

Decision No. 38019

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

ORIGINAL

In the Matter of the Application of JAMES S. STOKES operating a telephone line and doing business under the name of REDDING-STILLWATER TELEPHONE LINE, authorizing him to discontinue operations as a telephone utility, and to sell its telephone property.

Application No. 26772

BY THE COMMISSION:

O P I N I O N

James S. Stokes; doing business under the name of Redding-Stillwater Telephone Line; in this application requests authority to discontinue operations as a telephone public utility and to sell his property to the present subscribers who will operate a mutual organization under the name of the Mistletoe Mutual Rural Telephone Association.

Redding-Stillwater Telephone Line furnishes telephone service to nine subscribers over one multi-party line located northeast of Redding, Shasta County, California. The utility operates no central office, but receives switching service at the Redding central office of The Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company. Exhibit "B" attached to the application sets forth that there are about seven miles of metallic line of No. 12 iron wire, five miles of grounded line of No. 12 iron wire, ten telephone sets of various makes, one test set, an unknown quantity of pole line brackets with insulators and tree insulators; and miscellaneous equipment in the system. He has agreed to sell the properties to the Association for \$243.96.

The application discloses that James S. Stokes has been inducted into the United States Army and Gladys M. Stokes, his wife, is inexperienced in telephone operations and is financially unable to employ help to operate the line. For these reasons applicant is unable to continue his telephone operations.

The present nine subscribers receiving service over applicant's line and listed in Exhibit "A" attached to the application are located within The Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company's Redding exchange area. There are no subscribers receiving service from applicant in the presently filed service area of Redding-Stillwater Telephone Line. It is stated in the application that applicant's subscribers have organized themselves into an association known as the Mistletoe Mutual Rural Telephone Association and will apply to The Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company for Redding farmer line service. There will be no increase in the rates to the subscribers under the proposed service arrangement, but there will be a very material decrease to each subscriber.

In view of the fact that the order herein authorizes applicant to discontinue telephone service, he may after such discontinuance sell the properties to the Association without Commission authorization.

O R D E R

The Commission has considered applicant's request and is of the opinion that this is not a matter on which a public hearing is necessary, that the discontinuance of public utility telephone service of Redding-Stillwater Telephone Line is justified, and that upon discontinuance of public utility operations the Commission's approval of the sale of the properties will not be required, therefore

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED as follows:

- (1) James S. Stokes is authorized to discontinue public utility telephone operations of the Redding-Stillwater Telephone Line northeast of Redding, Shasta County, California.
- (2) Immediately upon the discontinuance of the aforesaid public utility operations, James S. Stokes shall, on not less than five (5) days' notice to the Commission and the public, cancel the rates, rules and regulations covering telephone operations of the Redding-Stillwater Telephone Line, and the tariff filings made pursuant to this order shall, in other respects, comply with the rules set forth in the Commission's General Order No. 96.

(3) This order shall become effective twenty (20) days
from the date hereof.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 26th day
of June, 1945.

Paul Quinn
Justice J. Greener
Richard Kachas

Walter L. Quinn
Commissioners