

ORIGINAL

Decision No. 24029.

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the matter of the application
of Interstate Telegraph Company,
a corporation, for authorization
to install and establish a tele-
phone exchange and provide and
render telephone exchange service
in Mono Basin, Mono County, Cali-
fornia, and to file and make effec-
tive rates for telephone exchange
service in said Mono Basin terri-
tory.

Application No. 17354.

H. M. Hammack and James S. Brusstar,
for Interstate Telegraph Company.

A. Boyer, for Amasa S. Bryant, Owner
of Bridgeport Telephone and Tele-
graph Company, Interested Party.

T. B. Cosgrove, Special Counsel for
City of Los Angeles, Interested
Party.

HARRIS, COMMISSIONER:

This is a proceeding in which Interstate Telegraph
Company requests authority to establish telephone exchange
service and rates therefor in the Mono Basin territory in Mono
County.

A public hearing was held in this proceeding in
Leevining on August 20, 1931, when the matter was taken under
submission.

Interstate Telegraph Company furnishes exchange and

toll telephone and telegraph service in Mono, Inyo, Kern and San Bernardino Counties in California and in the Counties of Nye and Esmeralda in the State of Nevada.

There are more than 130 families residing in the Mono Basin area, a summer tourist population of approximately 350 families and a large number of transients.

Applicant's operations in this territory consist of toll telephone and telegraph service at 19 toll stations in Leevining, at camps near Mono, Grant, Silver and June Lakes, cattle ranches and water and power plants. The toll station telephones are all permanently connected to the one available toll line, which extends from Bishop to Mono Inn. At Mono Inn this toll line may be connected by means of a switch and repeating coil equipment to the toll line of the Bridgeport Telephone and Telegraph Company for toll and telegraph service to and from points north. Evidently the overloaded condition of the Interstate line results in confusion and poor transmission. Two methods of relieving this situation have been considered; first, by building another toll line from Mono Basin to Bishop and dividing the load and, the other, by establishing an exchange and converting present toll stations to exchange stations and using the present toll line only when a toll call is to be completed. The first method is not an economical one and would alleviate, but not permanently clear, the poor service situation now existing. The present application is the result of the Company's conclusion that the second method considered is more worthy of adoption.

Mr. Cosgrove, special counsel for City of Los Angeles,

explained that the City of Los Angeles has instituted court proceedings to condemn the waters of Leevining Creek below the Poole power plant, about one and one-quarter miles, and the waters of Rush Creek just below the Rush Creek power house. Statements made by Counsel would indicate that the minimum time within which these waters may be expected to be diverted from the Mono Basin, provided the City of Los Angeles is successful in its condemnation proceedings, may be from two to five years.

Telephone service in Mono Basin is admittedly inadequate and it would be unfair to deny the public of this community proper telephone service for the next two to five years, even though it were known that a material change in the population and business and residential conditions would occur.

Interstate Telegraph Company in its original application set forth in its Exhibit "B" certain of the rates and charges which it asked to make effective in its proposed Leevining Exchange Area. At the hearing James S. Brusstar, General Superintendent of the Interstate Telegraph Company, expressed a desire that the schedules in Exhibit "B" be amended to omit two-party service and a rate for extension telephone service without bell. The proposed schedules, as amended, are similar to those effective for similar services in other exchanges of applicant.

It is proposed to establish a primary rate area with a one-half mile radius, using the central office at Leevining as the center. In Exhibit "A," attached to the application in this matter, there was shown a map of the

proposed exchange area. It was developed at the hearing that the indicated area did not include the proposed service area near the Poole power plant nor did the north boundary coincide with the south boundary of the Bridgeport Exchange Area. In accordance with request made at the hearing, Interstate Telegraph Company has transmitted to the Commission a revised map showing the territory to be served, including the modifications referred to above.

At present Leevining is a toll point with established toll rates for service to and from other toll points. These rates will apply to service to and from the proposed exchange. Mr. Brusstar testified to the desire of applicant to discontinue all toll stations now connected to the Mono Basin-to-Bishop toll line.

