

**ORIGINAL**Decision No. 23544.

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application  
of Public Utilities California  
Corporation for authorization to  
establish Telephone Exchange Ser-  
vice.

Application No. 17056.

A. J. Mathews, for Applicant.

BY THE COMMISSION:

O P I N I O N

In this application Public Utilities California Corporation, hereinafter referred to as the Corporation, operating a telephone and telegraph system in portions of Lassen, Modoc, Plumas, Shasta and Tehama Counties, California, requests of the Railroad Commission authority to establish separate telephone exchanges at Adin, Modoc County, and Bieber, Lassen County.

A public hearing was held in this matter before Examiner Gannon at Bieber on March 3, 1931, when the matter was submitted for decision.

Three small communities are situated in the territory under consideration in this proceeding, of which Lookout is about seven miles from Bieber and about eleven miles from Adin, which is approximately twelve miles from Bieber. Toll stations are located at Bieber and Adin. There are twenty-eight stations connected to four mutually owned farmer lines radiating from Lookout, one of which extends to Adin and another, the Swamp Line, extends into Bieber. Interconnection of these four lines is

performed at a switching point in a residence at Lookout by a farmer line owner, without charge. Six mutually owned farmer lines, including the aforementioned Swamp Line extending to Lookout, radiate from Bieber.

It was developed at the hearing, that the arrangement of the Corporation's facilities and the Bieber terminals of the six farmer lines serving the Bieber territory are such that interconnection between these lines and also the connection of any one of them with the toll line can easily be done at Bieber and that, in fact, such switching is a regular practice. It was stated that, in some instances, this service was performed without charge and at other times a charge of twenty-five cents per completed connection was required. Mr. A. J. Mathews asserted that the Corporation did not participate in any division of the moneys so collected by its agent at Bieber. Apparently, by means of the switching by the agent at Bieber and the switching at Lookout, some measure of local exchange service is now available in the Bieber, Lookout and Adin communities.

In its application the Corporation proposed to serve the Adin and Lookout areas from one exchange and to serve the community of Bieber separately. At the hearing applicant modified its request with a proposal to serve Adin separately and to include Lookout and Bieber in another exchange. The establishment of a third exchange to serve only Lookout and vicinity, as suggested at the hearing, cannot be justified at this time.

Obviously, the Corporation has not been adequately or uniformly rendering communication service in the Bieber, Lookout and Adin areas and this condition should be improved. It is apparent that with the advent of the Great Northern and

Western Pacific Railroads into this Big Valley territory some residential and business development will ensue in the Bieber community. A careful consideration of the available facts and evidence in this matter leads to the following conclusions: The present development at Adin does not require a separate exchange at that point at this time. The Adin toll station should be continued. In the event future changes justify an Adin Exchange, the matter may be brought before the Commission in a formal application. The Commission should permit the establishment of one exchange at Bieber to include all the area proposed to be included by applicant in the two exchanges at Adin and Bieber; namely, all of Townships 37, 38 and 39 North, Ranges 7 and 8 East, also Townships 38 and 39 North, Range 9 East, M.D.M.

In granting this authority the Commission should not be understood as making any finding as to the probable earning power of the enterprise, nor in determining the justification to which this property may be used to support any future request for the issuance of securities by the applicant. There is nothing in the record to indicate that the establishment of this exchange will be a present or future burden on the applicant's other subscribers, and the record is clear that the area proposed to be served will be benefited thereby.

An appropriate primary rate area for this exchange at Bieber has a boundary as follows:

Beginning at the point of intersection of Pitt River and the center line of Union Street extended; thence southward along Pitt River to the center line of Cedar Street extended; thence south to the center line of Juniper Street extended; thence east along the center line of Juniper Street to the center line of Third Street; thence north along the center line of Third Street to the center line of Union Street; thence west along the center line of Union Street to the point of beginning.

Farmer line service should be furnished under the well defined conditions set forth in the schedule therefor, included in Exhibit "A", attached to the order, and no farmer line should be connected, temporarily or permanently, to the exchange system except these conditions have been accepted. In the event the users of telephones connected to the four mutually owned and operated lines radiating from Lookout desire utility service, the local switching at Lookout should be discontinued and the lines properly extended to Bieber. Toll line connection to farmer lines should be available at one point only.

Rate schedules appropriate for local exchange telephone service in the exchange at Bieber are set forth in Exhibit "A" of the order following.

O R D E R

Public Utilities California Corporation having made application to the Railroad Commission for authority to establish separate telephone exchanges at Bieber and Adin, a public hearing having been held therein, 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 do not require a separate telephone exchange at Adin and that the territory of Adin and vicinity should be served as a part of the Bieber Exchange, the establishment of which is here found to be justified and, basing its order on this finding of fact and such other findings of fact and conclusions as appear in the opinion which precedes this order,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Public Utilities California Corporation shall:

- (1) Establish and begin to operate, on or before July 1, 1931, a telephone exchange at Bieber with exchange and primary rate areas

particularly described in the opinion which precedes this order.

