

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF)	ORDER GRANTING
NOBELTEL, LLC FOR A CERTIFICATE OF)	CERTIFICATE OF
AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE INTEREXCHANGE)	AUTHORITY
TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES IN)	
SOUTH DAKOTA)	TC02-164

On September 24, 2002, 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 NobelTel, LLC (NobelTel).

NobelTel proposes to provide a full range of interexchange services on a resale basis. Services include direct and dial-around outbound dialing, toll free inbound dialing, directory assistance, data services and travel card services. The Commission has classified long distance service as fully competitive.

On September 26, 2002, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of October 11, 2002, to interested individuals and entities. No petitions to intervene or comments were filed and at its December 19, 2002, meeting, the Commission considered NobelTel's request for a certificate of authority. Commission Staff recommended granting a certificate of authority, subject to the condition that NobelTel not offer a prepaid calling card or require or accept deposits or advance payments without prior approval of the Commission. Commission Staff further recommended a waiver of ARSD 20:10:24:02(8).

The Commission finds that it has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapter 49-31, specifically 49-31-3 and ARSD 20:10:24:02 and 20:10:24:03. The Commission finds that NobelTel has met the legal requirements established for the granting of a certificate of authority. NobelTel has, in accordance with SDCL 49-31-3, demonstrated sufficient technical, financial and managerial capabilities to offer telecommunications services in South Dakota. Further, the Commission finds that there is good cause to waive ARSD 20:10:24:02(8). The Commission approves NobelTel's application for a certificate of authority, subject to the condition that NobelTel not offer a prepaid calling card or require or accept deposits or advance payments without prior approval of the Commission. As the Commission's final decision in this matter, it is therefore

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

FURTHER ORDERED, that the Commission waives ARSD 20:10:24:02(8). It is

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

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

<p style="text-align: center;">CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE</p> <p>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.</p> <p>By: <u><i>Neilino Kolbo</i></u></p> <p>Date: <u><i>1/6/03</i></u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">(OFFICIAL SEAL)</p>
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BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

James A. Burg
JAMES A. BURG, Chairman

Pam Nelson
PAM NELSON, Commissioner

Robert K. Sahr
ROBERT K. SAHR, Commissioner