BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING BY U S WEST COMMUNICATIONS TO INCREASE THE CARRIER)	ORDER GRANTING WITHDRAWAL AND
COMMON LINE ACCESS CHARGE AND RESTRUCTURE MTS RATES)	CLOSING DOCKET
)	TC96-028
)	

On February 13, 1996, the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received an application from U S West Communications (U S West) requesting Commission approval to increase its Carrier Common Line Access Charge (CCLC) and to restructure Message Telecommunications Services (MTS) rates. U S West proposed an effective date of March 14, 1996. An intervention deadline of March 1, 1996, was established by the Commission. The Commission received Petitions to Intervene in this matter from Express Communications, Dakota Cooperative Telecommunications, Inc., MCI Telecommunications Corporation, Sprint Communications Company L.P., AT&T Communications of the Midwest, and Telecommunications Action Group. A ad hoc meeting of March 6, 1996, the Commission granted intervention to all petitioners and assessed a filing fee not to exceed \$100,000. The Commission conducted a hearing on this matter on March 26, 1996, and recessed the hearing to allow time for further discovery by the parties. The hearing was reconvened on May 7, 1996. At the conclusion of the hearing, the Commission directed the parties to file post hearing briefs and set a briefing schedule.

A ad hoc meeting of May 31, 1996, the Commission reviewed U S West's filing and, pursuant to Administrative Rules of South Dakota 20:10:01:27.01, on its own motion, reopened the record in this matter for further hearing. The Commission entered an Order implementing this decision.

U S West filed a Petition to Withdraw Filing on June 4, 1996, and an ad hoc meeting was scheduled for Thursday, June 6, 1996, before the Commission to consider this Petition. Commissioner Schoenfelder moved to grant the motion; Commissioner Stofferahn seconded the motion. The Commission granted the motion. Commissioner Burg was absent.

The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapters 1-26 and 49-31, specifically 1-26-17, 1-26-18, 49-31-1.1, 49-31-3, 49-31-4, 49-31-7, 49-31-7.1, 49-31-12, 49-31-12.2, 49-31-12.4, 49-31-18 and 49-31-19 and ARSD Chapters 20:10:27 to 20:10:29, inclusive.

It is therefore ORDERED that U S WEST be permitted to withdraw its filing in this docket and that the docket is hereby closed.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 11th day of June, 1996.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE	BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:
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.	KENNETH STOFFERAHN, Chairman
By:	JAMES A. BURG, Commissioner
Date:	
(OFFICIAL SEAL)	LASKA SCHOENFELDER, Commissioner

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