

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

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COMMISSION ADVISORY AND COMPLIANCE DIVISION
Telecommunications Branch

RESOLUTION NO. T-12073
March 23, 1988

R E S O L U T I O N

PACIFIC BELL. ORDER AUTHORIZING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF TARIFF
RATE FOR BUSY LINE VERIFY / EMERGENCY INTERRUPT SERVICE FOR
INTEREXCHANGE CARRIER

SUMMARY

Pacific Bell (Pacific) by Advice Letter No. 15351 filed on February 19, 1988 requests authority under section 454 of the PUC code to make effective tariff revisions in its Access Service Schedule 175-T charging interexchange carriers (IECs) for the Busy Line Verify/Emergency Interrupt service (herein referred as IEC BLV/EI.)

The BLV/EI service allows the end user via Pacific's Operator Assistance to check the status of a telephone line and/or interrupt a conversation in progress. The end user for the IEC BLV/EI is the IEC who requests the service on its customer's behalf. Currently, AT&T Communications of California (AT&T) is the only IEC using the service.

The delivery of the IEC BLV/EI service requires operators and facilities from both Pacific and AT&T, with Pacific performing the actual line verifying and interrupting functions. However, while AT&T charges its customers for the BLV/EI service, Pacific is not compensated for its contribution to the delivery of the service.

In its Advice Letter 15351 Pacific proposes to recover the costs of providing the IEC BLV/EI service to interexchange carriers through rates under its Access Service Schedule 175-T. This Advice Letter requires Commission approval because it proposes tariffed rate for a service previously offered free.

BACKGROUND

The IEC Busy Line Verification service checks the status of a line which can be either busy, out-of-service or off-hook. A customer in LATA "A" (Local Access and Transport Area "A"), when unsuccessful in reaching a number in LATA "B", can contact an IEC's operator to request that the called number be checked. The IEC's operator must then contact Pacific's operator that serves the called party and request the IEC BLV/EI service. Pacific's operator checks the status of the line and reports the results to the IEC's operator, who in turn reports to the inquiring customer.

The IEC Emergency Interrupt service must always be preceded by busy line verification. When advised that the called party's line is busy (i.e., not out of service or off-hook), the customer can ask that the conversation be interrupted. Pacific's operator then interrupts the conversation and requests that the called party terminates the conversation so that the calling customer can complete his/her call.

Although this Advice Letter affects the IEC BLV/EI service only, it is important to note that there are two types of BLV/EI services: exchange BLV/EI and IEC BLV/EI. The primary distinction between the two is the end user; the service provision is substantially the same for both.

The exchange BLV/EI service handles requests from exchange customers in Pacific's serving areas for BLV/EI on a line that is also within Pacific's serving areas and within the same LATA. Pacific charges the exchange customers BLV/EI rates from its Network and Exchange Services Tariff Schedule.

The IEC BLV/EI service involves requests from an IEC operator for BLV/EI on its customer's behalf. These customers are either those outside of the LATA in which the line to be verified and/or interrupted is located or those within the same LATA but whose operator services are handled by AT&T.

As a result of the Bell System divestiture in 1984, AT&T took over the Traffic Service Position System (TSPS) and provided operator services to Pacific customers. In mid-1986, Pacific installed its own Traffic Operator Position System (TOPS) and began providing certain operator services previously handled by AT&T. One of the services taken back from AT&T is BLV/EI. Since then, because no appropriate tariff exists, Pacific has been providing AT&T with the IEC BLV/EI service at no charge.

The exchange BLV/EI and IEC BLV/EI are similar services which require similar equipment and labor investments, with some minor exceptions such as billing costs. However, while Pacific charges its exchange customers for the exchange BLV/EI, it currently does not charge the IECs for the IEC BLV/EI. The provision of IEC BLV/EI incurs quantifiable costs. Pacific, therefore, should be allowed the opportunity to recover those costs through tariffed rates.

The tariff offering of BLV/EI under Pacific's Access Service Schedule 175-T will be available to interexchange carriers at the following rate:

Service *****	Rate ****
Busy Line Verify and/or Emergency Interrupt	\$0.77 per request ‡

‡ A request can either be a BLV-only request or a BLV-and-EI request. The same rate applies to both.

Pacific estimates that the tariffing of this service will increase its annual revenue by approximately \$402,000.

The Commission finds that the rates, charges and conditions authorized in this Resolution are just and reasonable and present rates, charges and conditions, as they differ from the rates, charges and conditions authorized in this Resolution are for the future unjust and unreasonable; and good cause appearing:

IT IS ORDERED that:

- (1) Effective March 31, 1988, Pacific Bell is granted the authority to offer Busy Line Verify/Emergency Interrupt service at the rates and conditions discussed supra.
- (2) All tariff sheets filed under Advice Letter No. 15351 shall be marked to show that such sheets were authorized by Resolution of the Public Utilities Commission of the State of California.

The effective date of this Resolution is today.

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was duly introduced, passed and adopted at a regular meeting of the Public Utilities Commission of State of California, held on March 23, 1988, the following Commissioners voting favorably thereon:

STANLEY W. HULETT
President
DONALD VIAL
FREDERICK R. DUDA
G. MITCHELL WILK
JOHN B. OHANIAN
Commissioners



Executive Director