

Decision No. 85744

ORIGINAL

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application
of Harry H. Baker, Jr., and Big
Sky Enterprises, Inc., for authority
to control Sierra Telephone
Company, Inc., and Mariposa County
Telephone Company, Inc.

Application No. 56326
(Filed March 11, 1976)

OPINION AND ORDER

Applicant, Big Sky Enterprises, Inc., a California Corporation, proposes to acquire 100% of the outstanding stock of both Sierra Telephone Company, Inc., and Mariposa County Telephone Company, Inc., both of which are public utilities.

Applicant corporation is a newly formed corporation which has no assets. Its sole function will be to act as a holding company for the two telephone companies which are already public utilities. No change in the operation of the companies will occur by reason of this transaction.

The stock of the two utilities is presently owned as follows: Mr. and Mrs. Harry Baker, Sr., own 100% of the outstanding stock of Mariposa County Telephone Company, Inc., and 25% of the outstanding stock of Sierra Telephone Company, Inc. Harry H. Baker, Jr., owns 75% of the outstanding stock of Sierra Telephone Company, Inc.

It is intended that the common stock of Big Sky Enterprises, Inc., shall be owned by Harry H. Baker, Jr., individually as to 51% and as trustee for himself and one of his children as to 49% and that Mr. and Mrs. Harry H. Baker, Sr., shall hold only preferred stock which shall be nonvoting, noncumulative, and nonparticipating.

The purpose for the creation of this holding company and the acquisition by it of all of the stock of the two public utilities is to allow the Baker Family to achieve their estate planning objectives. The creation of the holding company will result in no other change; it is not anticipated that the holding company will itself become a utility.

We find that formation of such holding company would not adversely affect the performance of the Mariposa County Telephone Company, Inc., and Sierra Telephone Company, Inc.; therefore,

IT IS ORDERED that Harry H. Baker, Jr., and Big Sky Enterprises, Inc., may control Sierra Telephone Company, Inc., and Mariposa County Telephone Company, Inc.

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

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 27th
day of APRIL, 1976.

William Aguirre, Jr. President
Vernon F. Sturgeon
Leonard Ross
Robert Bateman Commissioners