

ORIGINAL

Decision No. 92508

DEC 16 1980

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Application of GENERAL TELEPHONE )  
COMPANY OF CALIFORNIA, a corporation, )  
for authority to increase certain )  
intrastate rates and charges for )  
telephone service. )

Application No. 59132  
(Filed November 15, 1979)

Investigation on the Commission's )  
own motion into the rates, tolls, )  
rules, charges, operations, costs, )  
separations, practices, contracts, )  
service, and facilities of GENERAL )  
TELEPHONE COMPANY OF CALIFORNIA, a )  
California corporation; and of THE )  
PACIFIC TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH )  
COMPANY, a California corporation; )  
and of all the telephone corporations )  
listed in Appendix A, attached hereto.)

OII No. 62  
(Filed December 18, 1979)

ORDER DENYING PETITION TO  
INTERVENE AND SET ASIDE SUBMISSION

On October 21, 1980 Telephone Answering Services of California (TASC) petitioned this Commission to set aside submission of the above-captioned matters to permit it to appear to contest alleged extraordinary increases in private line charges proposed by General Telephone Company of California (General).

TASC alleges that it was not provided with notice of the proposed increase as required by Section 454 of the Public Utilities Code and this Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure. TASC notes that it is the trade association which has historically represented the interests of the telephone

answering service industry, has often participated in General's rate cases, including its last general rate increase matter, and that it would have done so in the instant proceeding had it received the required notice.

According to the record, notice of the filing of the application was mailed to the Attorney General and Department of General Services of the State of California, each county in which General operates, and to all parties and appearances in A.55383 and C.9911, General's last general rate increase application. In addition, a notice, in general terms, of the proposed increases was published in newspapers of general circulation in the counties where the increases were proposed and posted in General's offices and major designated collection agencies and included as bill inserts with the regular bills for charges transmitted to its customers, all in accordance with the provisions of this Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure and the Public Utilities Code.

It is noted that notices of the requested increases were also carried as news items on radio, television, and in the newspapers.

Consequently, TASC's claim that it did not receive notice of the proposed rate increase is without merit. TASC does not allege it did not know of the proceeding, but rather that it did not know of specific rate proposals. TASC should have followed the proceeding, as it represents a specialized class of customer, and inquired about whether proposals would affect its membership.

IT IS ORDERED that the Telephone Answering Services of California's request to intervene and set aside submission of Application No. 59132 is denied.

The effective date of this order is the date hereof.  
Dated DEC 16 1980, at San Francisco, California.

John E. Byrne  
President

Robert A. Howell

Clair F. D. Smith

Commissioners

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

Commissioner Leonard M. Grimes, Jr., being necessarily absent, did not participate.