

ORIGINAL

Decision 82 04 079 APR 21 1982

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Application of GENERAL TELEPHONE)
 COMPANY OF CALIFORNIA for certifi-)
 cate of public convenience and)
 necessity under Section 1001 of)
 the Public Utilities Code of the)
 State of California for authority)
 to expand the service area of its)
 existing Ventura County paging)
 system.)

Application 61042
(Filed November 6, 1981)

O P I N I O N

General Telephone Company of California (applicant), a California corporation, seeks and is granted a certificate of public convenience and necessity under Public Utilities Code Section 1001 authorizing it to improve and expand its Ventura County paging service. Applicant seeks to (1) improve reception of its 35.5800 megahertz (MHz) signal in the area of the City of Santa Paula; and (2) **expand its paging service to areas** around the Cities of Ojai and Fillmore, which are outside of its present wireline service area boundaries.

Applicant presently provides telephone and other communications services in portions of 20 counties in the State of California, including common carrier automatic dial tone-only one-way signaling (paging) service in the Oxnard, Point Hueneme, Camarillo, Newbury Park, and Thousand Oaks areas from five base stations operating on a 35.5800 MHz radio frequency.

Applicant has constructed its new 35.5800 MHz transmitter on its existing antenna on South Mountain^{1/} in accordance with a construction permit it obtained from the Federal Communications Commission (FCC).

Exhibit C attached to the application is a copy of the FCC license issued to applicant for its existing Ventura County paging system. The FCC issued a construction permit for the new transmitter location on June 23, 1981 (Exhibit D attached to the application). The operating transmitters and the new transmitter are located within the boundaries of applicant's wireline telephone exchanges. The existing and proposed 43 dbu signal strength contour boundaries overlap a large portion of applicant's wireline exchange boundaries. The dialing control point for the paging system is located in applicant's Santa Barbara switching center, which has an automatic dial paging terminal for the system with a capacity of 10,000 paging numbers. Paging signals will be sent from Santa Barbara to a transmitting control station in Oxnard which will relay the signal for broadcast from six transmitters.

^{1/} By letter dated January 21, 1982 (Exhibit 1), applicant amplified its explanation of the proposed operation of this facility. Applicant provides other public communications services from its South Mountain building and antenna. This facility is located approximately three miles south of the City of Santa Paula.

Applicant will apply tariff Schedule Cal. P.U.C. L-1, Mobile Telephone Service, in the proposed service area.

Applicant's monthly service charges are:

- a. \$20 per month for one or two central office code numbers if it provides the pocket receiver.
- b. \$8 per month for one central office code number if the customer provides the pocket receiver.
- c. \$9.50 per month for two central office code numbers if the customer provides the pocket receiver.

Applicant's incremental cost estimate for the new facilities is approximately \$21,500. This cost was financed out of applicant's ordinary operating income. Applicant projects that monthly service revenues from its expanded operations will reach an \$1,120 per month **break-even point** during the second year its new facilities are in operation. It bases its estimates of customer growth on a customer survey (Exhibit H attached to the application).

Discussion

Applicant proposes to expand its Ventura County paging system by operating a sixth transmitter. **The capital costs** of the new system and initial operating losses are negligible compared to applicant's total revenues. There is no objection to the granting of the authority sought and it should be granted.

Construction of the facilities used to provide paging service from a transmitter on South Mountain has not had and will not have a significant effect on the environment.

Findings of Fact

1. The public has need for expanded paging service in the Cities of Ojai and Fillmore and for improved service in the City of Santa Paula, all in Ventura County.
2. Public convenience and necessity require that applicant construct and operate a paging system within the 43 dbu contour shown on its map (Exhibit B attached to the application).
3. The rates proposed by applicant are fair and reasonable for the service to be rendered.
4. The FCC has authorized applicant to construct the facilities and use the frequencies, signal strengths, and transmission site certificated in this decision.
5. There is no opposition to the granting of the authority sought by applicant.
6. Applicant has the financial and operating ability to construct and operate the facilities certificated in this decision.
7. It can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment.

Conclusions of Law

1. Public convenience and necessity require that the requested authority should be issued.
2. The effective date of this order should be today to permit applicant to expeditiously establish the proposed service.

Only the amount paid to the State for operative rights may be used in rate fixing.

ORDER

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. A certificate of public convenience and necessity is granted to General Telephone Company of California (applicant) authorizing it to construct and operate a one-way paging system from a proposed base station facility on South Mountain in Ventura County, California, within the 43 dbu contour shown on the map (Exhibit B attached to the application).

2. After the effective date of this order, applicant shall file revised tariffs and service area maps in compliance with General Order Series 96, and apply its present tariffs to the areas certificated by this order. The effective date of these tariffs shall be 5 days after filing.

This order is effective today.

Dated APR 21 1982, at San Francisco, California.

JOHN E. BRYSON
President
RICHARD D. GRAVELLE
LEONARD M. GRIMES, JR.
VICTOR CALVO
PRISCILLA C. CREW
Commissioners

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


Joseph E. Bodovitz, Executive Director