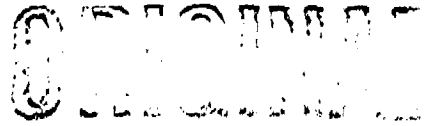


Decision No. 25882.



BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application
of Public Utilities California
Corporation for authorization to
establish Farmer Line Service.

Application No. 18414.

A. J. Mathews, for Applicant.

Vernon March, for Hatcreek Grange
Mutual Telephone System, Protestant.

BY THE COMMISSION:

O P I N I O N

Public Utilities California Corporation, operating a telephone and telegraph system in portions of Lassen, Modoc, Plumas, Shasta and Tehama Counties, California, herein requests of the Railroad Commission authority to regularly establish Farmer Line Service in its Burney Exchange with a certain rate and charges therefor.

A public hearing in this proceeding was held before Examiner Fry at Burney on December 14, 1932, when the matter was submitted for decision.

Only Farmer Line Service and rates are at issue in this proceeding. In this service the subscribers thereto install, own and maintain the necessary telephones and facilities to the boundary of the Primary Rate Area of the Exchange and the utility installs, owns and maintains the facilities to the central office, the necessary central office equipment, and performs all switching operations.

It was developed in the testimony of A. J. Mathews, Manager for applicant Company, that for some time Farmer Line Service had been furnished in the Burney Exchange at certain charges therefor and in other instances without charge. It is requested that the utility be permitted to remove this discrimination and that each subscriber to this grade of service be required to pay for the service at the same rate. Representatives of the Hatcreek Grange Mutual Telephone System registered objection to any charge for the service which twenty-seven members of the Association are now receiving without charge.

In Farmer Line Service, subscribers have available switching service to other local subscribers without message charge and switching service to outside points at regular toll message rates. It is appropriate that the utility receive some compensation for switching work performed and for facilities and equipment provided for the service. It is then necessary that the level of the rate requested be given consideration. A comparison of the proposed rate with those effective for Farmer Line Service in Applicant's other exchanges develops the fact that the application rate is the same as the lowest rate at which Applicant furnishes this grade of service. Therefore the Farmer Line Service schedule set forth in Exhibit "A" of the Order following will be approved.

As of the effective date of this schedule all deviations should be removed.

O R D E R

Public Utilities California Corporation having applied to the Railroad Commission for authority to establish Farmer Line Service at a certain rate, 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 Utilities California Corporation should regularly establish Farmer Line Service in its Burney Exchange and should charge, without discrimination, the rate set forth herein, 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 may furnish Farmer Line Service in its Burney Exchange and charge therefor, on and after February 1, 1933, the rate set forth in Exhibit "A" attached hereto and made a part hereof, provided said rate is submitted to the Railroad Commission for filing on or before January 25, 1933.

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 27th day of December 1932

C. S. Jones
Leon Whites
W. A. Lee
W. B. Harris
Fred G. Atkinson
Commissioners.

EXHIBIT "A"

FARMER LINE SERVICE RATE SCHEDULE

RATE:

	<u>Rate per Year</u>
Each business station,	\$3.60
Each residence station,	3.60

Minimum Charge:

Minimum charge per year, per line	\$18.00
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CONDITIONS:

- (1) Farmer line service is furnished outside the primary rate area and within the exchange area at the above rate. 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) Charges for farmer line service are 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.

CONDITIONS (Continued):

(6) Continued:

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 Burney 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.