- (2) Establish rates for local exchange telephone service in the proposed exchange, as set forth in Exhibit "A", attached hereto, and such other rates as may be approved, effective on and after the date of the establishment of said exchange.
- (3) Continue in effect such rates for interexchange telephone service and telegraph service between the Bieber Exchange and outside points as are now effective from the Bieber toll station.
- (4) Submit to the Railroad Commission, for filing, in accordance with General Order No. 68, maps showing exchange and primary rate areas and rates for exchange telephone service as referred to in (1) and (2) above and such other rates, charges and rules and regulations as may be approved, on or before the tenth day immediately preceding the date of the establishment of the Bieber Exchange.

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 31st day of

March, 1931.

C. C. Seavey  
Leon Whitely  
W. J. Lee  
W. B. Harris  
J. G. Stewart  
 Commissioners.

EXHIBIT "A"

EXCHANGE RATES

EXCHANGE SERVICE SCHEDULE NO.

SUBURBAN SERVICE

BIEBER

SERVICE:

Applicable to suburban ten-party line flat rate service furnished in the suburban area of the Bieber Exchange.

RATE:

	<u>Rate per Month</u>
(1) Business Flat Rate Service:	
Each ten-party line desk set station,	\$3.25
Each extension desk set station, with- out bell,	1.25
(2) Residence Flat Rate Service:	
Each ten-party line desk set station,	2.75
Each extension desk set station, with- out bell,	1.00
Each wall set station - desk set station rate, less \$.25 per month.	

CONDITIONS:

- (1) Suburban service will be rendered outside the primary rate area but within the exchange area. In no case will the total number of primary stations connected to one circuit exceed ten (10) stations.
- (2) Extension stations at the above rates are installed on the same premises on which the primary station is located.

EXCHANGE SERVICE SCHEDULE NO.INDIVIDUAL LINE AND PARTY LINE SERVICEBIEBERSERVICE:

Applicable to business and residence individual line and four-party line flat rate service within the primary rate area of the Bieber Exchange.

RATE:

	<u>Rate per Month</u>
(1) Business Flat Rate Service:	
Each individual line desk set station,	\$3.00
Each four-party line desk set station,	.25
Each extension desk set station,	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,	1.00
Each wall set station - desk set station rate less \$.25 per month.	

CONDITIONS:

- (1) Individual line and party line services will be provided outside the primary rate area and within the exchange area at the above rates and mileage rates.
- (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. \_\_\_\_\_FARMER LINE SERVICEBIEBERSERVICE:

Applicable to farmer line service within the suburban area of the Bieber Exchange.

RATE:Rate per Year

Each business station,  
Each residence station,

\$3.60  
3.60

CONDITIONS:

- (1) Farmer line service is furnished outside the primary rate area and within the exchange area at the above rates. A farmer line shall not extend beyond the exchange area boundary. A farmer line station shall not be located within the primary rate area.
- (2) The Company installs, owns and maintains, at its expense, the necessary central office equipment and service and line facilities to the boundary of the primary rate area and furnishes one listing in the telephone directory.
- (3) The subscriber installs, owns and maintains, at his expense, the necessary facilities from the Company line at the boundary of the primary rate area to the subscriber's station, complete telephone instrument and battery and substation protection.
- (4) The above service will be furnished, provided the line owned by the subscriber or subscribers is properly constructed and maintained in an operating condition.
- (5) Rental for farmer line service is payable annually in advance. New subscribers will be billed from the date of connection to the end of the year and annually in advance thereafter.
- (6) Farmer line service will be furnished to lines as a whole only. It shall be the duty of the members of each farmer line to appoint or designate a secretary or manager for such line and no new member shall thereafter be connected to said line nor will the Company assign a number

to a new member on such line except on written authority from such secretary or manager. Said secretary or manager shall also collect all charges for telephone or telegraph service from the members of the farmer line, if requested by the Company to do so, and the Company may elect to be relieved from the duty of collecting from each subscriber. In case the Company does not secure payment for each member of any line, service may be disconnected from the line as a whole.

- (7) A farmer line may not be connected to more than one exchange or to the lines or equipment of any other telephone system. In the event the farmer line is so connected and upon failure, after notice to the secretary or manager of that line to comply with the above provisions, the Company shall then have the right to disconnect that line from the Bieber Exchange.
- (8) Farmer line service will not be provided on any line unless each and every person having a telephone connected to the line subscribes for telephone service.

EXCHANGE SERVICE SCHEDULE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

OTHER SERVICES

BIBBER

Other rates and charges as may be approved.