

Decision No. 28261.

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of Reedley Telephone Company for an order authorizing the opening of certain toll stations, the discontinuance of certain exchanges, and the filing of certain rates.

Application No. 20085

**ORIGINAL**

Ernest Irwin, for Applicant.

Guy Hopping, for General Grant National Park.

BY THE COMMISSION:

O P I N I O N

In this application Reedley Telephone Company, a corporation, operating a telephone system in Reedley, Fresno County, and nearby territory, requests authority to file certain revised lists of toll stations, to file and make effective certain toll rates and to discontinue certain telephone exchanges and their rate schedules.

A public hearing in this proceeding was held before Examiner Fry in Reedley on September 12, 1935, at which time the matter was submitted for decision.

Reedley Telephone Company, in addition to its telephone exchange in Reedley, operates two toll lines over which telephone service is furnished to and from Badger, Dunlap, General Grant National Park, Pinehurst, Miramonte, Squaw Valley, Wilsonia, Sequoia Lake and to certain individuals. The original line was constructed by the Reedley Telephone Company or by its predecessor as a suburban

line extending as far as Dunlap. Subsequently the Reedley Company acquired two sections of toll line built by the General Grant National Park Telephone Company. By joining these to the original line, service was extended to General Grant Park. There are now fourteen toll stations on this line, all beyond Dunlap. A second toll line extending from Reedley to Dunlap, built several years ago, serves nine toll stations.

Ernest Irwin, representing the applicant, testified that the management of Reedley Telephone Company, through some misunderstanding of the requirements, had failed to secure the proper authority to establish various toll stations and to file rates and charges for the service. Authority is requested to include the stations as shown in Exhibit "A" attached to the application, in the Reedley Company's "List of Toll Stations."

The volume of business originated at the various toll stations is indicated in Exhibit No. 1 filed at the hearing. The toll charges billed from these toll stations for the year 1933, amounted to \$1,086.91 and varied from \$2.10 to \$304.43 per toll station. In 1934, the toll billings varied from \$1.75 to \$460.77 per toll station and amounted to \$1,731.53 for the year. From January 1 to July 31, 1935, the toll billings amounted to \$701.24 and varied from thirty cents to \$114.40 per toll station.

Applicant also desires to file a rate for service between toll stations in the same general locality which have, in general, the same rates to distant points. For example, a toll message from any one to any other of the four toll stations listed as Pinehurst would be rated at ten cents for an initial period of five minutes or less. It is the common practice to have in effect such a rate.

Reedley Telephone Company has on file with the Commission rates for exchange service in various so-called exchanges in the mountains at Squaw Valley, Dunlap, Pinehurst, Miramonte, Sand Creek Store, and Sequoia Lake. It is asserted that with the exception of Sequoia Lake no exchange service has been furnished from these exchanges for the past several years. Permission is requested to discontinue and withdraw the rates for all these exchanges except Sequoia Lake. Telephone service in the exchanges to be discontinued may be more efficiently and adequately furnished by means of toll stations.

At the hearing, certain users of the service severely criticised the service received at points beyond Miramonte on calls to and from Reedley and points outside the Reedley Company's service area. It was stated that certain stations are connected through the switchboard at Miramonte when calling Reedley and points beyond and that when so connected it is very difficult to hear or be heard. If the Miramonte Exchange is discontinued as proposed and the switchboard is removed, the transmission on the line should be greatly improved.

A careful review of the proposals contained in this application leads to the conclusion that the telephone service in the localities referred to should be materially improved and that the cause of the transmission complaints should be considerably lessened if applicant's requests are granted. The Order following will direct that the proposed changes be made:

#### O R D E R

Reedley Telephone Company, having made application for authority to open certain toll stations, to discontinue certain exchanges and to file certain rates, a public hearing having been

held in the proceeding and the matter having been submitted for decision,

The Railroad Commission of the State of California hereby finds as a fact that the public interest will be conserved by the changes proposed and as discussed in the preceding Opinion and, basing its Order on this finding of fact and such other findings of fact and conclusions as are contained in the Opinion preceding this Order,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Reedley Telephone Company may:

- (1) Make effective on or before December 1, 1935, a revised list of toll stations as set forth in Exhibit "A" attached hereto.
- (2) Make effective as of the effective date of (1) toll rates and charges as shown in Exhibit "B" attached hereto.
- (3) Discontinue Squaw Valley, Dunlap, Pinehurst, Miramonte and San Creek Store Exchanges and withdraw exchange rates therefor as of the effective date of (1) and (2).

IT IS HEREBY FURTHER ORDERED that the authority herein granted is subject to the condition that Reedley Telephone Company shall, between the thirtieth and tenth day immediately preceding the effective date of (1), (2) and (3) above, submit to the Railroad Commission for filing the list of toll stations and rates specified in (1) and (2) and revised exchange service schedules withdrawing the rates referred to in (3) above.

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 7<sup>th</sup> day of October, 1935.

