

Decision No. 15229.

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

ORIGINAL

In the Matter of the Application of  
JAMES R. STEPHENS of Murphys, Cali-  
fornia, for Certificate of Public  
Convenience and Necessity.

Application No. 11415.

BY THE COMMISSION:

O R D E R

In this proceeding James R. Stephens has asked for a certificate of public convenience and necessity allowing him to operate as a public utility a telephone system consisting of a telephone line extending from Murphys to Sheep Ranch in Calaveras County, California, by way of and through San Domingo Creek, Indian Creek and San Antone Creek and to furnish telephone service to patrons located on the ranches and at the mines adjoining and adjacent to the public road between said towns.

Applicant states that his telephone system, if operated as a public utility, would not compete with any other similar utility except with the telephone system owned by A. W. Poe, which system serves Sheep Ranch and vicinity. Applicant has appended to his application a signed statement by A. W. Poe in which the latter expresses his willingness that this application be granted, provided applicant establishes but one telephone station in the town of Sheep Ranch.

It appears that the telephone line by which applicant intends to render public utility service has been in existence for

a number of years, but to date applicant has never collected any revenue from the users of the line. During the past, this line has been poorly maintained and is not now in condition to render satisfactory service. Applicant desires to reconstruct the line and asks that a rate of one dollar per month per station be authorized for use of the line by patrons that sufficient revenue may be had for proper maintenance and the furnishing of adequate service.

The Railroad Commission having fully considered these facts and being of the opinion that this is a matter in which a public hearing is not necessary; that the community may be better served by the operation of this line as a public utility and that applicant's request should be granted, the Railroad Commission hereby declares that public convenience and necessity require James R. Stephens to operate said telephone system extending from Murphys to Sheep Ranch and to furnish adequate telephone service within the territory, as shown in Exhibit No. 1 attached hereto; and

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that a certificate of public convenience and necessity be and the same is hereby granted to James R. Stephens authorizing him to operate and maintain as a public utility, said telephone system within the territory as set forth in Exhibit No. 1 attached hereto.

IT IS HEREBY FURTHER ORDERED that James R. Stephens shall charge and collect a rate of one dollar per station per month for telephone service furnished over said line from and after September 1, 1925.

The authority herein contained is granted upon the following conditions; and not otherwise:

(1) James R. Stephens shall submit to the Railroad Commission on or before August 25, 1925, evidence that the herein-

above described telephone line extending from Murphys to Sheep Ranch has been reconstructed and placed in condition to render satisfactory telephone service.

(2) James R. Stephens shall submit for filing with the Railroad Commission on or before September 1, 1925; the rate for telephone service set forth above, a map showing the territory to be served as set forth under Exhibit 1, attached hereto; and Rules and Regulations governing telephone service.

(3) James R. Stephens shall not connect to said line more than one station within the town of Sheep Ranch.

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 30<sup>th</sup> day of July, 1925.

H. B. Brundage

George D. Spence

Leon A. Whitell  
Commissioners.

Exhibit No. 1  
Exchange Area  
of  
James R. Stephens  
Telephone Company

CALIFORNIA RAILROAD COMMISSION

EXCHANGE AREA

OF

JAMES R. STEPHENS

