

Decision No. 93501 -

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

In the Matter of the Application of SOUTHWESTERN HOME TELEPHONE COMPANY, a corporation, for certificate authorizing the establishment of a separate exchange area to serve the College of Medical Evangelists at Loma Linda, California, and surrounding territory and authorizing Applicant to publish, file and make effective rates for exchange and toll telephone service in connection with the proposed Loma Linda exchange area.

ORIGINAL

Application No. 17105.

Frank V. Rhodes and Bacigalupi, Elkus and Salinger, by Frank B. Austin, for Applicant.
 Ernest Irwin, for Associated Telephone Company, Ltd.
 N. B. Hinckley, Interested Party.

HARRIS, COMMISSIONER:

O P I N I O N

In this proceeding, Southwestern Home Telephone Company requests authority of the Railroad Commission to establish a separate telephone exchange at Loma Linda, San Bernardino County, to serve that community which now has telephone service from the Redlands Exchange.

After interested parties had been given due notice thereof, a public hearing was held in this proceeding at Loma Linda, on February 17, 1931, when the matter was submitted for decision.

Loma Linda is the location of the College of Medical Evangelists around which institution a considerable residential community has grown with a limited amount of business activity. The College, for many years, has owned, operated and maintained its

private telephone system serving the area in which are located its college buildings. Trunk lines extending from the College switchboard to the Redlands Exchange were provided for inter-community telephone service at monthly flat rate charges. The number of the telephones connected to the College system, which were permitted to be used for service to Redlands at a monthly charge for each station, was limited by the College. Telephone service in the territory surrounding the college property was furnished in part by the College and in part by the Southwestern Company. Obviously, this method of operating telephone service in the Loma Linda community is unsatisfactory, expensive and inadequate. Improved methods of furnishing telephone service in this community have been discussed and reviewed by representatives of the College, the Southwestern Company and the Commission's Telephone and Telegraph Engineer with the result that the plan set forth in this proceeding was developed.

It is proposed to establish a modern automatic central office in Loma Linda to serve an area shown on a map in Exhibit No. 1 submitted in evidence at the hearing by F. V. Rhodes, Vice President of the Southwestern Company. Authority is asked for the establishment of certain exchange rates and for a five-cent rate for station-to-station toll service between Loma Linda and Redlands over lines of applicant. Other toll rates will be the rates of Southern California Telephone Company which connects with the Redlands Exchange at Redlands for service to and from outside points. All toll service rates will be computed on the basis generally effective in California.

The College will continue to own, operate and maintain its manual private branch exchange and will connect thereto its own telephone lines and telephone stations located in the College

Area as shown on a map in Exhibit No. 1, presented at the hearing. Trunk lines from the College system to the utility switchboard in Loma Linda will allow communication between the College system and other telephones in Loma Linda Exchange Area at flat rate monthly charges for the trunks and each College telephone station. Telephone utilities generally own and maintain the private branch exchange equipment and the lines and telephones associated therewith, in order that better service thereover may be had by the public generally. The situation is somewhat different in the present instance and after a careful consideration of the facts, I believe that a deviation from the usual method of furnishing telephone service should be permitted at Loma Linda.

The Southwestern Company agrees to replace telephones in Loma Linda village now operated by the College with its own equipment without the application of service connection charges. It is the intention of applicant to canvass the area prior to commencing the construction of its lines and to complete orders for service then received without line extension charges.

The estimated plant investment in the project is \$26,018.00. With an estimate of 175 stations outside the College Area, the yearly revenue is estimated to be \$6,280.00, expenses \$5,241.00 and a balance for return of \$1,039.00, which is approximately 4 per cent on the plant investment.

Certain modifications in the exchange area proposed and as shown on a map, Appendix "E" in Exhibit No. 1 above noted, should be made. That portion of the southern boundary line shown between Cole and East Central Avenues for a distance of 1270 feet should be moved to the center line of East Central Avenue. The extreme southern boundary line 500 feet south of Barton Avenue, as proposed, should be

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moved to the center of Barton Avenue. There appears to be no necessity at this time for including in Loma Linda Exchange Area a section west of the present common boundary of the Redlands and Colton Exchange Areas as shown in Appendix "E". Otherwise, the proposed exchange area is acceptable. The College Area boundaries as set forth in a map, Appendix "D" in Exhibit No. 1, appear to be acceptable.

The exchange rates and charges as requested are not greater than rates for similar service in other exchanges of Southwestern Company and elsewhere in California, and will be authorized substantially as proposed. A five-cent station-to-station toll rate between Loma Linda and Redlands appears reasonable.

Southwestern Home Telephone Company and the College of Medical Evangelists have made a tentative agreement relating to the purchase by Southwestern Company of certain non-utility telephone property of the College, certain matters of right-of-way, the limitation of College telephones outside the College Area to two, the application of certain service connection charges, etc. No approval of this contract is required.

No objection was heard to the proposal of applicant, except as to the boundary of the exchange area as mentioned above.

