

Decision No. 39954

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

ORIGINAL

In the Matter of the Application of THE PACIFIC TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH COMPANY, a corporation, for authority to discontinue the operation of a telephone exchange at Spring Garden, Plumas County, California.

Application No. 28188

OPINION AND ORDER

The Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company, a corporation, operating a telephone system in California and elsewhere, herein seeks authority to discontinue its Spring Garden exchange, Plumas County, effective as of April 1, 1947.

Spring Garden exchange serves an area of approximately 92 square miles in a mountainous and sparsely populated part of northeastern California. Applicant alleges that at the present time there are less than ten dwellings within a quarter mile of the Spring Garden central office and practically the only industrial development in the service area is a copper mine, known as Walker Mine, situated approximately nine miles northeast of the central office. Applicant further alleges that Spring Garden exchange was established in 1921 when there were indications a need for local telephone service would develop; that this development has not materialized as indicated by the maximum connection of five stations in the exchange in 1923; and that there are only two stations now being served within the exchange, one public toll station located at Walker Mine and one public exchange station located at Spring Garden.

Upon closure of the exchange, Applicant proposes to replace the public exchange station with a public toll station at Spring Garden and to continue the public toll station at Walker Mine. The proposed toll station service will make message toll telephone service available to the public twenty-four hours a day, whereas the Spring Garden exchange operates only between the hours of 7 a.m. and 9 p.m. Charges for message toll telephone

and message telegraph services now available to the public at the public exchange station at Spring Garden will not be affected by changing the service to a public toll station. Message telegram service also will remain available through facilities of The Western Union Telegraph Company.

It appears that there is no present or likely potential future requirement for exchange telephone service at Spring Garden and vicinity. A toll station available to the public should meet the requirements of the community.

The Commission has given consideration to this application and is of the opinion that the authority requested should be granted, and that this is a matter in which a public hearing is not required, therefore

IT IS ORDERED that The Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company is hereby authorized on or before May 1, 1947 to discontinue its Spring Garden exchange, to cancel its rate schedules and map effective for exchange telephone service in the Spring Garden exchange area, and in lieu thereof to establish a toll station to be designated "Spring Garden," Plumas County, California.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that necessary tariff schedules in accordance with General Order No. 96 shall be filed not less than fifteen days prior to the establishment of the toll station service hereinabove authorized.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 11th day of February, 1947.

Harold P. Kula
Justin J. Casanova
W. H. Lowell
R. E. Dunnington
Samuel T. Tolson
Commissioners