

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF)
FIRST CALL USA, INCORPORATED FOR A)
CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE)
TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES IN)
SOUTH DAKOTA)

ORDER GRANTING
CERTIFICATE OF
AUTHORITY

TC98-145

On August 24, 1998, the Public Utilities Commission (Commission), in accordance with SDCL 49-31-3 and ARSD 20:10:24:02, received an application for a certificate of authority from First Call USA, Incorporated (First Call).

First Call proposes to offer long distance voice telecommunications services over resold transmission facilities throughout South Dakota. It will provide outbound service and access to directory assistance. A proposed tariff was filed by First Call. The Commission has classified long distance service as fully competitive.

On August 26, 1998, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of September 11, 1998, to interested individuals and entities. No petitions to intervene or comments were filed and at its regularly scheduled November 3, 1998, meeting, the Commission considered First Call's request for a certificate of authority. Commission Staff recommended granting a certificate of authority, subject to the condition that First Call not offer a prepaid calling card or require deposits or advance payments without prior approval of the Commission.

The Commission finds that it has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to Chapter 49-31, specifically 49-31-3 and ARSD 20:10:24:02 and 20:10:24:03. The Commission finds that First Call has met the legal requirements established for the granting of a certificate of authority. First Call has, in accordance with SDCL 49-31-3, demonstrated sufficient technical, financial and managerial capabilities to offer telecommunications services in South Dakota. The Commission approves First Call's application for a certificate of authority, subject to the condition that First Call not offer a prepaid calling card or require deposits or advance payments without prior approval of the Commission. As the Commission's final decision in this matter, it is therefore

ORDERED, that First Call's application for a certificate of authority is hereby granted, subject to the condition that First Call not offer a prepaid calling card or require deposits or advance payments without prior approval of the Commission. It is

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

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 9th day of November, 1998.

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 first class mail, in properly addressed envelopes, with charges prepaid thereon.
By: <u>Melanie Kalbo</u>
Date: <u>11/10/98</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