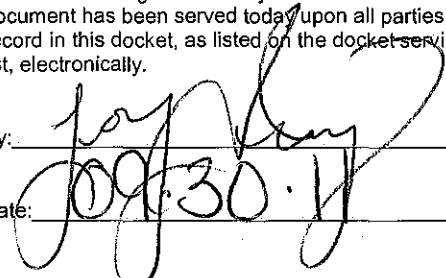
The Commission approves Spectrotel's application for a certificate of authority subject to the condition that Spectrotel not offer any prepaid services (including prepaid calling cards) and not accept or require any deposits or advance payments without prior approval of the Commission, and subject to rural safeguards. The certificate of authority for Spectrotel shall authorize it to provide local and long distance telecommunications service in South Dakota, except in those areas served by a rural telephone company. In the future, should Spectrotel choose to provide local exchange services statewide, with respect to rural telephone companies, Spectrotel will have to come before the Commission in another proceeding before being able to provide local service in that rural service area pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 253(f) which allows the Commission to require a company that seeks to provide service in a rural service area to meet the requirements in 47 U.S.C. § 214(e)(1) for designation as an eligible telecommunications carrier. In addition, the granting of statewide certification will not affect the exemptions, suspensions, and modifications for rural telephone companies found in 47 U.S.C. § 251(f). It is therefore

ORDERED, that Spectrotel's application for a certificate of authority to provide interexchange telecommunications services and local exchange services is granted, subject to the condition that Spectrotel not offer any prepaid services (including prepaid calling cards) and not accept or require any deposits or advance payments without prior approval of the Commission, and subject to rural safeguards. It is

FURTHER ORDERED, that this certificate of authority authorizes Spectrotel to offer its local exchange services in South Dakota, except in those areas served by a rural telephone company. It is

FURTHER ORDERED, that this order constitutes Spectrotel's certificate of authority as described above.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 30 day of September, 2011.

<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:	
Date:	<u>09.30.11</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)	

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

  
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GARY HANSON, Chairman

  
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CHRIS NELSON, Commissioner

  
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KRISTIE FIEGEN, Commissioner