

84C21

Decision No. _____

ORIGINAL

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of
The Pacific Telephone and Telegraph
Company, a corporation, for tele-
phone service rate increases to
offset increased wage, salary and
associated expenses.

Application No. 55214

Investigation on the Commission's
own motion into the rates, tolls,
rules, charges, operations, costs,
separations, inter-company settle-
ments, contracts, service, and
facilities of THE PACIFIC TELEPHONE
AND TELEGRAPH COMPANY, a California
corporation; and of all the tele-
phone corporations listed in
Appendix A, attached hereto.

Case No. 9832

ORDER DENYING PETITION
FOR ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE

Prior to the consolidation of the above cases (specifically, on November 21, 1974), Consumers Lobby Against Monopolies (CLAM) filed a petition requesting the Commission to issue an order to show cause why Application No. 55214 (The Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company's request for general offset rate relief) should not be delayed pending resolution of certain issues raised by CLAM in other matters before the Commission (Cases Nos. 9732, 9794, and 9788).

The complaints in the above cases deal with alleged misrepresentation and alleged unfair practices of Pacific Telephone regarding PBX service under either Schedule 812A or 770A. Case No. 9788 was dismissed and is now the subject of a petition for rehearing. A motion to dismiss has been filed by Pacific Telephone in Case No. 9732 (dealing with 812A service). Case No. 9794 has been consolidated by Decision No. 83822 dated December 10, 1974 with other matters dealing with 770A service (Applications Nos. 54881 and 55276, Case No. 9838).

The relief sought by CLAM in its petition is essentially punitive in nature. It would require all proceedings in matters regarding rates generally to come to a standstill while certain issues concerning Pacific Telephone's practices in two special schedules are first determined.

If the Commission were to take such action as a matter of course, no application for a rate increase would ever come to a conclusion since there is hardly any time when the Commission's docket is completely free of complaints against a company of the size and complexity of Pacific Telephone.

CLAM's rights are adequately protected without taking the drastic action requested in the petition. We have issued an Order Instituting Investigation (Case No. 9838) which will generally deal with the rates, rules, charges, operations, practices, contracts, services, and facilities of Pacific Telephone's 770A service. This case, by Decision No. 83822, was consolidated for hearing with Pacific Telephone's application for certain rate changes for that service (Application No. 55276), with another application concerning certain agreements with customers regarding 770A service (Application No. 54881), and with CLAM's outstanding complaint as to this service (Case No. 9794).

Such consolidation should afford CLAM, and any other parties, a more than adequate means of fully developing the record concerning this service and will afford the Commission a more than adequate basis for taking remedial action against Pacific Telephone, should any be necessary.

We find that there is no good cause for granting the relief requested in the petition.

IT IS ORDERED that the petition is denied.

The effective date of this order is the date hereof.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 28th day of JANUARY, 1975.

Vernon L. Steiner
President
William J. Quinn
Leonard Ross

Commissioners