

ORIGINAL

Decision No. 77619

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Application for THE PACIFIC TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH COMPANY for authority to consolidate its Warner Springs and Mesa Grande exchanges in San Diego County into a single exchange to be designated Warner Springs.

Application No. 51916
(Filed May 21, 1970)

O P I N I O N

The Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company (hereinafter referred to as "Applicant") requests the Commission to authorize:

1. Consolidation of its Mesa Grande and Warner Springs exchanges.
2. Discontinuance of the Warner Toll Rate Center, leaving the present Mesa Grande Toll Rate Center as the toll rate center for the proposed consolidated exchange.
3. Withdrawal of present message toll telephone service rates between the two exchanges.

In support of its application the company alleges that the consolidation will result in lower serving costs to the company, and improved service to customers, thus being in the best interest of the public. Applicant requests that the application be granted without a public hearing.

The Commission staff has reviewed the application and made a field inspection of the area. As a result the staff prepared a report in which it recommends that the application be granted. The staff report is received in evidence as Exhibit No. 1.

The application was discussed with many subscribers in the area. A group of Mesa Grande subscribers prepared a petition in opposition to the application, requesting better service and free calling into the Ramona and/or Julian exchanges.

Characteristics of the Area

Both the Warner Springs and the Mesa Grande exchanges are in San Diego County. The first encompasses approximately 200 square miles and the second approximately 100 square miles. Over half of this area is national forests, state parks and Indian reservations not available for residential or commercial development. There are approximately 170 main stations in the present Warner Springs Exchange and 80 in the Mesa Grande Exchange.

Purpose of the Proposal

Applicant proposes to consolidate the present Warner Springs and Mesa Grande exchanges to save in the annual charges on investment approximately \$8,700 annually. The consolidation of the exchanges will also enable applicant to replace the present pole-mounted switching center for Mesa Grande with more reliable switching equipment in the permanent central office. Such change of equipment will result in availability of primary lines and much higher quality of service.

Exchange Rates

The exchange rates presently in effect will be left unchanged after the consolidation of the area.

Toll Rates

The adoption of the present Mesa Grande Toll Rate Center for Warner Springs will result in slight decreases on calls from

Warner Springs in the southwesterly direction and a slight increase on calls in the northeasterly direction. Since the major interest of calling is towards the south the effect overall will be a reduction of toll charges. The proposed toll rates for the consolidated exchange will be those presently in effect for Mesa Grande. A sample schedule of rates for typical and frequently used toll calls is as follows:

Minimum Day Station Rates

	<u>Mesa Grande</u>	<u>Warner Springs</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Borrego	\$.30	\$.20	\$.10
Chula Vista - Dulzura D.A.	.40	.45	(.05)
Del Mar	.40	.45	(.05)
El Cajon	.35	.40	(.05)
Encinitas	.40	.45	(.05)
Escondido	.25	.35	(.10)
Fallbrook	.40	.40	-
Hemet - Jacinto	.45	.40	.05
Idyllwild	.40	.40	-
Indio	.45	.40	.05
Julian	.15	.20	(.05)
La Jolla	.40	.45	(.05)
La Mesa	.40	.45	(.05)
Murrieta	.40	.40	-
Oceanside	.40	.45	(.05)
Pacific Beach	.40	.45	(.05)
Palm Desert	.45	.40	.05
Palm Springs	.45	.40	.05
Pauma Valley	.30	.35	(.05)
Pine Valley	.35	.40	(.05)
Pinyon	.40	.30	.10
Poway	.30	.40	(.10)
Ramona	.15	.30	(.15)
Rancho Santa Fe	.35	.40	(.05)
Salton	.45	.40	.05
San Diego	.40	.45	(.05)
Temecula	.40	.40	-
Vista	.35	.40	(.05)

() Denotes Reduction

Findings

The Commission finds that:

1. A public hearing is not necessary.
2. Consolidation of the present Warner Springs and Mesa Grande exchanges, discontinuance of the Warner Springs Toll Rate Center, and elimination of message toll telephone rates between the two exchanges are in the public's interest.
3. The subscribers' request in their petition for better service will be satisfied by this application and the request for free calling into the Ramona or Julian exchanges is outside the scope of issues within this application.

O R D E R

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. Applicant, The Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company, is authorized to consolidate its Warner Springs and Mesa Grande exchanges into one exchange called the Warner Springs Exchange.
2. Applicant is authorized to discontinue the Warner Springs Toll Rate Center, leaving the present Mesa Grande Toll Rate Center to serve the consolidated exchange.
3. Applicant is further authorized to withdraw the present message toll telephone service rates between the Warner Springs and Mesa Grande areas of the consolidated exchange.

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4. Applicant is authorized to file with this Commission after the effective date of this order and in conformity with General Order No. 96-A a new map substantially as shown in Exhibit A attached to the application, and appropriate tariff filings revised to reflect the changes approved above.

5. The authorization granted herein will expire unless exercised within 12 months of this order.

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

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 18th day of AUGUST, 1970.

J. M. Harris
Chairman
August
William J. Lyons, Jr.
Thomas J. ...
Vernon L. Stinger
Commissioners