

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

**IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING BY U S WEST
COMMUNICATIONS, INC. FOR APPROVAL OF TARIFF
PAGES FOR ITS ACCESS SERVICE TARIFF
IMPLEMENTING ITS INTRALATA TOLL DIALING
PARITY PLAN**

) **ORDER APPROVING AMENDED**
) **STIPULATION AND AGREEMENT**
)
) **TC99-053**
)

On May 3, 1999, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a filing from U S WEST Communications, Inc. (U S WEST) for approval of its Access Service Tariff pages implementing its IntraLATA Toll Dialing Parity Plan. On June 1, 1999, U S WEST filed a Petition for Cost Recovery Charge requesting recovery of its costs associated with the implementation and conversion of intraLATA equal access in South Dakota in 1999. U S WEST requests approval of an equal access recovery charge of \$.001136 per minute of use in accordance with its equal access cost study. U S WEST further requests that this charge be recovered over a three year period of time with true-ups annually.

On May 6, 1999, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of May 21, 1999, to interested individuals and entities. On May 20, 1999, the South Dakota Independent Telephone Coalition (SDITC) filed a Petition to Intervene and on May 21, 1999, AT&T Communications of the Midwest, Inc. filed its Petition to Intervene. At its regularly scheduled June 8, 1999, meeting, the Commission considered SDITC's and AT&T's request for intervention. The Commission granted intervention by Order dated June 22, 1999. On September 3, 1999, the Commission received a late-filed Petition to Intervene from Sprint Corporation. At its September 8, 1999, meeting, the Commission denied Sprint's Petition to Intervene. On September 10, 1999, U S WEST filed a Motion for a 30-Day Continuance of Hearing Date and Expedited Consideration. On September 17, 1999, AT&T filed a Motion for Extension of Time to File Testimony. The Commission granted both motions. A Stipulation and Settlement Agreement was filed with the Commission on November 1, 1999. At the hearing held on November 2, 1999, the Commission considered the Stipulation. The matter was deferred at that time so that the parties could clarify some of the issues within the Stipulation. An Amended Stipulation and Settlement Agreement was filed on November 30, 1999.

On December 14, 1999, at a duly noticed meeting, the Commission considered the Amended Stipulation and Settlement Agreement. The Commission has jurisdiction in this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapters 1-26 and 49-31 and 47 U.S.C. " 251 and 252. The Commission voted to approve the Amended Stipulation and Settlement Agreement. It is therefore

ORDERED that the Amended Stipulation and Settlement Agreement is hereby approved.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 21st day of December, 1999.

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: _____ Date: _____ (OFFICIAL SEAL)	BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION: _____ JAMES A. BURG, Chairman _____ PAM NELSON, Commissioner _____ LASKA SCHOENFELDER, Commissioner
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