

Decision No. 35513

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of
W. GILMAN SNYDER, doing business as
Western Telephone Company, for authority
to increase exchange service rates in
the Volcano division of the said company,
and to increase the hours of service from
thirteen hours daily to twenty-four hours
daily.

ORIGINAL

Application No. 24942

Snyder and Snyder, by William G. Snyder, for Applicant,
Judge A. L. Pierovich, Civilian Defense Council,
favoring the application,
E. J. Cassou, Secretary, Amador Chamber of Commerce,
favoring the application,
George W. Loucot, Sheriff, Amador County, Law Enforcement
Agency of Amador County, favoring the application.

BY THE COMMISSION:

O P I N I O N

In this application W. Gilman Snyder, engaged in the telephone business in Amador County and elsewhere in California, requests authority to increase rates for telephone service in Volcano and vicinity coincident with the establishment of continuous twenty-four hour service.

The notice of a hearing in the proceeding was published in the "Amador Ledger" and the "Amador Record" and notices of the hearing were mailed to each subscriber of the Volcano division of the Western Telephone Company. A hearing in the matter was held at Jackson on June 4, 1942 before Examiner Fry.

W. Gilman Snyder, as a witness, stated that the present hours of service at Volcano are from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. daily. Many subscribers have requested that the service be furnished on a twenty-four hour daily continuous basis.

It is proposed to increase the rate of \$1.75 per month for a business or residence desk set station to \$2.25 per month. The rate for

service with a wall set telephone, which is the desk set station rate less twenty-five cents per month, would have the same increase. Although this increase in rates to present subscribers would result in approximately \$32 per month only, and the expenses would increase \$60 per month, Mr. Snyder believes that the deficit would be overcome with new business expected under the better service conditions. An income statement for the period January 1, 1942 to April 1, 1942 filed with the application showed a telephone operating revenue deficit of \$491.73 for the three months.

Letters from the City of Stockton Recreation Department asking for continuous service at the Municipal Camp of the City of Stockton at Silver Lake had been received and were filed as Exhibits 1 and 2 at the hearing. A petition with seventy-two signatures of subscribers agreeing to a fifty cents monthly increase in the rates for telephone service was filed at the hearing as Exhibit No. 3.

Judge A. L. Pierovich, representing the Civilian Defense Council, stated that the public was in favor of the increase in service with an increase in rates as requested and that the continuous service was necessary for Civilian Defense.

Mr. E. J. Cassou, Secretary of the Anador Chamber of Commerce, requested that favorable consideration be given applicant's request as the public needed the continuous service.

Sheriff George W. Loucot stated that it was imperative that continuous telephone service be furnished the Law Enforcement Agency of Anador County.

Mr. Allen L. Martin, District Attorney, advanced his opinion that the public required continuous telephone service as proposed in the application.

No one appeared in opposition to the granting of the application.

In view of the manifest public requirement for continuous telephone service and the evidence that such service could not reasonably be expected to be furnished without an increase in rates, it is apparent that the application should be granted.

ORDER

W. Gilman Snyder having made application to the Railroad Commission for authority to increase certain rates for telephone service coincident with an increase in hours of service in Volcano and vicinity, a public hearing having been held and the matter having been submitted for decision,

THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA hereby finds as a fact that the increase in rates in Volcano and vicinity coincident with the establishment of continuous twenty-four hour telephone service is justified, therefore

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that W. Gilman Snyder may make effective in the Volcano Division of the Western Telephone Company, on or before September 1, 1942, the increase in telephone rates set forth in the application, provided the necessary rate modifications are filed with the Railroad Commission not later than fifteen (15) days immediately preceding their effective date.

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 23rd day of June, 1942.

Ray W. Wiley
H. B. B. B.
[Signature]
 Commissioners.