

ORIGINALDecision No. 71539

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Joint Application of CALIFORNIA WATER & TELEPHONE COMPANY and THE PACIFIC TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH COMPANY for orders: 1.) authorizing CALIFORNIA to discontinue telephone service in a portion of its Temecula Exchange Area; 2.) authorizing PACIFIC to expand the boundaries of its Fallbrook Exchange Area to include said area and to provide telephone service therein, and 3.) authorizing CALIFORNIA to sell certain utility facilities to PACIFIC.

Application No. 48841
(Filed October 6, 1966)

OPINION AND ORDER

California Water & Telephone Company^{1/}, a corporation, by application filed October 6, 1966, seeks authority to discontinue telephone service in a portion of its Temecula Exchange Area and to sell and transfer telephone utility plant and service in the area to The Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company^{2/}, a corporation, which joins in the application. Pacific seeks authority to expand the boundaries of its Fallbrook Exchange Area to include said area and to provide telephone service therein.

The exchange area proposed for transfer is about 6-1/2 square miles in area and includes all of Sections 31, 32, 33 and 35 and portions of Sections 25, 26, 27, 30, 34 and 36 in Township 8 South, Range 3 West, San Bernardino Base and Meridian. The three subscribers in the area proposed for transfer are receiving foreign exchange service from Pacific's Fallbrook Exchange.

^{1/} Hereinafter called "California".

^{2/} Hereinafter called "Pacific".

The terms and conditions of the proposed sale of utility property are set forth in an instrument entitled "Purchase and Sale Agreement", a copy of which is attached to the application as Exhibit E. The properties to be transferred include poles, wire, fittings and right-of-way easement. The purchase price is stated to be \$653.39 to be paid within thirty days following the effective date of sale.

The reasons given for the proposed transfer are: The topography, roads, present telephone service, accessibility, and community of interest all favor service from Fallbrook; California does not have telephone plant extended to the area from its Temecula central office; extension of service from the nearest Temecula lines would entail considerable construction cost to California and extension costs to the subscribers; repair service from California's Elsinore exchange requires an hour of travel over mountainous roads; and the present and prospective subscribers will benefit from lower telephone exchange rates.

The action taken herein shall not be construed to be a finding of the value of the properties herein authorized to be transferred nor as indicative of amounts to be included in proceedings for the determination of just and reasonable rates.

The Commission has considered the above-entitled application and finds that the proposed transfer will not be adverse to the public interest and that a public hearing is not necessary. The application should be granted.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that:

1. California Water & Telephone Company is authorized to file a revised Temecula Exchange Area map excluding therefrom that portion of the Temecula Exchange Area described herein and as shown on Exhibit A of the application.

2. California Water & Telephone Company is authorized to withdraw from public utility service the portion of the Temecula Exchange excluded in accordance with this order.

3. The Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company is authorized to file a revised Fallbrook Exchange Area map expanding the boundary thereof so as to include such area within the Fallbrook Exchange.

4. The Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company is authorized to provide public utility telephone service to subscribers within said area as part of its Fallbrook Exchange.

5. California Water & Telephone Company is authorized to sell to The Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company the public utility telephone plant facilities referred to herein and described in Exhibit B of the application.

6. If the authority herein exercised is granted, The Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company shall, within thirty days thereafter, notify this Commission in writing of the date of such completion of the property transfer herein authorized and of its compliance with the conditions hereof.

7. The authorization herein granted will expire if not exercised within one year of the effective date of this order.

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

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 9th day of NOVEMBER, 1966.

John E. Mitchell
President

George A. Trover

Fredrick B. Walhoff

Angela

William W. Bennett
Commissioners