

Decision No. 17454.

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

In the matter of the Application of the
WILLITS TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH COMPANY
for an order authorizing it to file rate
for public pay station service, rules and
regulations relating to service connection
charges, restoration, charges, moves and
changes, and to file toll and telegraph
rates.

ORIGINAL

Application No. 12875.

C. L. Prothero, for Applicant, Willits
Telephone and Telegraph Company.

Dr. C. M. Winchester, interested party,
for himself and other subscribers.

BY THE COMMISSION:

O P I N I O N

This is a proceeding in which Willits Telephone and Telegraph Company, a corporation, hereinafter called applicant, requests authority to establish a charge of five cents (5¢) for public telephone service; to file and make effective rules and regulations relative to charges for service connection, restoration of service, and moves and changes; and to file certain toll and telegraph rates.

A public hearing was held in this matter before Examiner Austin in Laytonville on September 20, 1926, at which time and place it was submitted for decision.

Authority is asked for the establishment of a charge of five cents (5¢) for each local telephone message from public pay stations. Request by applicant was made at the hearing for permis-

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sion to amend the application in that the amount of the charge per local telephone message from public pay stations should be twenty-five cents (25¢), the present effective rate. It appears that the charge for such messages over local lines should be five cents (5¢), which is the rate generally in effect in California and the order following will so provide.

Applicant also asks for authority to place in effect rules and regulations relating to "Service Connection" and "Move and Change" charges as granted by this Commission to many other telephone companies now operating within this state and as found reasonable in this Commission's Decision No. 8146, (18 C.R.C. 912) dated September 24, 1920, and Decision No. 13478, (24 C.R.C. 854) dated April 24, 1924. There appears to be no good reason why applicant should not file and make effective similar rules and regulations.

Authority is requested for filing certain telephone toll rates and telegraph rates, which are the same rates as are now being charged and which have been charged by applicant for a number of years past.

This Commission, in its Decision No. 9957, (21 C.R.C. 59) dated December 31, 1921, authorized applicant to charge certain telephone toll rates for calls over its lines from Willits to Laytonville, Longvale, Branscomb, Westport, Dos Rios, and Covelo, but did not authorize any rates from these exchanges and toll stations to Willits, nor any rates between any of these exchanges or toll stations. The toll station at Westport has been discontinued by applicant and a new toll station at Bell Springs has been established. Applicant has on file with this Commission the rates authorized in Decision No. 9957 and now desires to file rates from Willits to Bell Springs and rates for service between any two of said exchanges and toll stations, including Bell Springs and excluding Westport. The rates previously authorized by this Commission seem consistent with

the nature of the service rendered by applicant, and the additional rates, as applied for, seem consistent with those previously authorized. The order following will authorize the filing of these application rates.

Applicant also desires authority to file and make effective certain telegraph rates, which are the same as are now being charged and which have been applied for several years. The telegraph rates requested are 30 cents (30¢) for each ten-word telegram, with additional words at two and one-half cents (2½¢) each between any two toll stations or exchanges on applicant's system, forty-five cents (45¢) for each fifty-word day letter, with an additional charge of nine cents (9¢) for each additional ten words, and thirty cents (30¢) for each fifty-word night letter with an additional charge of six cents (6¢) for each additional ten words.

It is the desire of applicant that these telephone toll rates and telegraph rates be made applicable to non-subscribers only of the Willits Company.

No testimony in opposition to the granting of the application was given at the hearing.

O R D E R

Willits Telephone and Telegraph Company, applicant in this proceeding, having requested this Commission to make its order authorizing applicant to file certain rates, rules and regulations, a public hearing having been held, the matter having been submitted and being now ready for decision,

The Railroad Commission of the State of California hereby finds as a fact that the rates applied for, with the exception of the public pay-station rate, are just and reasonable.

Basing its order on the foregoing finding of fact and

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

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Willits Telephone and Telegraph Company shall, on and after January 1, 1927:

- (1) Charge and collect the sum of five cents (5¢) for each local telephone message from public telephone stations;
- (2) Charge and collect the "Service Connection" and "Restoration" charges set forth in Exhibit "A" attached hereto;
- (3) Charge and collect the "Move and Change" charges as set forth in Exhibit "B" attached hereto;
- (4) Charge and collect the rates for toll telephone service as set forth in Exhibit "C" attached hereto;
- (5) Charge and collect the rates for telegraph service as set forth in Exhibit "D" attached hereto;
- (6) File definitions, rules and regulations governing telephone service similar to those definitions, rules and regulations as set forth in this Commission's Decision No. 13478, except as modified in Exhibit A and B, and as may be approved by this Commission.

