

ORIGINAL

Decision No. 82337

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application)
of)
HORNITOS TELEPHONE CO.,)
a corporation,)
for authority to issue Notes)
aggregating not exceeding)
\$40,000 and to execute a)
Mortgage and Supplemental)
Mortgages.)

Application No. 54526
(Filed December 20, 1973)

O P I N I O N

Hornitos Telephone Co. seeks authority to enter into a Loan Agreement and to issue notes for the borrowing of \$40,000, and to execute and deliver a mortgage and one or more supplemental mortgages in accordance with such agreement.

Applicant is a California corporation furnishing telephone service in and about the community of Hornitos in Mariposa County. For the year 1972 it reports operating revenues and net income in the respective amounts of \$90,368 and \$14,190. Its reported balance sheet at December 31, 1972, is summarized as follows:

Assets

Current assets	\$ 49,852
Net telephone plant	<u>245,891</u>
Total	<u>\$295,743</u>

Liabilities

Current and accrued liabilities	\$ 44,690
Deferred credits	18,171
Long-term debt	138,654
Common stock equity	<u>94,228</u>
Total	<u>\$295,743</u>

The application indicates that the company has continued to experience increasing demand for added and higher grades of telephone service, necessitating substantial additions to central office equipment and outside plant facilities at an estimated cost in excess of \$40,000.

For the purpose of obtaining funds to finance or refinance, in part, such additions, applicant has negotiated a Loan Agreement with Stromberg-Carlson Corporation for the long-term borrowing of \$40,000. Interim borrowings would be from banks and/or Stromberg-Carlson Corporation, and would bear interest at a rate of not exceeding 2-1/2% per annum over the New York City prime rate of Chase Manhattan National Bank; however, in no event would the interest rate on borrowings from Stromberg-Carlson Corporation exceed the rate permitted under applicable usury laws. In order to obtain funds for refunding said interim borrowings, applicant would issue a final note on or before June 30, 1975 in the principal amount

of not exceeding \$40,000 in favor of Stromberg-Carlson Corporation, which note would be secured by a mortgage and one or more supplemental mortgages. The final note would be repayable in 240 monthly installments, together with interest at the rate of 9-3/4% per annum.

The proceeds of the short-term borrowings would be used approximately as follows: \$4,000 for additions to plant at the Exchequer central office and \$36,000 for outside plant, cable and hardware in connection with expansion of facilities.

After consideration the Commission finds that:

1. The proposed notes would be for proper purposes.
2. The proposed documents would not be adverse to the public interest.
3. The money, property or labor to be procured or paid for by the notes herein authorized is reasonably required for the purposes specified herein, which purposes are not, in whole or in part, reasonably chargeable to operating expenses or to income.

On the basis of the foregoing findings we conclude that the application should be granted. A public hearing is not necessary. The authorization herein granted is for the purpose of this proceeding only and is not to be construed as indicative of amounts to be included in proceedings for the determination of just and reasonable rates.

O R D E R

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. Hornitos Telephone Co. may enter into a Loan Agreement with Stromberg-Carlson Corporation for the borrowing of a total sum not exceeding \$40,000 on substantially the terms and conditions and in substantially the form set forth in Exhibit A attached to the application.

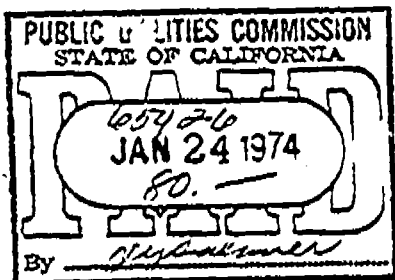
2. Hornitos Telephone Co., for the purposes set forth in this proceeding, may issue on the terms and conditions set forth in the application interim promissory notes and a final note aggregating not exceeding \$40,000 at any one time outstanding, which notes shall be in substantially the same forms as those attached to the application.

3. Hornitos Telephone Co. may execute and deliver to Stromberg-Carlson Corporation a Mortgage of Chattels and Real Property and one or more Supplemental Mortgages in substantially the forms set forth in Exhibits B and C, respectively, attached to the application.

4. Hornitos Telephone Co. shall file with the Commission the reports required by General Order No. 24-B, which order, insofar as applicable, is hereby made a part of this order.

5. This order shall become effective when Hornitos Telephone Co. has paid the fee prescribed by Section 1904(b) of the Public Utilities Code, which fee is \$80.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 15th day of January, 1974.



Vernon L. Spurgeon
President
William J. Spurgeon
[Signature]
[Signature]
Commissioners