Decision 89 06 003 JUN - 7 1989



BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of PageAmerica Communications of California, Inc. (U-2043-C) for authority pursuant to § 851 of the Public Utilities Code to abandon its Certificate to Public Convenience and Necessity to operate a radio paging system in and around San Francisco, CA, and its operations and facilities related thereto.

Application 88-09-064 (Filed September 30, 1988)

OPINION

This is an application in which PageAmerica Communications of California, Inc. (PageAmerica) seeks authority to abandon its certificate of public convenience and necessity authorizing it to provide radio paging service in the San Francisco Bay Area.

The Commission makes the following findings and conclusion.

Findings of Fact

- 1. A public hearing is not necessary in this matter.
- 2. PageAmerica is a California corporation. It received a certificate of public convenience and necessity to operate as a telephone corporation to provide radio paging service in the San Francisco Bay Area in Decision (D.) 84-06-119 in Application (A.) 82-12-43 dated June 20, 1984 and D.87-08-008 in A.87-03-054 dated August 12, 1987. It holds similar authority in the San Diego area. It formerly held the same type of authority in the Los Angeles area, but was authorized to abandon it in D.87-02-014 in A.86-12-035, dated February 11, 1987.
- 3. PageAmerica has 15 tower sites with transmitters and a facility for interconnecting radio and landline telephones in the

San Francisco Bay Area. These facilities are operational and tariffs are on file to provide radio paging service but no service has been provided by them. PageAmerica has no employees in the San Francisco Bay Area.

- 4. PageAmerica seeks to abandon the San Francisco Bay Area operating authority and system because it believes it is not viable. It alleges that the number of transmitters is insufficient to provide good building penetration in the contoured area and the range of the transmitters is too limited in geographic scope. Thus, the system cannot compete with existing paging services that are broad enough in scope to encompass the entire San Francisco Bay Area. PageAmerica asserts that the capital investment necessary to have a proper system is not warranted in a market which has numerous radiotelephone services already in operation.
- 5. There are numerous radio paging companies which offer a wide variety of paging and radiotelephone services to consumers in the San Francisco Bay Area. There is no shortage of entities willing and able to provide the public with needed services in that area. The withdrawal of PageAmerica from this market will have no adverse impact on service to the public.
- 6. PageAmerica has made suitable arrangements for the disposition of the physical facilities comprising its San Francisco Bay Area system. Since it does not own any of the towers or buildings that house that system, those facilities will be returned to their owner who will then be able to let them to other users. Prior to abandoning any of the premises, PageAmerica will remove the transmitters, antenna, and other equipment which it owns. No facilities or equipment will be abandoned so as to become safety or environmental hazards.
- 7. The abandonment by PageAmerica of its San Francisco Bay Area operating authority and system is not adverse to the public interest.

8. Since the application only affects the applicant, it should be granted.

Conclusion of Law

The application should be granted.

ORDER

IT IS ORDERED that:

- 1. On or after the effective date of this order PageAmerica Communications of California, Inc. (PageAmerica) may abandon the certificate of public convenience and necessity granted in D.84-06-119 and D.87-08-008, which authorized it to operate as a telephone corporation and provide radio paging service in the San Francisco Bay Area, and the assets described in the application.
- 2. PageAmerica shall notify in writing the Chief of the Telecommunications Branch of the Commission Advisory and Compliance Division of the abandonment within 10 days after it occurs.
- 3. PageAmerica shall revise its tariffs on file with the Commission to delete its offer of radio paging service in the San Francisco Bay Area and in the Los Angeles Area; it may file these revisions on five day notice.
- 4. Upon compliance with the terms of this order PageAmerica shall have no further obligations in connection with the certificate of public convenience and necessity authorized to be abandoned.

G. MITCHELL WILK
President
STANLEY W. HULETT
JOHN B. OHANIAN
PATRICIA M. ECKERT
Commissioners

Commissioner Frederick R. Duda, being necessarily absent, did not participate.

I CERTIFY THAT THIS DECISION WAS APPROVED BY THE ABOVE COMMISSIONERS TODAY.

Victor Woisser, Executive Director