Applicant proposes to install in a fireproof building at Leevining an unattended automatic central office with the latest type of equipment and with continuous twenty-four hour service. Timing of toll messages, billing and other clerical work for the exchange is to be done at Bishop. Repairs to plant and equipment are to be performed by an employee located at Leevining.

After a careful consideration of the evidence given and statements made in this proceeding, I am of the opinion that the interests of the telephone-using public in Mono Basin require that a telephone exchange be established at Leevining substantially as proposed.

The following form of order is recommended.

O R D E R

Interstate Telegraph Company having made application

to the Railroad Commission for an order authorizing the establishment of a telephone exchange at Leevining and for the establishment of rates therefor, a public hearing having been held and the matter having been submitted for decision,

The Railroad Commission of the State of California hereby finds as a fact that the establishment of a telephone exchange at Leevining will be in the interest of the public and, basing its order on the foregoing finding of fact and such other findings of fact as are contained in the Opinion which precedes this Order, therefore,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Interstate Telegraph Company shall:

- (1) Establish and place in operation, within eight (8) months from and after the date of this order, an automatic telephone exchange at Leevining, Mono County, with continuous twenty-four (24) hour service in an exchange area generally as shown on a map in Exhibit "A" attached to the application in this proceeding but with modifications referred to in the Opinion preceding this Order and as shown on a map filed with the Commission on August 28, 1931, and with a primary rate area with a one-half mile radius, having the central office as the center.
- (2) Establish rates for local telephone service in the proposed exchange as set forth in Exhibit "A" attached hereto, and such other telephone and telegraph rates as may be approved, effective on and after the date of the establishment of said exchange.
- (3) Discontinue all toll stations at present located in and north of the proposed exchange area as of the date of the establishment of said exchange.
- (4) Submit to the Railroad Commission for filing maps showing the primary and exchange areas

as referred to in (1) above and exchange telephone rates as referred to in (2) above for the Leevining Exchange, on or before the tenth day immediately preceding the date of the establishment of said 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 14th day of September, 1931.

W. J. Conroy
Leon Whiskey
W. J. Conroy
M. B. Harris
Fred G. Stewart
 Commissioners.

EXHIBIT "A"
EXCHANGE RATES.

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

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

RATE:

<u>Grade of Service:</u>	<u>Rate Per Month</u>	
	<u>Business Service</u>	<u>Residence Service</u>
Each Individual Line Desk Set Station,	\$4.50	\$3.50
Each Four-party Line Desk Set Station,	3.85	2.40
Each Extension Desk Set Station,	2.25	2.25
Each Wall Set Station, Desk Set Station Rate less \$.25 per month.		
Each Hand Set Station, Desk Set Station Rate plus \$.25 per month.		

CONDITIONS:

1. Individual line business and residence service will be provided outside the primary rate area and within the exchange area at the above rates and mileage rates.

2. The above rates are subject to a discount of \$.50 per month if paid at the company's office on or before the 15th of the month in advance and to a further discount of 5% if paid at the company's office annually in advance.

EXCHANGE SERVICE SCHEDULE NO.

SUBURBAN SERVICE:

LEEVINING

SERVICE:

Applicable to business and residence suburban ten-party line flat rate service in the suburban area of Leevining Exchange.

RATE:

	<u>Rate Per Month</u>	
	<u>Business Service</u>	<u>Residence Service</u>
Each Ten-party Line Desk Set Station:		
Air-line Distance from Primary Rate Area Boundary:		
One and one-half miles or less,	\$3.25	\$2.75
One and one-half to four and one-half miles,	3.75	3.25
Four and one-half to nine and one-half miles,	4.00	3.50
Nine and one-half to fourteen and one-half miles,	4.50	4.00
Fourteen and one-half to eighteen and one-half miles,	5.00	4.50

Each Wall Set Station, Desk Set Station Rate less \$.25 per month.
 Each Hand Set Station, Desk Set Station Rate plus \$.25 per month.

CONDITIONS:

The above rates are subject to a discount of \$.50 per month if paid at the company's office on or before the 15th of the month in advance and to a further discount of 5% if paid at the company's office annually in advance.

OTHER SERVICES.

LEEVINING

Other rates and charges as may be approved.