

Decision No. 47890

ORIGINAL

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of)	
THE PACIFIC TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH)	
COMPANY, a corporation, for authority)	Application No. 33763
to publish, file and place in effect)	
exchange and interexchange rates at)	
Pepperwood, Humboldt County, California.))	

OPINION AND ORDER

The Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company filed this application on September 26, 1952 requesting authority to (1) publish, file and place in effect for Pepperwood exchange, Humboldt County, the message toll telephone and exchange rates set forth in Exhibit C of the application, and (2) to deviate in this instance from the order in Decision No. 41416, dated April 6, 1948, relating to the installation of full selective signaling arrangements.

Pepperwood is one of seven communities along the Redwood Highway between Scotia and Weott in Humboldt County. The cumulative population of these communities is stated to be 735 with 210 residences and 38 businesses within the area. Present telephone service furnished these communities consists of 12 toll stations. In order to meet increasing demands for telephone service from residents of communities in the area, the applicant proposes to establish an exchange at Pepperwood and to furnish exchange telephone service in all of the seven communities in the vicinity.

During the month of July, 1952, the applicant alleges it conducted a canvass of the residents of the proposed exchange area to determine if they desired to apply for telephone service

at the rate levels proposed by the applicant. Exhibit A of the application shows there are 134 prospective subscribers who have signed service application cards for exchange service. In addition, the applicant proposes to establish five public coin-box services to meet the telephone needs of the general and transient public.

The applicant alleges that the most economical and practical plan of furnishing exchange telephone service in the area is by the installation of community dial central office in Pepperwood. Under this plan toll and all other traffic requiring the assistance of an operator would be furnished from Eureka approximately 27 miles northwest of Pepperwood. In establishing the exchange, the applicant proposes to re-use North Electric dial equipment which will become available through replacement in another exchange. The application shows this equipment has an ultimate capacity of 99 lines and is arranged for semi-selective ringing on four-party lines and divided code ringing on suburban lines. The applicant seeks authority to deviate in this instance from the order in Decision No. 41416, dated April 6, 1948, relating to the provision of full selective signaling arrangements for the reasons that modification of the proposed North Electric dial equipment will entail considerable delay and will cost approximately \$4,000.

Rates proposed by the applicant for exchange service, set forth in Exhibit C attached to the application, correspond to those for single office exchanges outside extended areas having 500 company stations or less (Group A), authorized by Decision No. 46270, dated October 8, 1951. A summary of the proposed exchange rates for the principal classifications of services follows:

Class of Service	Rate Per Month	
	Residence Service	Business Service
1-party, flat rate	\$ 3.80	\$ 6.00
2-party, flat rate	3.25	4.75
4-party, flat rate	2.70	-
10-party, suburban	3.20	4.50

Message toll telephone rates from the proposed toll rate center of the Pepperwood exchange, shown on the Post Route Map as P-6-x, to certain nearby points will be increased for initial period day station service generally by 5 cents compared with those now applicable from some of the existing toll stations. Similarly, over other toll routes decreases of 5 cents in the initial period day station rate will result.

The applicant estimates annual revenues resulting from the first year of operation of the Pepperwood exchange, as shown in Exhibit D of the application, to be \$12,200, compared with \$15,800 annual cost effects. The gross amount of construction is shown as \$66,600.

Two maps filed as Exhibit D show the proposed exchange area and base rate area boundaries of the Pepperwood exchange.

The Commission has considered this matter and is of the opinion that a public hearing is not necessary and that the granting of the application, as herein provided, will not be adverse to the public interest and should result in an improved service; therefore,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED as follows:

1. Applicant is authorized to file with this Commission, after the effective date of this order and on or before April 30, 1954, in conformity with General Order No. 96, the rates for message toll telephone and exchange services set forth in Exhibit C of the application and maps of the exchange and base rate areas set forth in Exhibit E of the application, and, after not less than ten (10) days' notice to the Commission and the public, to make such rates effective in the Pepperwood exchange, coincident with the establishment of the dial exchange.
2. Applicant, in this instance, is relieved from the provisions of the sixth paragraph of the

order in Decision No. 41416, dated April 6, 1948, in connection with the initial installation of the dial central office equipment at Pepperwood.

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

Dated at San Francisco California, this 3rd day of November, 1952.

R. J. [Signature]
President.
Justina J. [Signature]
Harold P. [Signature]
[Signature]
[Signature]
Commissioners.