

ORIGINAL

78288

Decision No. _____

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Application of THE PACIFIC TELEPHONE
AND TELEGRAPH COMPANY for authority
to establish Extended Area Service
between the Visalia Exchange and the
exchanges of Tulare and Woodlake and
between the Tulare Exchange and the
Tipton Exchange and to withdraw
message toll telephone service rates
now in effect between said exchanges.)

Application No. 51105
(Filed May 26, 1969;
Amended October 9, 1970)

Richard Siegfried, Attorney at Law,
for applicant.
W. L. Knecht, Attorney at Law, and
Ralph Hubbard, for California
Farm Bureau Federation, interested
party.

O P I N I O N

By the amended application herein, filed October 9, 1970, The Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company (Pacific) seeks authority to establish extended area telephone service (EAS) between its Visalia and Tulare exchanges, between its Visalia and Woodlake exchanges and between its Tulare and Tipton exchanges; to establish rates therefor and to withdraw message toll telephone service over the routes affected.

Public hearing in the matter was held before Examiner Emerson on October 16, 1970 at Visalia. Submission was taken on such date. The record contains five exhibits and the testimony of 14 witnesses.

The specific routes proposed for EAS are the following:

Visalia-Tulare	9 miles	15¢ initial rate
Visalia-Woodlake	13 miles	20¢ initial rate
Tulare-Tipton	11 miles	15¢ initial rate

To eliminate these toll routes, the basic monthly exchange rates would be increased as follows:

Visalia business rates	\$1.10 per month
Tulare business rates	1.30 per month
Tipton business rates	1.70 per month
Visalia residence rates25 per month
Tulare residence rates35 per month
Tipton residence rates60 per month
Woodlake residence rates85 per month

Applicant's proposed rates are based upon the EAS formula established by this Commission's Decision No. 77311 in Application No. 51114, issued June 3, 1970 and are fair and reasonable for the EAS service herein proposed.

No opposition to Pacific's proposal was voiced at the hearing or has otherwise been brought to the attention of the Commission.

The Commission makes the following findings of fact:

1. The establishment of extended area telephone service as proposed herein by applicant is in the public interest.
2. Increases in exchange rates as herein authorized are justified.
3. Present exchange rates, insofar as they differ from those herein authorized, will become unjust and unreasonable upon establishment of EAS for the affected routes.

The Commission concludes that the application herein should be granted.

ORDER

IT IS ORDERED that:

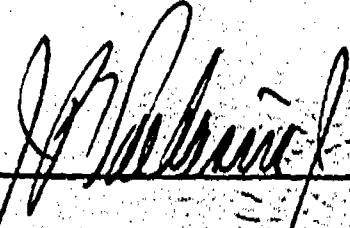
1. The Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company (Pacific) is hereby authorized to establish extended area telephone service between its Visalia and Tulare exchanges, between its Visalia and

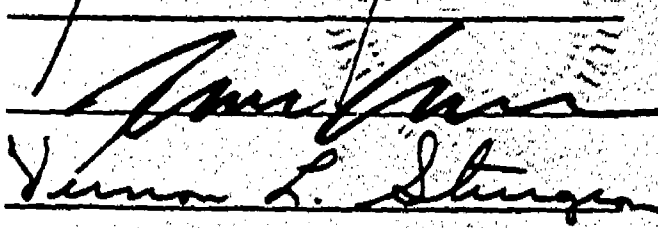
Woodlake exchanges and between its Tulare and Tipton exchanges within 24 months of the effective date of this order.

2. After not less than five days' notice to the public and to this Commission, Pacific shall make effective in the affected exchanges on the date on which extended area service is established therein, tariffs revised to reflect the rate changes set forth on Exhibit B attached to the amended application herein, and shall coincidentally therewith cancel and withdraw message toll telephone rates in effect between said exchanges.

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

Dated at San Diego, California, this 9th day of FEBRUARY, 1971.



Chairman


Vernon L. Stungen

Commissioners

Commissioner William Symons, Jr., being necessarily absent, did not participate in the disposition of this proceeding.