

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
COMMISSION ADVISORY AND COMPLIANCE DIVISION RESOLUTION T-14575
Telecommunications Branch September 6, 1991

R E S O L U T I O N

RESOLUTION T-14575. PACIFIC BELL. ORDER AUTHORIZING
PACIFIC BELL TO PROVIDE CENTREX SERVICE TO MERCY
HOSPITAL UNDER A CUSTOMER SPECIFIC CONTRACT.

BY ADVICE LETTER NO. 16029, FILED ON JULY 31, 1991.

SUMMARY

Pacific Bell (Pacific), by Advice Letter No. 16029, filed on July 31, 1991 requests authority under provisions of General Order No. 96-A (G.O. 96-A) and Decision Nos. (D.) 88-09-059 and 91-01-018 to deviate from filed tariff schedules in order to provide Centrex service to Mercy Hospital (Mercy) under a customer specific contract. Mercy currently takes Centrex service under tariff.

This Resolution authorizes Pacific to provide Centrex service to Mercy under a customer specific contract. Pacific estimates the revenue impact of this filing is a decrease in annual revenue of \$13,300 for the life of the contract. No protests to the Advice Letter were filed.

BACKGROUND

In D.88-09-059 the Commission adopted a modified Phase I Settlement (hereinafter referred to as the Settlement). Under the provisions of the Settlement, the Local Exchange Companies (LECs) are allowed to provide certain services, such as Centrex service, under the terms of contracts between LECs and customers. The Settlement provides that such contracts become effective upon authorization by the Commission.

The process and requirements for filing of advice letters to request authorization of customer specific contracts are set forth in Appendix A of D.88-09-059. Additional specifications for advice letter filings requesting authorization to provide Centrex service under contract are provided in Resolution Nos. T-13091 and T-13069.

D.90-04-031 further requires that special contracts comply with the principles of unbundling, nondiscriminatory access, imputation, and basing rate structures of monopoly utility services on underlying cost structures. However, D.91-01-018 has

tempered this requirement until a further decision on this matter is issued. In the interim, LECs may file advice letters for Centrex contracts using the pricing methodology approved by the Commission in D.88-09-059.

Mercy, a Centrex customer since 1984, was exploring options to Centrex to assure a fixed price over a fixed period for its telecommunications services. Mercy asked for and accepted a contract proposal from Pacific.

The contract filed under Advice Letter No. 16029 covers the provision of Centrex service to Mercy. Centrex is a central office based communications system equipped with primary station lines capable of receiving direct in-dialed calls and capable of direct out-dialing of calls with optional features.

Under the terms of the contract, Pacific agrees to provide Centrex service (331 station lines and features at cutover) to Mercy for a period of five years at a rate of \$4,104.40 per month. Pacific indicates that Commission authorization of this contract will result in a decrease in annual revenue of \$13,300 for the life of the contract.

NOTICE/PROTESTS

Pacific states that a copy of the Advice Letter was mailed to competing and adjacent utilities and/or other utilities and to the customer named in the contract. Also the Advice Letter was listed in the Daily Calendar.

No protests have been filed on Pacific's Advice Letter No. 16029.

DISCUSSION

In reviewing Advice Letter No. 16029, we note the following.

- a. The contract contains the necessary language which conditions its approval upon Commission authorization.
- b. The Advice Letter and the contract are public documents.
- c. Pacific requests in the Advice Letter that the workpapers and supporting cost documentation associated with the contract be treated as confidential.
- d. Pacific has offered the parties to the Phase I Settlement in I.87-11-033 the opportunity to receive and review the workpapers and supporting documentation associated with the contract if such a party (Division of Ratepayer Advocates excepted from this requirement) first enters into a protective agreement.
- e. The contract provides for the offering of Centrex service which is an appropriate service for offering under a contractual arrangement.

f. The rates and charges set forth in the contract cover the direct embedded cost of providing the Centrex service offered under the terms of the contract.

g. The monthly rate per line, excluding nonrecurring charges, for Centrex service under the terms of the contract is greater than the sum of the present one-party business measured service rate and the multi-line End User Common Line charge per month per line (1MB+EUCL).

h. The Advice Letter indicates that the costs and revenues associated with the contract will be tracked.

i. A contract is required in this case because the customer requires a fixed price contract that is competitive with PBX alternatives; this requirement cannot be met by the Centrex service available under Pacific's present tariff.

j. Pacific has offered to provide the customer deaveraged PBX trunk rates under contract, at rates determined by the same cost methodology used to determine the contract Centrex line rate.

We conclude that the Advice Letter meets the requirements set forth in the previously mentioned Commission orders and G.O. 96-A, and should be approved. However, we must emphasize that our approval is based on the specifics of the Advice Letter and the associated contract, and does not establish a precedent for the contents or for Commission approval of similar requests.

FINDINGS

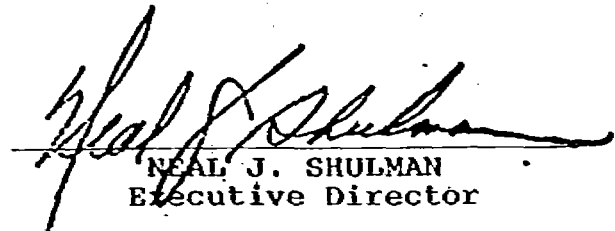
1. Pacific Bell filed Advice Letter No. 16029 on July 31, 1991 requesting Commission authorization to provide Centrex service to Mercy under a customer specific contract.
2. The Advice Letter and the contract conform to the requirements of Decision Nos. 88-09-059 and 91-01-018, Resolution Nos. T-13069 and T-13091, and G.O. 96-A.
3. Authorization of the Mercy contract will result in an estimated decrease in Pacific's annual revenue of \$13,300 for the for the life of the contract.
4. Commission authorization of the Advice Letter and the contract does not establish a precedent for the contents of the filing, or the Commission approval of similar requests. Commission approval is based on the specifics of the Mercy contract.
5. The rates, charges, terms and conditions of the Centrex contractual service in this Resolution are just and reasonable.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that:

1. Authority is granted to make Advice Letter No. 16029 and the contract between Pacific Bell and Mercy Hospital effective on September 7, 1991.
2. The Advice Letter, tariff sheets and contract authorized herein shall be marked to show that they were authorized under Resolution of the Public Utilities Commission of the State of California No. T-14575.

The effective date of this Resolution is today.

I certify that this Resolution was adopted by the Public Utilities Commission at its regular meeting on September 6, 1991. The following Commissioners approved it:



NEAL J. SHULMAN
Executive Director

I abstain.

G. MITCHELL WILK
Commissioner

PATRICIA M. ECKERT
President
JOHN B. OHANIAN
DANIEL WM. FESSLER
NORMAN D. SHANNAY
Commissioners