

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING BY U S) WEST COMMUNICATIONS, INC. FOR) REVISIONS TO ITS EXCHANGE AND) NETWORK SERVICES TARIFF))	ORDER GRANTING LATE FILED INTERVENTION TC97-006
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On January 15, 1997, U S WEST Communications, Inc. (U S WEST) filed for approval by the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) Smart Public Access Line service (Smart PAL) on a flat and message rated monthly recurring and non-recurring basis to its Exchange and Network Services Tariff.

On January 16, 1997, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of January 31, 1997, to interested individuals and entities. On April 15, 1997, the Commission received a letter for intervention from Gemini Companies, Inc. (Gemini).

On April 28, 1997, at its regularly scheduled meeting, the Commission considered this matter. The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapter 49-31 and ARSD Chapter 20:10:01.

The Commission, pursuant to ARSD 20:10:01:15.02, found that denial of Gemini's petition would be detrimental to the public interest and that Gemini should be allowed to intervene.

ORDERED that Gemini's Petition to Intervene is granted.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 12th day of May, 1997.

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><i>Delanie Kalbs</i></u>
Date: <u>5/13/97</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