It is my opinion that the interests of the public at Loma Linda will be conserved by the establishment of the separate exchange with exchange rates as proposed and with a five-cent toll rate for service to Redlands.

The following form of order is recommended.

ORDER

Southwestern Home Telephone Company having made application to the Railroad Commission for authority to establish a separate

telephone exchange at Loma Linda, San Bernardino County, and to make effective rates for exchange telephone service therein and rates for toll service between the proposed exchange and Redlands Exchange, a public hearing having been held in the proceeding, the matter having been submitted and now being ready for decision,

The Railroad Commission of the State of California hereby finds as a fact that public convenience and necessity require the establishment of a separate telephone exchange at Loma Linda by Southwestern Home Telephone Company and basing its order on the foregoing findings of fact and such other findings of fact as appear in the opinion which precedes this order,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Southwestern Home Telephone Company shall:

- (1) Establish and place in operation, within six (6) months from and after the date of this order, an automatic telephone exchange at Loma Linda, San Bernardino County, with continuous twenty-four (24) hour service in an exchange area shown on a map (Appendix "E") in Exhibit No. 1 presented at the hearing in this proceeding, modified as set forth in the opinion which precedes this order, and with a College Area as shown on a map (Appendix "D") in the aforesaid Exhibit No. 1.
- (2) Establish rates for local exchange telephone service in the Loma Linda Exchange as set forth in Exhibit "A", attached hereto, and such other exchange telephone rates as may be approved, effective on and after the date of the establishment of the Loma Linda Exchange.
- (3) Establish toll telephone service between the Loma Linda Exchange and the Redlands Exchange at a rate of five (5) cents per station-to-station message of five minutes initial period and five (5) cents for each five (5) minutes or fraction of overtime period, effective on and after the date of the establishment of the Loma Linda Exchange.
- (4) Make the necessary arrangements with the Company now furnishing toll telephone service between the Redlands Exchange and toll points outside the present Redlands Exchange, at rates not higher than rates computed upon the basis generally used in California, effective on and after the date of the establishment of the Loma Linda Exchange.
- (5) Submit to the Railroad Commission, for filing, maps showing the Exchange Area and the College Area, exchange and toll

telephone rates and rules and regulations governing telephone service in the Loma Linda Exchange, as referred to in (1), (2) and (3) above, on or before the tenth day immediately preceding the date of the establishment of Loma Linda Exchange.

- (6) Discontinue all Redlands local exchange telephone service in Loma Linda Exchange Area as of the date of the establishment of Loma Linda Exchange, except as the same may be furnished under Foreign Exchange rate schedules.

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

The foregoing opinion and order are hereby approved and ordered filed as the opinion and order of the Railroad Commission of the State of California.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 16th day of March, 1931.

C. C. Sawyer

Leon Whitell

M. H. Carr

M. B. Kain

Francis G. Stewart
Commissioners.

EXHIBIT "A"

RATES

EXCHANGE SERVICE SCHEDULE NO.

INDIVIDUAL LINE AND PARTY LINE SERVICE

LOMA LINDA

SERVICE:

Applicable to business and residence individual line and party line flat rate service furnished outside the College Area and within the Loma Linda Exchange Area.

RATE:

Rate per Month

(1) Business Flat Rate Service:

Each individual line desk set station.....	\$3.25
Each two-party line desk set station.....	2.75
Each extension desk set station (with or without bell).....	1.25*

(2) Residence Flat Rate Service:

Each individual line desk set station.....	\$2.75
Each four-party line desk set station.....	2.00
Each extension desk set station (with or without bell).....	1.00*

Each wall set station - desk set station rate
less \$0.25 per month.

Each hand set station - desk set station rate
plus \$0.25 per month.

CONDITIONS:

1. A discount of twenty-five (25) cents is allowed on all rates except those marked with an (*) if payment of entire bill for service is made on or before the 10th of the current month.

2. Extension stations at the above rates are installed on the premises on which the primary station is located. The above rates and mileage rates are applicable to off-premises extension stations.

EXCHANGE SERVICE SCHEDULE NO. _____

COMMERCIAL PRIVATE BRANCH EXCHANGE SERVICE
SUBSCRIBER OWNED EQUIPMENT

LOMA LINDA

SERVICE:

Applicable to Commercial Private Branch Exchange Flat Rate Service furnished within the College Area of the Loma Linda Exchange.

RATE:

	<u>Rate per Month</u>
(1) Switchboard Rate:	
Switchboard, battery and ringing power....	No Charge.
(2) Trunk Rate:	
Each trunk line.....	\$4.50
(3) Station Rate:	
Each station, primary or extension, wall, desk or hand set.....	\$.35

CONDITIONS:

1. No discounts are allowed on the above rates.
2. Stations at the above rates are installed in the College Area. The above rates and mileage rates are applicable to stations located outside the College Area.
3. The above rates are applicable only to subscriber-owned, subscriber-installed and subscriber-maintained equipment.

EXCHANGE SERVICE SCHEDULE NO. _____

OTHER SERVICES

LOMA LINDA

Other rates and charges as may be approved.