

Decision No. 45858

ORIGINAL

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of the Chileno Valley Telephone Company, a corporation, for authority to discontinue telephone operations and to withdraw from the telephone utility business.))))))	Application No. 32449
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OPINION AND ORDER

In this proceeding the Chileno Valley Telephone Company requests that it be relieved of its public utility obligation at the time The Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company makes Petaluma exchange service available to its subscribers.

The applicant is a public utility engaged in providing telephone service in territory to the west and south of the city of Petaluma. The area in which applicant serves consists of approximately 42 square miles of farming land located entirely within the suburban area of the Petaluma exchange of The Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company, as shown on the map attached to the application as Exhibit "A". The applicant serves 71 subscribers within this area, and switching service rendered said subscribers is furnished from the Petaluma central office of The Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company.

The Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company has informed applicant that it is preparing to convert its Petaluma exchange from manual to dial operation, and this conversion is scheduled for completion during October, 1951. The applicant states that it is not financially able to rehabilitate its facilities to operate on a dial basis, or to meet future service demands. The Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company, by letter attached to the

application as Exhibit "B", states that it will undertake to provide telephone service in the area served by applicant under its filed tariffs applicable within its Petaluma exchange, if applicant is granted authority to discontinue service. The Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company plans to furnish Petaluma exchange service to applicant's subscribers coincident with the introduction of dial service in the Petaluma exchange.

The Chileno Valley Telephone Company furnishes party line residence service at \$20.20 per year per station, which averages \$1.68 per month, and party line business service at \$28 per year per station, which amounts to \$2.32 per month.^{1/}

The principal basic rates applicable for The Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company service in the Petaluma exchange are as follows:

<u>Residence Flat Rate</u>	<u>Rate per Month</u>
Individual	\$4.00
Two-party	3.25
Four-party	2.75
Suburban	3.25
Farmer Line	.85
Extension Station	1.00
<u>Business Flat Rate</u>	
Individual	6.50
Two-party	5.25
Semipublic Coin Box	.75
	plus .20 per day
Suburban	4.50
Farmer Line	1.50
Extension Station	1.25

No increase in message toll telephone or telegraph rates to applicant's subscribers would result from the proposed change in serving arrangements.

^{1/} The Chileno Valley Telephone Company installs, owns and maintains at its own expense the necessary "backbone" wire facilities extending from the Petaluma city limits. The subscriber installs, owns, and maintains at his expense the necessary facilities from the Chileno Valley Telephone Company's line to the subscriber's instrument. The complete telephone instrument and battery is owned and maintained by the subscriber.

Two of applicant's present subscribers are being furnished service at locations within the suburban area of the Tomales exchange of The Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company, and both of these subscribers are agreeable to provision of suburban service from the Petaluma exchange of The Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company on a foreign exchange service basis, in lieu of the service now furnished by applicant.

The granting of applicant's request would enable the offering to applicant's subscribers of a wider classification of telephone service, eliminate the divided responsibilities now existing in the provision of telephone service, and enable the provision of dial service to applicant's present subscribers.

It appearing that a public hearing is not necessary herein and that the granting of the application would be in the public interest,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Chileno Valley Telephone Company may, on or after the effective date hereof and on or before December 31, 1951, discontinue telephone operations and withdraw from the telephone utility business, coincident with The Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company's making available Petaluma exchange service to applicant's subscribers.

IT IS HEREBY FURTHER ORDERED that applicant shall file in quadruplicate with this Commission after the effective date of this order and not less than five (5) days prior to the

discontinuance of service, in conformity with General Order No. 96,
an advice letter canceling its filed rates, rules, and regulations.

The effective date of this order shall be twenty (20)
days after the date hereof.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 26th day of

June, 1951.

A. F. [Signature]
Justus F. Calceco
Harold P. Huls
[Signature]
[Signature]
Commissioners.