BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Application) Application No. C-1741 of United Telephone Company of) the West, dba Sprint, Overland) Park, Kansas, and Dakota Services) Limited, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, seeking approval of their volun-) APPROVED tarily negotiated Master Resale) Agreement under the Telecommuni-) tions Act of 1996.) Entered: March 10, 1998

BY THE COMMISSION:

OPINION AND FINDINGS

On January 28, 1998, United Telephone Company of the West, dba Sprint (Sprint United) and Dakota Services Limited (Dakota) jointly filed an application seeking approval of their voluntarily negotiated interconnection agreement. Notice of the application was published in The Daily Record on January 29, 1998. The Nebraska Independent Telephone Association filed comments on Sprint United and Dakota's interconnection agreement. No protests were filed; therefore, this application will be processed pursuant to the Commission's Rule of Modified Procedure.

Pursuant to Section 252(a) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 (the Act), Sprint United and Dakota entered into a master resale interconnection agreement arrived at through voluntary negotiations. An executed copy of the voluntarily negotiated interconnection agreement is contained within the application.

Neither the agreement nor any portion thereof discriminates against any telecommunications carrier that is not a party to the agreement. Furthermore, the implementation of the agreement is consistent with the public interest, convenience and necessity.

Section 252(e) of the Act requires this Commission to review negotiated interconnection agreements to ensure they comply with Sections 251 and 252(d) of the Act, as well as all applicable state laws. Using those standards, the interconnection agreement filed January 28, 1998, should be approved.

Before Dakota is allowed to provide local exchange service, it must receive a certificate of public convenience and necessity from this Commission authorizing it to provide local exchange service in Nebraska and must file a tariff in accordance with the provisions of Section 002.21 of Neb. Admin. R. & Regs. tit. 291, ch. 5.

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ORDER

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that the voluntarily negotiated interconnection agreement between United Telephone Company of the West, dba Sprint and Dakota Services Limited be, and it is hereby, approved.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that upon certification to provide local exchange service and approval of its tariff, Dakota Services Limited is authorized to provide local exchange service according to the terms of the interconnection agreement approved herein.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the executed interconnection agreement filed herein be, and it is hereby, made the official copy on file with the Nebraska Public Service Commission.

MADE AND ENTERED at Lincoln, Nebraska, this 10th day of March, 1998.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

//s//Lowell C. Johnson
//s//Frank E. Landis
//s//Daniel G. Urwiller

ATTEST:

Executive Director