

Decision No. 24240

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

ORIGINAL

In the Matter of the Application of
ASSOCIATED TELEPHONE COMPANY, LTD.,
a corporation, for authority to withdraw
its rate for eight party residence
service in its Pomona exchange.

Application No. 24240

Ernest Irwin, for Applicant
Turner M. Carr, City Attorney, for City of Pomona

BY THE COMMISSION:

O P I N I O N

In this application Associated Telephone Company, Ltd., engaged in a general telephone business in the counties of Los Angeles, Orange, San Bernardino and Santa Barbara, requests authority to discontinue eight-party residence service in the base rate areas of its Pomona exchange coincident with or soon after the present telephone equipment is replaced with full dial equipment. The Pomona exchange serves the cities of Pomona, Chino, Claremont, La Verne and San Dimas and their surrounding territories. A base rate area was established for each community and no message rate or toll charges are applicable within the exchange area. The same services are available in the several base rate areas and the rates are the same. Among these services is the eight-party residence service which Applicant believes should be discontinued.

Mr. Ernest W. Watson, General Commercial and Traffic Superintendent for the Associated Company testified relative to the plan of the utility to replace its present Pomona manual central office equipment and its Chino, Claremont, La Verne and San Dimas automanual central office equipment with

dial equipment. Mr. Watson explained that the new equipment could be engineered to permit the furnishing of eight-party dial service but it was his opinion that the general level of the grade of service in the five base rate areas should be raised to that generally effective in communities of comparable importance. It is proposed to lower the rate for four-party residence service twenty-five cents per month so that the eight-party residence subscribers would be able to have the superior four-party residence service for only twenty-five cents more per month than they now pay for eight-party residence service. It is estimated that if all present eight-party subscribers should convert to four-party service at the proposed rates the total increase in their charges would be \$865 per month and the decrease in charges to the present four-party residence subscribers would be \$320 per month, resulting in a net increase in monthly charges of \$545 per month.

Applicant estimates that it would require from thirteen to sixteen months before the new system could be completed.

The record shows that no objection was made by anyone to the change in rates or service. It is our opinion that the Application should be granted in accordance with the conditions set forth in the following Order.

O R D E R

Associated Telephone Company, Ltd. having requested authority to discontinue eight-party residence telephone service in its Pomona exchange coincident with a reduction in its rate for four-party service, a public hearing having been held before Examiner Fry on June 26, 1941 at Pomona, California and the matter having been submitted for decision,

THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA hereby finds as a fact that the discontinuance of eight-party residence telephone service in the Pomona exchange coincident with the reduction of the rate for four-party

residence service therein and coincident with or soon after the conversion of the Pomona exchange to dial operation is justified, therefore

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Associated Telephone Company, Ltd. after proper showing to the Railroad Commission that it has completed the installation of dial equipment in its Pomona exchange and is ready to replace all eight-party residence telephone service therein with four-party service at the rate proposed herein, and upon supplemental Order of the Railroad Commission, may discontinue its eight-party residence service, provided such showing is made on or before December 1, 1942.

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 15th day of July, 1941.

W. H. Baker

Justus F. Calver
Francis L. Havenue
Richard Kachse
Commissioners