

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF)	ORDER GRANTING MOTION
CITIZENS TELECOMMUNICATIONS)	TO WITHDRAW AND
COMPANY OF MINNESOTA, INC. FOR A)	CERTIFICATE OF
CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE)	AUTHORITY
LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICES IN SOUTH)	
DAKOTA)	TC00-112

On July 19, 2000, the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received an application for a certificate of authority from Citizens Telecommunications Company of Minnesota, Inc. (Citizens). On January 30, 2001, the Commission received a Motion to Amend Application for Certificate of Authority from Citizens.

Citizens proposes to offer local exchange services in the Jasper, Minnesota exchange.

On July 27, 2000, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of August 11, 2000, to interested individuals and entities. No petitions to intervene or comments were filed. At the meeting on February 6, 2001, Citizens explained that the Motion to Amend Application for Certificate of Authority was a request to withdraw the Ortonville-Big Stone exchange from its original application. At its regularly scheduled February 6, 2001, meeting, the Commission considered Citizens' request to withdraw the Ortonville-Big Stone exchange from its original application and its request for a certificate of authority. Commission Staff recommended granting the motion to withdraw and granting a certificate of authority, subject to a continuous \$25,000 surety bond.

The Commission finds that it has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapter 49-31, specifically 49-31-69 and ARSD 20:10:32:03. The Commission finds that Citizens has met the legal requirements established for the granting of a certificate of authority. Citizens has, in accordance with SDCL 49-31-71, demonstrated sufficient technical, financial and managerial capabilities to offer telecommunications services in South Dakota. The Commission approves Citizens' motion to withdraw and its application for a certificate of authority, subject to a continuous \$25,000 surety bond. As the Commission's final decision in this matter, it is therefore

ORDERED, that Citizens' motion to withdraw is granted; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that Citizens' application for a certificate of authority to provide local exchange services in the Jasper, Minnesota exchange is granted, subject to a continuous \$25,000 surety bond; and it is

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

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 13th day of February, 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>Delvin Kelbs</u>
Date:	<u>2/15/01</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