

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING FOR) APPROVAL OF AN AMENDMENT TO AN) INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT BETWEEN) QWEST CORPORATION AND BLACK HILLS) FIBERCOM, L.L.C.))	ORDER APPROVING AMENDMENT TO AGREEMENT TC02-131
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On September 9, 2002, Qwest Corporation (Qwest) filed for approval by the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) an amendment to an interconnection agreement between Black Hills FiberCom, L.L.C. (Black Hills) and Qwest. The purpose of the amendment is to delete paragraphs 3.2.1 and 3.2.3 and replace them with the language in the amendment.

On September 12, 2002, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing of the amendment to interested individuals and entities. The notice stated that any person wishing to comment on the parties' request for approval had until September 30, 2002, to do so. No comments were filed.

At its duly noticed December 19, 2002, meeting, the Commission considered whether to approve the negotiated amendment to the agreement between Qwest and Black Hills. 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 amendment does not discriminate against a telecommunications carrier that is not a party to the amendment and the amendment is consistent with the public interest, convenience, and necessity. The Commission unanimously voted to approve the amendment to the agreement. It is therefore

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

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 3rd day of January, 2003.

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>Helaine Kalbs</i></u>
Date: <u>1/6/03</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

James A. Burg
JAMES A. BURG, Chairman

Pam Nelson
PAM NELSON, Commissioner

Robert K. Sahr
ROBERT K. SAHR, Commissioner