Leon Wheddelly  
W. H. Law  
W. B. Davis  
W. H. [unclear]  
Frank [unclear]  
Commissioners.

EXHIBITS "A" and "B"

RABBIT "A"

REDKEY TELEPHONE COMPANY

TOLL SERVICE - SCHEDULE NO. B-1

LIST OF STATIONS:

	Badger	(A. D. Weddie Store)
(a)	Bear Mountain Lookout	(Calif. State Div. of Forestry)
	Camp Monroe	(Guy Monroe Lodge)
(d)	Division of Highways	(Calif. State Div. of Highways)
(b)	Dunlap No. 1	(Wm. Clingen Store)
(b)	Dunlap No. 2	(C. M. Baker Ranch)
(d)	General Grant Park No. 1	(Gen'l Grant Nat'l Park Hdqtrs)
(d)	General Grant Park No. 2	(Gen'l Grant Nat'l Park Studio)
(d)	General Grant Park No. 3	(C.C.C. Camp #1906)
	Mira Monte No. 2	(J. B. Hatch Store)
	Navelencia	
(c)	Pinehurst No. 1	(R. C. Blake Cabin)
(c)	Pinehurst No. 2	(Pinehurst Resort Co.)
(c)	Pinehurst No. 3	(U. S. Forest Ranger Station)
(c)	Pinehurst No. 5	(Bone's Silver Fox and Fur Farm)
	Sand Creek Store	(E. F. Metcalf Store)
	Sequoia Lake No. 1	(Camp Gaines-Fresno Co. Y.M.C.A.)
	Sequoia Lake No. 2	(Camp Redwood-Tulare Co. Y.M.C.A.)
	Sequoia Lake No. 3	(Camp Oneonta-Boy Scouts of America)
(a)	Squaw Valley No. 1	(C. B. Overholtzer Store)
(a)	Squaw Valley No. 2	(E. J. Kilpatrick Store)
(a)	Squaw Valley No. 3	(O. M. Burk Ranch)
(a)	Squaw Valley No. 4	(E. E. Drake Ranch)
(e)	Wilsonia No. 2	(Chas. F. Clapp)

- (a) Rate applicable is rate to Squaw Valley.
- (b) Rate applicable is rate to Dunlap.
- (c) Rate applicable is rate to Pinehurst.
- (d) Rate applicable is rate to General Grant Park Hdqrs.
- (e) Rate applicable is rate to Wilsonia.

EXHIBIT "B"

REEDLEY TELEPHONE COMPANY

TOLL SERVICE - SCHEDULE NO. B-1

SERVICE:

A. Applicable to Toll Telephone Service over the long distance circuits of the Reedley Telephone Company.

RATE:

(1) Initial Rates between:

	W H I S S O N I A	G. G. V A R N A R K A H U S A	S E Q U O I A L A K E	B A D G E R	C A M P M O N R O E	P I N E H U R S T	M I R A M O N T E	D U N L A P	S A N D C R E E K S T O R E	S Q U A R V A L L E Y	N A V A L E N C I A
Reedley	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	25	20	20	15
Navalencia	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	20	15	15	
Squaw Valley	25	20	20	20	20	20	20	15	15		
Sand Creek Store	20	20	20	15	15	15	15	15			
Dunlap	15	15	15	15	15	15	15				
Miramonte	15	15	15	15	15	15					
Pinohurst	15	15	15	15	15						
Camp Monroe	15	15	15	15							
Badger	15	15	15								
Sequoia Lake	15	15									
Gen. Grant Park Hdqrs.	15										

The above initial rates are expressed in cents and are for "Person-to-Person" service. They apply to toll telephone messages over the toll line of the Reedley Telephone Company without reference to the time of day or the class of toll service which may be requested, or which may be offered or furnished by connecting companies.

(2) Initial Period and Overtime Period:

The toll telephone rates herein listed are for an initial Period of three (3) minutes and an Overtime Period of one (1) minute.

EXHIBIT "B"

REEDLEY TELEPHONE COMPANY

TOLL SERVICE - SCHEDULE NO. B-1(Cont'd)

(3) Overtime Rates and Report Charges:

Overtime Rates and Report charges are effective as follows:

<u>Where the Initial Rate is</u>	<u>The Overtime Rate is</u>	<u>The Report Charge is</u>
\$0.15	\$0.05	\$0.10
.20	.05	.10
.25	.05	.10
.30	.10	.10

- B. Applicable to Toll Telephone Service over the long distance circuits of the Reedley Telephone Company between toll stations in the same general locality and served under a common rate schedule.

RATE:

Initial rate, five minutes or less, per message	\$0.10
Overtime rate, each additional three minutes, or fraction	.05
Report charge	.05

- C. Toll rates for Service to and From Points on Lines of Connecting Companies:

The charge applicable to toll telephone service between any point on the lines of the company, other than Reedley, and any point on the lines of connecting companies beyond Reedley is the sum of rates quoted by the connecting companies for the use of their lines between Reedley and the point on the connecting lines plus the above listed rate applying between Reedley and the point on this company's line.