

Decision No. 24036

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

In the Matter of the Application of
 THE PACIFIC TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH
 COMPANY, a corporation, for an order
 to discontinue Carlotta Exchange and
 to make Hydesville Exchange and toll
 station service available to its
 present subscribers to service in the
 present Carlotta Exchange area.

ORIGINAL

Application No. 24036

BY THE COMMISSION:

OPINION AND ORDER

The Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company, a corporation, operating a general telephone business in California and in other states, herein requests authority to modify certain telephone service arrangements in Humboldt County. Applicant desires (1) to discontinue its telephone exchange at Carlotta, (2) to withdraw exchange rates and maps of exchange and base rate areas now on file for the Carlotta exchange, (3) to modify its Hydesville exchange area to include therein the present Carlotta exchange area, and (4) to withdraw and cancel all interexchange telephone and telegraph rates for service to and from the present Carlotta rate center.

The Carlotta exchange, established in 1904 to provide service for a lumbering community, now has only seven telephones in service with filed hours of service from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. on week days, and no service on Sundays and holidays. It is stated that the requirements of the Carlotta telephone users can best be met by means of Hydesville suburban ten-party line service, supplemented by toll station service. It is therefore proposed to include the Carlotta exchange area in the exchange

area of the nearby Hydesville exchange, which has hours of service from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on week days, and 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. on Sundays and holidays. Coincident with this combination of the two areas, it is proposed to extend the hours of service of the Hydesville exchange to provide for service from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. daily, including Sundays and holidays.

The published rates for exchange service in the Carlotta and Hydesville exchanges are the same.

The four Carlotta subscribers and applicant's agent are now receiving individual line service. If the Carlotta exchange is discontinued, it is proposed that Hydesville suburban ten-party line service would be furnished three of the subscribers, semi-public toll station service would be furnished one subscriber, and public toll station service would be furnished applicant's agent. Three of the subscribers and applicant's agent at Carlotta have indicated in written statements their agreement to the proposed plan. The other subscriber, who has Carlotta residence service, is opposed to any change in the service which she has at her summer residence in the Carlotta exchange area. This subscriber, who has a residence individual line service at two dollars and twenty-five cents (\$2.25) per month, would be required to pay an increased monthly service charge if the consolidation of the exchanges is effected. Offsetting this would be increased hours of service, elimination of a toll charge to Hydesville, and a reduction in the toll charge to Eureka, in which city this subscriber has a permanent residence.

In the application it is stated that the operations of the Carlotta exchange for the year 1939 resulted in expenses

which exceeded revenues by ninety-eight dollars and twenty-eight cents (\$98.28) with no return on the investment.

The granting of this application would result in a benefit to the community at Carlotta and, incidentally, to the community at Hydesville, by increasing the hours of service. The expense of operating two exchanges where only one is needed would be eliminated. The plan is acceptable to all but one Carlotta exchange customer. It is apparent that the benefits of this plan should not be withheld on account of the objection of one subscriber.

The Commission has carefully considered the request of The Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company and is of the opinion, and so finds, that the application should be granted and that this is a matter in which a hearing is not required, therefore

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that The Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company shall combine the Carlotta exchange area with the Hydesville exchange area, cancel exchange rates and maps now on file for Carlotta exchange, modify its Hydesville exchange area to include the present Carlotta exchange area, increase the Hydesville exchange hours of service, and cancel all interexchange telephone and telegraph rates between the present Carlotta exchange rate center and outside points, effective on or before August 1, 1941, subject to the condition that no irregularity or deviation from the schedules shall be created thereby.

IT IS HEREBY FURTHER ORDERED that The Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company shall file with the Railroad Commission on or before the fifth day immediately preceding the effective date thereof the rate sheets and service territory maps necessary to complete the plan heretofore described.

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 25th
day of March, 1941.

[Signature]

Ed Rice

James J. Cooney
Francis R. Havens

Commissioners.