

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING FOR) APPROVAL OF A THIRD AMENDMENT TO AN) INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT BETWEEN) QWEST CORPORATION AND AT&T) COMMUNICATIONS OF THE MIDWEST, INC.))	ORDER APPROVING THIRD AMENDMENT TO AGREEMENT TC01-099
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On July 30, 2001, Qwest Corporation (Qwest) filed for approval by the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) a third amendment to an interconnection agreement between AT&T Communications of the Midwest, Inc. (AT&T) and Qwest. The third amendment is made in order to add terms and conditions to enable AT&T to receive blocking reports on all interoffice trunk groups carrying EAS/local traffic between Qwest tandem switches and Qwest end office switches for Interconnection Trunk Reports as set forth in Attachment 1, attached to the Amendment.

On August 2, 2001, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing of the third amendment to interested individuals and entities. The notice stated that any person wishing to comment on the parties' request for approval had until August 20, 2001, to do so. No comments were filed.

At its duly noticed September 7, 2001, meeting, the Commission considered whether to approve the negotiated third amendment to the agreement between Qwest and AT&T. 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 third amendment does not discriminate against a telecommunications carrier that is not a party to the third amendment and the third amendment is consistent with the public interest, convenience, and necessity. The Commission unanimously voted to approve the third amendment to the agreement. It is therefore

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

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 14th day of September, 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><i>Heldine Kelso</i></u>
Date: <u>9/14/01</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

James A. Burg
JAMES A. BURG, Chairman

Pam Nelson
PAM NELSON, Commissioner