

Decision No. 17530

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

In the Matter of the Application of THE NOVATO UTILITIES COMPANY, a corporation, for an order of the Railroad Commission of the State of California, authorizing it to file and establish as the legal rate the rate heretofore and always charged and collected for business suburban line service.

Application No. 13, 189.

J. W. Cain and A. J. Cain for Novato Utilities Company. BY THE COMMISSION:

OBINION

In this application Novato Utilities Company, a corporation, requests the Railroad Commission for authority to file and make legally effective the rate for business suburban telephone service which is now being charged to subscribers to such service in its territory.

A public hearing was held in this application before Examiner Austin, in Novato on October 15, 1926, at which time and place the matter was submitted.

Novato Utilities Company is a corporation, organized under the laws of the State of California, and is engaged in the furnishing of electric light and power service, water for domestic purposes, and telephone service to inhabitants of Novato and surrounding territory in Marin County. The Railroad Commission in its Decision No. 8081 dated September 13, 1920 ordered applicant to establish and file a rate of two dollars and twenty-five cents (\$2.25) for residence suburban service but did not then authorize a rate for business suburban service.

The Company on May 10, 1925, filed with the Commission a rate of two dollars and twenty-five cents (\$2.25) for business suburban service effective May 20, 1925, which was the same as that filed for residence service on September 24, 1920, in compliance with Decision No. 8081, and as filed again on May 10, 1925 in compliance with the Commission's General Order No. 68. However, applicant has been rendering bills and making collections for business suburban service at a rate of two dollars and fifty cents (\$2.50) per month and the present application was made for authority to make this rate legal.

J. W. Cain in his testimony for applicant, stated that the filing of a rate lower than that which was being applied was done through oversight.

No one at the hearing offered any objection to the granting of the application.

It is an established principle of telephone rate making that business suburban service should take a higher rate than residence suburban service and therefore, good cause appearing the order following will provide for the filing and making effective of the rate requested.

ORDER

Novato Utilitics Company, a corporation, having made application to the Railroad Commission for authority to charge and collect a rate of two dollars and fifty cents (\$2.50) for

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business suburban service, a public hearing having been held thereon, the matter having been submitted and now being ready for decision,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, that Novato Utilities Company be and it is hereby granted authority to file, on or before November 20, 1926, a rate of two dollars and fifty cents (\$2.50), effective December 1, 1926, for business suburban 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 <u>26</u>⁴⁴ day of October 1926.

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Commissioners.