

ORIGINAL

Decision No. 48708

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the matter of the Application of)	
INTERSTATE TELEGRAPH COMPANY, a)	
corporation, for authority to estab-)	
lish, maintain and operate a tele-)	
phone exchange at Crowley Lake,)	
Mono County, California, and provide)	Application No. 34407
telephone exchange service in the)	
Crowley Lake Exchange Area; and to)	
file and make effective rates for)	
telephone and telegraph service in)	
said Exchange Area.)	

OPINION AND ORDER

By this application filed on June 1, 1953 Interstate Telegraph Company seeks authority to establish telephone exchange service westerly of and in the vicinity of Crowley Lake, Mono County, and to file and make effective rates for exchange, message toll, and telegraph services.

The proposed Crowley Lake exchange area consists of unassigned territory located between applicant's Leevining exchange on the north and its Bishop exchange on the south as shown on a map attached to the application as Exhibit "B". Also attached to the application as Exhibit "C" is a map of the proposed base rate area which includes approximately 2½ square miles of area lying along U. S. Highway 395.

Applicant alleges that for many years it has been furnishing toll telephone service in the area proposed to be included in the Crowley Lake exchange area. Present service in the area consists of 35 toll stations segregated as follows: 2 inactive stations, 22 unattended public stations, and 11 semipublic stations. Applicant states that the furnishing of toll station telephone

service in the Crowley Lake area becomes increasingly more inefficient and costly because the addition of new stations requires construction of toll circuits from the City of Bishop, a circuit mileage distance of 32 miles.

To better meet the increasing telephone service requirements in the Crowley Lake area, the applicant proposes to establish a new dial exchange for the area. Under this plan a 40-line dial switchboard would be installed in an existing concrete slab building owned by the applicant and located at the proposed toll rate center of the Crowley Lake exchange.^{1/} This building has been used by the applicant since July 1949 to house an installation of toll carrier terminal equipment.

On and after the establishment of the proposed Crowley Lake dial exchange the applicant plans to:

1. Cancel rates for the two inactive toll stations.
2. Substitute exchange pay station service for the toll station service now being provided at the sites of the 22 public toll stations.
3. Offer Crowley Lake exchange service on an optional basis to the agents or operators of the 11 semipublic toll stations.
4. Cease to establish any additional toll stations in the area proposed to be included in the Crowley Lake exchange area.

Applicant requests authority to make effective in the proposed Crowley Lake exchange its presently effective lowest level of rates for exchange service and its effective basic schedules of

^{1/} Exhibit A of the application shows the proposed toll rate center of the Crowley Lake exchange to be the northeast quarter of the northeast quarter of Section 20, Township 4 South, Range 29 East, Mount Diablo Base and Meridian.

rates for toll telephone and telegraph services. The requested basic exchange rates are as follows:

	Each Primary Station Monthly Rate	
	<u>Residence Service</u>	<u>Business Service</u>
Individual Line	\$4.40	\$6.75
Two-party Line	3.80	5.60
Four-party Line	2.95	4.70
Suburban Ten-party Line (1st Zone)	2.95	4.70

The block and section designation of the toll rate center of the proposed Crowley Lake exchange will be the same as that for 15 of the present toll stations. Because of that fact and the close proximity to the toll rate center of the remaining 20 toll stations applicant estimates that increases or decreases in charges for toll telephone messages between the Crowley Lake exchange and other toll rate centers will be negligible. Toll charges will not apply to telephone messages between stations subscribing to Crowley Lake exchange service but will apply between toll stations and between toll stations and exchange stations. A total of 25 applications for Crowley Lake exchange service have been received by the applicant.

It appears from the application that the establishment of the proposed exchange will increase applicant's investment in plant by approximately \$21,500.

Applicant states that there is no public utility, corporation, or person with whom the proposed exchange and service will compete, and that it will proceed with its plan to establish the proposed Crowley Lake exchange promptly after receipt of authorization from the Commission. The Commission is of the opinion that establishment of the Crowley Lake exchange as proposed will result in improved telephone service and will not be adverse to the public interest.

Interstate Telegraph Company having applied to this Commission for an order authorizing it to establish an exchange at

Crowley Lake and to file rates for service, the Commission having considered applicant's request and being of the opinion that a public hearing thereon is not required, and that the application should be granted as herein provided,

IT IS HEREBY FOUND AS A FACT that the increases in rates and charges herein authorized are justified and that present rates, in so far as they differ from those herein prescribed for the future are unjust and unreasonable; therefore,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED as follows:

Applicant is authorized to file in quadruplicate with this Commission, after the effective date of this order and on or before December 31, 1953, in conformity with General Order No. 96, the maps of the exchange and base rate areas as set forth in Exhibits "B" and "C" of the application, and the preliminary statement as set forth in Exhibit "D" of the application, and after not less than ten days' notice to the Commission and to the public to make said maps and preliminary statement and the rates for exchange, toll telephone, and telegraph service as discussed above effective for service in the Crowley Lake exchange on and after the establishment of the dial exchange.

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

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 16th day of June, 1953.

A. J. [Signature]
President
Justice F. [Signature]
Harold [Signature]

Commissioners