

Decision No. 10870

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

ORIGINAL

In the matter of the application
of Chas. A. Lorain for permission
to dismantle telephone line and
discontinue furnishing telephone
service.

Application No. 7713.

Chas. A. Lorain, in propria persona.
George M. Skinner and Julia Mac Donald, for protestants.

BY THE COMMISSION:

O P I N I O N

Chas. A. Lorain, applicant in this proceeding, owns and operates a telephone line extending from the town of Folsom, Sacramento County, California, in an easterly direction through Green Valley to Rescue Post Office, El Dorado County, California. The line connects in the town of Folsom, with the lines of The Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company, for local exchange and long distance service. Applicant pays to The Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company that company's authorized Farmer Line rate of \$3.00 per year for service for each subscriber on his line, and, in turn, has been billing his subscribers at the rate of \$1.25 per month each, thus receiving \$1.00 per month net, or \$12.00 per year per subscriber to pay for maintenance, depreciation, and interest on investment. The line now serves 16 subscribers.

Applicant was formerly a resident in the territory served by his telephone line and performed all work necessary in its maintenance in connection with his other duties as mail carrier. He is now a

resident of Folsom, and is engaged in other business. He is therefore compelled at present to leave his regular work in order to maintain his line, or to hire all maintenance work to be done by others. The application states that the revenue received is insufficient to pay for this upkeep.

A public hearing was held before Examiner Satterwhite, at Folsom, on May 18th, 1922. At this hearing several of applicant's patrons appeared to protest against the abandonment of service. It appears from the evidence, however, that applicant's lines are now operated at a loss and that the protesting patrons are unwilling to pay a rate for service which will enable applicant to continue its maintenance. A tentative offer was made by the patrons to purchase applicant's line, which offer has been accepted and arrangements have been completed for its operation as a farmer line connecting with the Folsom exchange of The Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company. The President of the organization purchasing the line has since advised the Commission that its further operation as a farmer line is satisfactory and all objections to the granting of applicant's petition are withdrawn.

O R D E R

Chas. A. Lorain, owning and operating a telephone line extending from Folsom, Sacramento County, California, to Rescue, El Dorado County, California, having applied to the Railroad Commission for authority to discontinue service and abandon his line, a public hearing having been held, the Commission being fully apprised, and it appearing that the application should be granted,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, that applicant be, and he hereby is, authorized to discontinue service on his line from Folsom to Rescue, such discontinuance to become and be effective on and after September 1, 1922.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 17th day of August, 1922.

David M. ...
David H. ...
J. F. ...

Commissioners.