

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

|                                             |                        |
|---------------------------------------------|------------------------|
| <b>IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING FOR )</b>    | <b>ORDER APPROVING</b> |
| <b>APPROVAL OF AN AMENDMENT TO AN )</b>     | <b>AMENDMENT TO</b>    |
| <b>INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT BETWEEN )</b>  | <b>AGREEMENT</b>       |
| <b>QWEST CORPORATION AND MIDCONTINENT )</b> |                        |
| <b>COMMUNICATIONS )</b>                     | <b>TC03-082</b>        |

On May 9, 2003, Qwest Corporation (Qwest) filed for approval by the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) an amendment to an interconnection agreement between Midcontinent Communications (Midcontinent) and Qwest. The Amendment is made in order to add to the agreement the Performance Assurance Plan as approved by the Commission and the Performance Indicator Definitions, as set forth in Attachments 1 and 2 attached to the amendment.

On May 15, 2003, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing of the amendment to interested individuals and entities. The notice stated that any person wishing to comment on the parties' request for approval had until May 29, 2003, to do so. No comments were filed.

At its duly noticed June 17, 2003, meeting, the Commission considered whether to approve the negotiated amendment to the agreement between Qwest and Midcontinent. 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 amendment does not discriminate against a telecommunications carrier that is not a party to the amendment and the amendment is consistent with the public interest, convenience, and necessity. The Commission unanimously voted to approve the amendment to the agreement. It is therefore

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

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 26<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2003.

**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: Melaine Kelbo

Date: 6/26/03

(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Robert K. Sahr  
ROBERT K. SAHR, Chairman

Gary Hanson  
GARY HANSON, Commissioner

James A. Burg  
JAMES A. BURG, Commissioner