

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF)
SOUTHWESTERN BELL COMMUNICATIONS)
SERVICES, INC. D/B/A SOUTHWESTERN)
BELL LONG DISTANCE FOR A CERTIFICATE)
OF AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE)
TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES IN)
SOUTH DAKOTA)

ORDER GRANTING
CERTIFICATE OF
AUTHORITY

TC97-132

On July 14, 1997, the Public Utilities Commission (Commission), in accordance with SDCL 49-31-3 and ARSD 20:10:24:02, received an application for a certificate of authority from Southwestern Bell Communications Services, Inc. d/b/a Southwestern Bell Long Distance (Southwestern).

Southwestern seeks statewide authority to offer a full line of inbound, outbound, conference, directory assistance, calling card, prepaid calling card, and private line services to business customers and residential customers. Initially Southwestern will not offer alternative operator services. A proposed tariff was filed by Southwestern. The Commission has classified long distance service as fully competitive.

On July 17, 1997, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of August 1, 1997, to interested individuals and entities. No petitions to intervene or comments were filed and at its regularly scheduled August 18, 1997, meeting, the Commission considered Southwestern's request for a certificate of authority. Commission Staff recommended granting a certificate of authority, subject to the condition that Southwestern not offer a prepaid calling card or require deposits or advance payments without prior approval of the Commission.

The Commission finds that it has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to Chapter 49-31, specifically 49-31-3 and ARSD 20:10:24:02 and 20:10:24:03. The Commission finds that Southwestern has met the legal requirements established for the granting of a certificate of authority. Southwestern has, in accordance with SDCL 49-31-3, demonstrated sufficient technical, financial and managerial capabilities to offer telecommunications services in South Dakota. The Commission approves Southwestern's application for a certificate of authority, subject to the condition that Southwestern not offer a prepaid calling card or require deposits or advance payments without prior approval of the Commission. As the Commission's final decision in this matter, it is therefore

ORDERED, that Southwestern's application for a certificate of authority is hereby granted effective September 14, 1997, subject to the condition that Southwestern not offer a prepaid calling card or require deposits or advance payments without prior approval of the Commission. It is

FURTHER ORDERED, that Southwestern shall file informational copies of tariff changes with the Commission as the changes occur.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 27th day of August, 1997.

<p align="center">CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE</p> <p>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 first class mail, in properly addressed envelopes, with charges prepaid thereon.</p> <p>By: <u><i>Debbie Kalbo</i></u></p> <p>Date: <u>9/2/97</u></p> <p align="center">(OFFICIAL SEAL)</p>
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BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

James A. Burg
JAMES A. BURG, Chairman

Pam Nelson
PAM NELSON, Commissioner

Laska Schoenfelder
LASKA SCHOENFELDER, Commissioner