

ORIGINAL

Decision No. 72068

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of CALIFORNIA-PACIFIC UTILITIES COMPANY, a California corporation, for authority to establish the Lake Almanor Exchange area, base rate area, and toll rate center in a portion of the existing Westwood Exchange; to continue in effect in the Lake Almanor Exchange the exchange rates presently applicable to the Westwood Exchange; and to provide extended area calling between the Lake Almanor Exchange and the revised Westwood Exchange.

} Application No. 49052
(Filed December 23, 1966)

OPINION AND ORDER

California-Pacific Utilities Company (Cal-Pac) has requested authority to establish the Lake Almanor Exchange in the western portion of its existing Westwood Exchange located in Lassen and Plumas Counties as shown in Exhibit F, attached to the application. In conjunction with this request, Cal-Pac also requests establishment of a base rate area and toll rate center for the proposed exchange, continuation of present rates now applicable to the Westwood Exchange for the proposed exchange and provision of extended area service between these two exchanges.

Cal-Pac's studies indicate that the establishment of the Lake Almanor Exchange with its related outside plant facilities and central office will be necessary to meet the growing needs of the Lake Almanor area, to upgrade service to present customers without the necessity of applying mileage charges, and make available one-party service to any customer. As of December 14, 1966, the number of customers in the proposed exchange totaled 127 of which 77 were

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receiving suburban service and 50 were paying mileage charges for graded service. With the establishment of the proposed exchange, 34 of the 77 customers will be in the proposed base rate area and will therefore receive graded service without the necessity of paying mileage charges.

Notification of intent to establish the proposed Lake Almanor Exchange has been widely publicized by means of a news release to local newspapers and the radio station in the area, by a letter to each customer in the area and by outdoor advertising at the site of the new central office. Cal-Pac alleges that a copy of this application has been mailed to interested persons and authorities listed in Exhibit I attached to the application.

The Commission staff has investigated the application and has conferred with Cal-Pac's representative in connection therewith. Results of this investigation and conference are set forth in a report, received as Exhibit 1, wherein it is recommended that the application be granted.

The rates presently in effect for the Westwood Exchange will become the Lake Almanor Exchange rates as follows:

| <u>Class and Grade of Service</u> | <u>Basic Monthly Exchange Rate</u> |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| Business | |
| 1-Party | \$8.60 |
| 2-Party | 6.80 |
| Suburban | 6.30 |
| Extension | 1.75 |
| Residence | |
| 1-Party | 5.60 |
| 2-Party | 4.80 |
| 4-Party | 4.10 |
| Suburban | 4.45 |
| Extension | 1.25 |

With the establishment of the Lake Almanor Exchange toll rate center, toll charges for the initial period between the Lake Almanor Exchange and various points will differ from toll charges between the Westwood Exchange and the same various points as set forth below:

| Toll Calls to Exchange Below | Station to Station Toll Calls From: | | Lake Almanor Exch. Exceeds Westwood Exchange |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|--|
| | Westwood Exchange | Lake Almanor Exchange | |
| Chester | \$0.15 | \$0.10 | \$ (0.05) |
| Susanville | .30 | .35 | .05 |
| Reno | .50 | .55 | .05 |
| Redding | .65 | .65 | - |
| Greenville | .15 | .20 | .05 |
| Quincy | .40 | .35 | (.05) |

(Red Figure)

The tabulated toll charges are taken from a letter dated January 18, 1967 and received in evidence as Exhibit No. 2. The toll charges differ from the toll charges shown in the application in that effective January 30, 1967 rate mileage for intrastate toll messages will be based on the V-H mileage measurement method.^{1/} This method has been adopted by all California telephone utilities.

The Commission has considered this matter and finds that:

(1) the division of the present Westwood Exchange into a new Lake Almanor Exchange and Westwood Exchange, reduced in size, as set forth in the application, including establishment of extended area service to the extent proposed, is in the public interest; and (2) toll rates resulting from the establishment of Lake Almanor Exchange and its new toll rate center together with the proposed exchange rates to be applicable in the Lake Almanor Exchange are reasonable. On the basis of these findings, we conclude that the application should be granted. A public hearing is not necessary.

^{1/} Official notice is taken that on January 18, 1967, by Advice Letter No. 69-T, California-Pacific Utilities Company filed notice to adopt The Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company's V-H (Vertical-Horizontal) method to determine rate mileage on toll messages effective January 30, 1967 as ordered by this Commission in Decision No. 71575, dated November 23, 1966, in Case No. 7409.

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IT IS ORDERED that:

1. California-Pacific Utilities Company is authorized to establish the Lake Almanor Exchange Area proposed in this application.

2. California-Pacific Utilities Company is authorized to file with this Commission, after the effective date of this order and in conformity with General Order No. 96-A, revised maps as shown in Exhibits C, D, E and F, attached to the application.

3. California-Pacific Utilities Company is authorized to file in conformity with General Order No. 96-A exchange rates for Lake Almanor Exchange identical to Westwood Exchange rates, together with provisions for extended area calling between said exchanges.

4. California-Pacific Utilities Company is authorized to establish a new toll rate center for Lake Almanor Exchange at V-coordinate 7926 and H-coordinate 8556.

5. The authorization granted herein shall expire unless exercised on or before September 30, 1967.

The effective date of this order shall be ten days from the date hereof.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 28th day of FEBRUARY, 1967.

Commissioner Peter E. Mitchell, being necessarily absent, did not participate in the disposition of this proceeding.

Commissioner A. W. Gatzov, being necessarily absent, did not participate in the disposition of this proceeding.

William W. Bennett
President

William S. Brown
Paul P. Monnier
Commissioners