

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING FOR) APPROVAL OF A FOURTH AMENDMENT TO) AN INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT) BETWEEN QWEST CORPORATION AND) MCLEODUSA TELECOMMUNICATIONS) SERVICES, INC.)	ORDER APPROVING FOURTH AMENDMENT TO AGREEMENT TC00-180
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On November 8, 2000, Qwest Corporation (Qwest) filed for approval by the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) a fourth amendment to an interconnection agreement between McLeodUSA Telecommunications Services, Inc. (McLeod) and Qwest. The fourth amendment addresses the terms and conditions of line sharing.

On November 9, 2000, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing of the fourth amendment to interested individuals and entities. The notice stated that any person wishing to comment on the parties' request for approval had until November 29, 2000, to do so. No comments were filed.

At its duly noticed January 4, 2001, meeting, the Commission considered whether to approve the negotiated fourth amendment to the agreement between Qwest and McLeod. Commission Staff recommended its approval.

The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapter 49-31, and the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996. In accordance with 47 U.S.C. § 252(e)(2), the Commission found that the fourth amendment does not discriminate against a telecommunications carrier that is not a party to the fourth amendment and the fourth amendment is consistent with the public interest, convenience, and necessity. The Commission unanimously voted to approve the fourth amendment to the agreement. It is therefore

ORDERED, that the Commission approves the negotiated fourth amendment to the agreement as described herein.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 10th day of January, 2001.

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: <u>Alaine Kalbo</u>
Date: <u>1/12/01</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

James A. Burg
JAMES A. BURG, Chairman

Pam Nelson
PAM NELSON, Commissioner

Laska Schoenfelder
LASKA SCHOENFELDER, Commissioner