

Decision No. 87682 AUG 9 1976**ORIGINAL**

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Application of Chalfont Communications  
for relief from provisions of General  
Order No. 138 concerning local, not-  
for-sale interconnection arrangements.

Application No. 57316  
(Filed May 17, 1977)

O P I N I O N

Chalfont Communications, hereinafter referred to as applicant, is a radiotelephone utility and answering service. By this application, applicant requests waiver of the certification requirements of General Order No. 138 for proposed interconnections with the lines of General Telephone Company of California, hereinafter referred to as the utility.

Applicant seeks to replace the utility's equipment with its own equipment, a mini-computer. This mini-computer would be used to handle its telephone answering service and radiotelephone circuits and would interconnect with the utility's line through protective couplers provided by applicant.

In support of its application, applicant alleges that its protective couplers will not allow its equipment to cause harm to the utility's line. Applicant contends that the certification process would be a needless expense of manpower and money and therefore, under the provisions of Section 1.8 of General Order No. 138, requests a waiver of the certification requirements.

Protests to this application were filed by the utility on June 6, 1977. The utility's protest is based on the allegation that the application fails to set forth sufficient facts about the technical adequacy of the applicant's proposed equipment and, therefore, a determination as to whether the equipment is in violation of Section 1.4 of General Order No. 138 cannot be made. The utility also contends that applicant has a pecuniary interest and therefore is in violation of Section 2.1 of General Order No. 138.

Applicant replied to the utility's protest on June 13, 1977. In its reply the applicant agreed that no presentation of technical specifications of its equipment was made and it did indeed have a pecuniary interest. However, applicant contends that the purpose of its application was to avoid certification under General Order No. 138 and therefore the utility's protest doesn't apply in this instance.

#### Discussion

We recognize that certification of the mini-computer would be unfeasible because of its technically involved design. In our opinion, the protective coupler provided by applicant, linking the mini-computer to the utility's lines should be certified. The situation facing the applicant is no different than the situation that faced the 60 equipment makers, ranging from single individuals to large manufacturers, who have been required to certify over 270 items under G.O. 138.

#### Findings and Conclusions

Based upon a review of the documents filed herein, it is clear that applicant would not suffer unduly by certifying its protective coupler. Accordingly, we conclude that application should be denied. A public hearing is not necessary.

ORDER

IT IS ORDERED that the relief requested by Application No. 57316 is denied.

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

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 9<sup>th</sup> day of AUGUST, 1977.

Robert B. Furman  
President

William J. ...  
...

Commissioners

Commissioner Vernon L. Sturgeon, being necessarily absent, did not participate in the disposition of this proceeding.

Commissioner Richard D. Gravelle, being necessarily absent, did not participate in the disposition of this proceeding.