

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Telecommunications Branch
Commission Advisory and Compliance Division

RESOLUTION T-14239
Date December 6, 1990

R E S O L U T I O N

RESOLUTION T-14239. ICS COMMUNICATIONS. REQUEST FOR WITHDRAWAL OF TWO-WAY MANUAL MOBILE RADIOTELEPHONE SERVICE IN THE VICTORVILLE AREA.

BY ADVICE LETTER No. 133, FILED ON NOVEMBER 13, 1990.

SUMMARY

This resolution authorizes ICS Communications (ICS/utility) to withdraw its two-way manual mobile radiotelephone service in the Victorville area. The local answering service that the utility employs to dispatch these types of calls is automating its equipment which will be incompatible with ICS's equipment and no longer be able to provide radio-dispatch service for ICS. Alternative providers exist for those affected customers who wish to continue receiving mobile telephone service. No protests were received.

BACKGROUND

ICS Communications is a radiotelecommunications utility (RTU) that provides one-way and two-way mobile radiotelephone service. The utility filed Advice Letter No. 133 to terminate its two-way manual mobile radiotelephone service in the Victorville area.

Manual mobile radio service employs the use of operators to receive and transmit radio calls between mobile radio subscribers, or between mobile radio subscribers and landline users. Radio-dispatch operators must be employed to provide 24-hours-a-day coverage.

ICS noticed the affected customers of the proposed withdrawal on October 12, 1990.

PROTESTS

No protests were received.

DISCUSSION

The answering service the utility employs for its two-way manual mobile radio subscribers is automating its equipment which will be incompatible with ICS's equipment and make them incapable of providing radio-dispatch service for ICS after December 15, 1990. In doing so, ICS will no longer be able to accommodate its manual mobile radiotelephone service subscribers.

The utility has approximately 50 subscribers of two-way manual mobile radio service, which is less than 0.05% of its total subscribers. The utility feels that it would be uneconomical and unfair to impact its remaining subscribers in order to provide an alternative service to accommodate such a small number of subscribers.

One concern that results from this proposed withdrawal of service is what happens to the customer's terminal equipment. Customer owned terminal equipment is a deregulated item and the Commission cannot enforce any measure for the utility to make any kind of compensation to each customer who is left with obsolete equipment, or who needs to replace their existing equipment in order to sign on with another mobile radio service provider.

Another concern is whether or not alternatives exist for the affected customers. The utility mentions that cellular telecommunication service providers as well as paging service providers exist in the area. This shows that the utility's proposed withdrawal of its manual mobile radio service will not leave the affected subscribers without alternatives.

FINDINGS

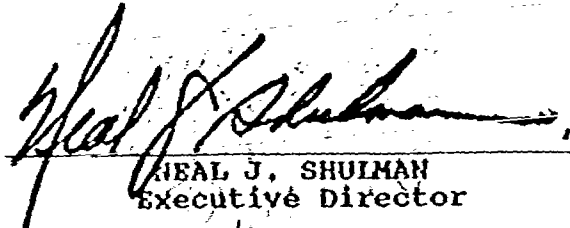
1. ICS Communications's contracted answering service is modifying its equipment and will no longer be able to provide radio-dispatch service for ICS by December 15, 1990.
3. Customer-owned terminal equipment is a deregulated item and the Commission cannot enforce any measure for the utility to make any kind of compensation to each customer who is left with obsolete equipment.
2. Viable alternatives exists for those customers who wish to continue using radio telecommunications service.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that:

Advice Letter No. 133 of ICS Communications requesting authority to withdraw its two-way manual mobile radiotelephone service in the Victorville area be made effective today.

I hereby certify that this Resolution was adopted by the Public Utilities Commission at its regular meeting on December 6, 1990. The following Commissioners approved it:

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


NEAL J. SHULMAN
Executive Director