BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of Dakota Coopera-)	Applicati	on No.	C-:	1545	
tive Telecommunications and TCIC,)					
Communications, Inc. of Irene,)					
South Dakota, seeking approval of)	GRANTED				
merger and use of Dakota Telecom-						
munications Group or "DTG" as)					
d/b/a's.)	Entered:	July	28,	1997	

BY THE COMMISSION:

On May 15, 1997, an application was filed jointly by Dakota Cooperative Telecommunications (Dakota) and TCIC Communications, Inc. of Irene, South Dakota seeking authority to merge operations and to change a d/b/a. Notice of the application was published in The Daily Record, May 21, 1997. No protests were filed; therefore, we will process this application pursuant to the Commission's Rule of Modified Procedure.

OPINION AND FINDINGS

Dakota is a stock-based cooperative association which provides local phone service to approximately 5,000 access lines in southeast South Dakota, including a few access lines in Nebraska. Through its subsidiary, Dakota Telecom, Inc., Dakota provides cable television services to approximately 6,000 customers. Another subsidiary, Dakota Telecommunications Systems provides competitive local exchange service to customers in South Dakota.

Dakota requests authority to merge TCIC Communications, Inc., a South Dakota corporation, into its operations. The shareholders of TCIC consented to the merger and received preferred shares of Dakota stock for their interest in TCIC. Written consent from the TCIC Communications shareholders was submitted with the application.

Dakota also requests authority in the application to do business under the name Dakota Telecommunications Group or DTG in the future.

Upon consideration of the application, the governing statutes and rules, and being fully informed, the Commission is of the opinion and finds the application should be granted.

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ORDER

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that Application C-1545 be, and it is hereby granted.

MADE AND ENTERED at Lincoln, Nebraska, this 28th day of July, 1997.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

Chairman

ATTEST

//s//Rod Johnson //s//Frank E. Landis

//s//Daniel G. Urwiller

Executive Director