IT IS HEREBY FURTHER ORDERED that the rates, rules and regulations above ordered into effect shall be submitted to this Commission for filing on or before December 31, 1926.

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 13th day of October, 1926.

H. B. ...

P. ...

Leon ...

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EXHIBIT A

SERVICE CONNECTION CHARGES

A. Service Connection Charges.

Service connection charges provided for hereunder are payable at the time application for the particular service or facility is made, and are in addition to the regular schedule of rates.

Service connection charges apply to all exchange service and facilities, except farmer line service, in accordance with the following provisions:

	<u>Service Connection Charges</u>
1. New service.	
Business and residence, each station-----	\$3.50
Extension stations:	
Business and residence, each station-----	1.50
2. Additional service.	
Business and residence, each station-----	3.50
Extension stations:	
Business and residence, each station-----	1.50
3. Service where instrumentalities are already in place on subscriber's premises and no change in type or location of facilities is involved.	
Business and residence, subscriber's exchange service, except farmer line service, one or more units-----	1.50

A change in location or type of instrumentalities made at subscriber's request is subject to the charges for moves and changes, provided the total charges for such moves and changes shall not exceed the charges for the initial establishment of the subscriber's complete service and facilities.

Service connection charges do not apply under the following conditions:

Business service.

(a) When service is assumed by a receiver or by trustee, executor or administrator of an estate.

(b) Change in the name of the business concern (i.e. individual, partnership, syndicate or corporation) when there is no complete change in ownership or management.

Residence service.

(a) When service is assumed by a member of the former subscriber's family located in the same premises.

(b) When there is no change in the individuality of the recipient.

(c) When the subscriber's name has been changed by marriage or court order.

EXHIBIT A (Cont'd)

B. Service Charge for Restoration of Service.

A service charge of \$1 may be made and collected by the company before the restoration of service where service has been temporarily discontinued for any of the following reasons:

- (1) Nonpayment of bills as required by the company's rules and regulations.
- (2) To protect the company against fraud.
- (3) For failure of subscriber to comply with the company's rules and regulations after service has been established.
- (4) For any other reason for which subscriber is responsible, except a change in class, type, or grade of service or location of facilities.

When a service has been permanently disconnected, the above charge does not apply.

EXHIBIT B

MOVES AND CHANGES

Moves and changes of telephone apparatus and wiring on the subscriber's premises, at the request of the subscriber, will be made by the company, and, the charges for such work will be as follows:

A. Telephone Sets.

1. Moving from one location to another----- \$3.00
2. Change in type or style----- 5.00

C. Other Equipment and Wiring.

Charges for moving or changing equipment or wiring, other than that included under "A" above, will be an amount equal to the actual cost of labor and material involved.

D. Maintenance.

The charges specified above do not apply if the changes or moves are initiated by the company and required for the proper maintenance of the equipment or service.

E. Change in Class of Service.

The charges specified above do not apply if the changes are required because of a change in the type, class or grade of service.

EXHIBIT C

LONG DISTANCE TELEPHONE TOLL RATES

		FROM						
To		Branscomb	Bell Springs	Covelo	Dos Rios	Laytonville	Longvale	Willits
Branscomb,	\$ -	\$.35	\$.35	\$.35	\$.35	\$.25	\$.35	\$.35
Bell Springs,	.35	-	.35	.35	.25	.35	.35	.35
Covelo,	.35	.35	-	.25	.25	.35	.35	.35
Dos Rios,	.35	.35	.35	-	.25	.35	.35	.35
Laytonville,	.25	.25	.25	.25	-	.25	.25	.25
Longvale,	.35	.35	.35	.35	.25	-	.35	.35
Willits,	.35	.35	.35	.35	.25	.35	-	-

Above rates are for an initial period of 3 minutes.

Overtime in all cases chargeable at 10¢ for each additional minute.

Above rates apply to non-subscribers only.

Above rates apply alike to Person-to-Person, Station-to-Station, Appointment and Messenger service calls.

EXHIBIT D
TELEGRAPH RATES

1. Telegrams.

First 10 words or less-----	\$.30
Additional words, each-----	.025

2. Day Letters.

First 50 words or less-----	.45
Each additional 10 words or less-----	.09

3. Night Letters.

First 50 words or less-----	.30
Each additional 10 words or less-----	.06

Above rates are applicable to service between any two of the Company's exchanges or toll stations listed below.

Branscomb
Bell Springs
Covelo
Dos Rios

Laytonville
Longvale
Willits