

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF)	ORDER DISMISSING AND
DAKOTA TELECOM, INC. TO AMEND ITS)	CLOSING DOCKET
CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY TO ALLOW)	
DAKOTA TELECOM, INC. TO PROVIDE)	TC99-114
SERVICE TO THE JEFFERSON, SOUTH)	
DAKOTA EXCHANGE)	

On December 6, 1999, the Public Utilities Commission received an application from Dakota Telecom, Inc. to Amend its Certificate of Authority to allow Dakota Telecom, Inc. to provide service to the Jefferson, South Dakota Exchange. On October 22, 1996, Dakota Telecom, Inc. (DTI) was granted a Certificate of Authority to provide telecommunications services, including local exchange services, throughout the state of South Dakota. This grant was subject to the Commission's restriction with respect to rural telephone companies. DTI is requesting that the Commission amend its previous Order granting DTI its certificate and grant DTI the authority to provide service to the entire exchange of Jefferson, South Dakota, an exchange currently served by Long Lines, Inc. d/b/a Jefferson Telephone company, a rural telephone company as that term is defined in federal and state law. On January 2, 2001, the Commission received a Request to Dismiss from Dakota Telecom, Inc.

On December 9, 1999, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of December 24, 1999, to interested individuals and entities. Jefferson Telephone Company filed to intervene on December 23, 1999. On January 6, 2000, Jefferson Telephone Company was granted intervention.

At its regularly scheduled meeting of January 17, 2001, Commission Staff recommended dismissal based on the letter filed by DTI. The Commission has jurisdiction in this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapters 1-26 and 49-31. The Commission unanimously voted to dismiss and close the docket. It is therefore

ORDERED, that the docket shall be dismissed and closed.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 24th day of January, 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>Melanie Kelbo</i></u>
Date: <u>1/24/01</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