

Decision No. 15049

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of  
WHITTIER HOME TELEPHONE AND TELE-  
GRAPH COMPANY, a corporation, for  
authority to withdraw telephone ser-  
vice from certain territory in  
Montebello.

Application No. 11088

ORIGINAL

Ernest Irwin, for Applicant.

J. L. Adams, for Southern California Telephone  
Company, and The Pacific Telephone  
and Telegraph Company.

Paul G. McIver, for the City of Montebello.

BY THE COMMISSION:

O P I N I O N

This is a proceeding in which the Whittier Home Telephone and Telegraph Company requests this Commission for authority to withdraw service from certain subscribers now receiving service outside of applicant's authorized territory and within the corporate limit of the City of Montebello.

A hearing in this matter was held before Examiner Satterwhite in the City of Montebello on May 29th, 1925, at which time and place the matter was submitted.

At the present time applicant is furnishing telephone service to four subscribers within the City of Montebello. These subscribers are connected to one line which extends from Whittier into the City of Montebello, and is located on a pole line owned by the United States Long Distance Telephone and Telegraph Company. At the request of the City of Montebello, the circuits of the United States Long Distance Telephone and Telegraph Company are to be removed and placed underground.

Applicant states that a new route for its lines can only be obtained at a great expense, that the City of Montebello is outside of the territory in which it may render new service, that the City of Montebello is now in the territory being served by the Southern California Telephone Company, and for these reasons applicant requests that it be allowed to abandon this line and discontinue service to the subscribers connected to it. The present four subscribers are at this time being served by applicant in accordance with this Commission's Decision No. 2029 (5 CRC 952) dated December 28, 1914, and Decision No. 3081 (9 CRC 146) dated February 7, 1916, which required applicant to continue service to some eight subscribers existing as of that time. Of these four subscribers now remaining, one has in reality discontinued service, although the telephone instrument has not been removed from the subscriber's premise.

There was no objection to applicant's request, except from the City of Montebello and Dr. J. S. Trehwella, both of whom have services connected to the line herein involved. The City of Montebello would have no objection if it could be assured that it would receive fast and efficient toll service between Montebello and Whittier. Dr. Trehwella states that he has need for both Whittier and Montebello service, and objects to applicant's request due to the slow service which he believes will result and the higher cost to him if his Whittier service is removed and he is required to call between Montebello and Whittier by means of toll service.

Applicant is in a position of operating a single line in a territory wherein it can never expect to receive any additional subscribers, and also, is under great expense at present and will be under greater expense in the future, to maintain this line. It does not appear reasonable to expect applicant, nor is it just to applicant's other subscribers to require it to continue this line into Montebello under the

rates now being charged.

This Commission, in its Decision No. 14420 (25 C.R.C.721) dated December 31, 1924, authorized the Southern California Telephone Company to establish a foreign exchange service which, in general, provides a means whereby a subscriber in one exchange may obtain service from any other exchange. There appears to be no reason why this foreign exchange type of service should not be made available in Montebello, which will not only allow the subscribers on the line involved herein, but any subscriber in Montebello to obtain direct Whittier service. Both applicant and Southern California Telephone Company have already indicated their willingness to render foreign exchange service under such rates as this Commission may fix. With the completion of the installation of direct toll circuits by The Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company between Whittier and Montebello, which is now in progress, fast and efficient toll service will be available between these two cities. The installation of these toll circuits, together with the availability of foreign exchange service, should satisfy the objections in this proceeding. There appears to be no reason why applicant's request should not be granted.

O R D E R.

The Whittier Home Telephone and Telegraph Company having made application to this Commission for authority to withdraw service from certain subscribers now receiving service outside applicant's authorized territory, and within the corporate limit of the City of Montebello, a public hearing having been held and the matter having been submitted and now ready for decision,

The Railroad Commission of the State of California hereby

finds as a fact that applicant should not be required to continue the existing service now furnished in the City of Montebello under the rates now being charged, and that applicant should make arrangements with the Southern California Telephone Company for the establishment of foreign exchange service in Montebello, under rates to be approved by this Commission.

Basing its order on the foregoing findings of fact and on such other findings and statements of fact as are set forth in the opinion preceding this order,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Whittier Home Telephone and Telegraph Company be and it is hereby ordered to discontinue rendering Whittier exchange service outside of applicant's authorized territory and within the corporate limit of the City of Montebello, on and after July 1st, 1925, providing Whittier Home Telephone and Telegraph Company submits information to this Commission on or before July 1st, 1925, showing that arrangements have been made with Southern California Telephone Company for the establishment of Whittier foreign exchange service within the Montebello exchange area under such rates as this Commission may authorize for such service.

For all other purposes the effective date of this order shall be twenty (20) days from and after the date hereof.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 13<sup>th</sup> day of June, 1925.

H. A. Bunnings  
C. Seaver  
Egerton Shaw

Commissioners.

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