

Decision No. 10516

ORIGINAL

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the matter of the application of H. P. HARRALSON that public convenience and necessity require the construction and operation of a telephone line from Dinuba to General Grant National Park.

Application No. 7627.

In the matter of the application of the REEDLEY TELEPHONE COMPANY for a certificate of public convenience and necessity authorizing it to extend its Reedley-Squaw Valley-Dunlap-Pinehurst-Cedarbrook and Cedars Line to General Grant National Park.

Application No. 7694.

Farnsworth, McClure & Burke for Applicant Harralson.
A. Terkel, Manager, for Reedley Telephone Co.
F. L. McNally and J. E. Newman for The Pacific Telephone & Telegraph Co.
J. J. Lushbaugh for Fresno County Chamber of Commerce.

BY THE COMMISSION.

OPINION

A public hearing was held by Examiner Westover at Fresno upon the above entitled applications to construct telephone lines to General Grant National Park; that in the first application, No. 7627, to be constructed from Dinuba, and that in the second application, No. 7694, contemplating an extension of about five miles from The Cedars, the terminus of the line at present operated by Reedley Telephone Company.

The proposed route of the Harralson line is easterly from Dinuba through Sultana and Orosi; northeasterly to Drum

Valley, Miramonte, Pinehurst, Wilsonia and the vicinity of the administration buildings near the northeast corner of the Park; with a branch line from Badger, joining the main line at a point near Pinehurst. During the hearing, the proposed route was modified to go directly from Drum Valley to Miramonte, without serving Dunlap, which is the end of the line constructed by Reedley Telephone Company, the line between Dunlap and Pinehurst having been constructed by private parties and turned over to the Reedley Company for operation.

The only testimony presented concerning need for service related to the territory of Miramonte and Pinehurst, both served by Reedley Telephone Company; Badger, which has about five families; Drum Valley, in which there are about twelve families; the vicinity of the administration buildings in the Park; and Wilsonia, a summer colony about one mile to the south, in which about 200 lots or camp sites have been sold. The principal testimony offered concerned the need for service to and from the Park, including Wilsonia. It appears from the testimony that there is not sufficient business to justify the operation of two lines, and that the present line would lose revenue if a line were authorized to compete with it in any part of its territory and that the people in the Park wishing to communicate with Dinuba can do so through the Reedley exchange, which is distant from Dinuba about five miles.

It appears from the evidence that Reedley Telephone Company originally planned to extend its lines into the Park at about the time its system was taken over by the government for operation, and that by Decision No. 10056 of February 2, 1922, upon Application No. ~~6488~~⁶²⁸⁷ the company was authorized by the Commission to issue and sell \$20,000.00 of its 7% 20-year bonds,

of the proceeds of which \$5000.00 was designed to finance new construction and would be available for the purposes of the proposed extension.

By Decision No. 9890 of December 20, 1921, the Commission ordered the Reedley Company to reconstruct its Squaw Valley-Dunlap line to meet required standards of construction, and to maintain its lines and provide lines connected with it which had been ordered reconstructed to meet certain required standards. This reconstruction is nearly completed.

O R D E R

A public hearing having been held upon the above entitled applications, the matters being submitted, and now ready for decision,

THE RAILROAD COMMISSION HEREBY DECLARES that public convenience and necessity do not require construction by H. P. Harralson of a telephone line between Dinuba and General Grant National Park, as described in the above entitled Application No. 7627.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the application of H. P. Harralson be and it is hereby denied.

THE RAILROAD COMMISSION HEREBY FURTHER DECLARES that public convenience and necessity require the extension to Wilsonia and the administration headquarters in General Grant National Park by Reedley Telephone Company of the line now operated by it between Dinuba and The Cedars.

IT IS HEREBY FURTHER ORDERED that the application of Reedley Telephone Company be and it is hereby granted, provided that Reedley Telephone Company shall commence actual construction of the extension herein authorized to be made not later

than twenty days from the date of the order herein, and shall complete said construction not later than thirty days from the date of said order, unless for good cause shown the Railroad Commission may grant an extension of time for the commencement and/or completion of said extension.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 29th day of May, 1922.

H. B. Rowledge

James Martin
Sheila H. Powell

J. A. Demerut
Commissioners.