

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF)
NEW CONCEPT COMMUNICATIONS, LLC)
FOR A CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY TO)
PROVIDE TELECOMMUNICATIONS)
SERVICES IN SOUTH DAKOTA)

ORDER GRANTING
CERTIFICATE OF
AUTHORITY

TC98-154

On September 15, 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 New Concept Communications, LLC (New Concept).

New Concept intends to provide intrastate long distance telecommunications service, including debit cards, over resold transmission facilities. A proposed tariff was filed by New Concept. The Commission has classified long distance service as fully competitive.

On September 17, 1998, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of October 2, 1998, to interested individuals and entities. No petitions to intervene or comments were filed and at its regularly scheduled November 25, 1998, meeting, the Commission considered New Concept's request for a certificate of authority. Commission Staff recommended granting a certificate of authority, subject to the condition that New Concept 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 New Concept has met the legal requirements established for the granting of a certificate of authority. New Concept 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 New Concept's application for a certificate of authority, subject to the condition that New Concept 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 New Concept's application for a certificate of authority is hereby granted, subject to the condition that New Concept not offer a prepaid calling card or require deposits or advance payments without prior approval of the Commission. It is

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

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 4th day of December, 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><i>Alaine Kales</i></u>
Date: <u>12/8/98</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