

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Commission Advisory and Compliance Division
Telecommunications Branch

RESOLUTION T-14975
June 10, 1992

R E S O L U T I O N

RESOLUTION T-14975. CONTEL CELLULAR OF CALIFORNIA-RSA NO. 6 AND FRESNO MSA LIMITED PARTNERSHIP. EXECUTIVE ORDER CONCERNING REQUEST TO WITHDRAW A CELLULAR TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICE PLAN.

BY ADVICE LETTER NO. 25, FILED ON MAY 7, 1992 BY CONTEL CELLULAR OF CALIFORNIA-RSA NO. 6 AND ADVICE LETTER NO. 48, FILED ON MAY 7, 1992 BY FRESNO MSA LIMITED PARTNERSHIP.

SUMMARY

This Resolution authorizes Contel Cellular of California-RSA No. 6 and Fresno MSA Limited Partnership to withdraw the High Volume Discount Plans from their existing service plan offerings. There are no customers for these service plans. Potential customers can choose from the two utilities' other available plans or choose another cellular telecommunications provider in their respective areas. There were no protests to the advice letters.

BACKGROUND

Contel Cellular of California-RSA No. 6 (Contel) and Fresno MSA Limited Partnership (Fresno MSA) are facilities-based cellular telecommunications utilities. Contel operates in Mono and Inyo Counties. Fresno MSA operates in Fresno, Tulare, Kern, and Kings Counties. On May 7, 1992, Contel and Fresno MSA filed their respective Advice Letter Nos. 25 and 48 to withdraw the High Volume Discount Plans from their existing service plan offerings. These service plans were designed for high usage customers.

Contel and Fresno MSA recently introduced a variety of plans designed for both low usage and high usage customers. These plans are the Security, Executive, VIP, and Multi-Line Rate Plans. Contel and Fresno MSA hope to attract high usage customers with their new service plans.

NOTICE/PROTESTS

Public notice of Contel's Advice Letter No. 25 and Fresno MSA's Advice Letter No. 48 was made by publication in the Commission's Daily Calendar of May 13, 1992. Also, pursuant to General Order No. 96-A, Section III, Paragraph 6, the utilities mailed copies of their respective advice letters to other utilities and to all interested parties requesting notification. No protests were received.

DISCUSSION

Contel and Fresno MSA indicate that there have never been any customers for their respective High Volume Discount Plans, and no requests or applications have been received for these service plans. Accordingly, the utilities' requests for authority to withdraw these service plans will not affect any of the utilities' customers nor the utilities' revenues or expenses.

One of this Commission's concerns with any service withdrawal is the availability of alternative service to current or potential customers. Contel and Fresno MSA recently began offering a variety of plans to meet the needs of low usage and high usage customers. By introducing a variety of high usage plans, Contel and Fresno MSA hope to be able to offer more alternatives for their customers. The customers of Contel and Fresno MSA can choose from the utilities' other available plans or choose another cellular provider.

Commission Resolution T-9597, dated March 22, 1977, authorized the Executive Director to grant a utility's request to withdraw services for which there are no customers or for which there are no requests or applications.

FINDINGS

1. Contel has no customers or requests for its High Volume Discount Plan.
2. Fresno MSA has no customers or requests for its High Volume Discount Plan.
3. The withdrawal of this service plan will not affect the utilities' revenues or expenses.
4. Potential customers of Contel and Fresno MSA can choose from the utilities' other available plans or choose another cellular provider.

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5. Pursuant to Resolution T-9597, dated March 22, 1977, the Executive Director is authorized to grant a utility's request to withdraw services for which there are no customers or for which there are no requests or applications.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that:

1. Contel Cellular of California, Inc.-RSA No. 6 is granted authority to withdraw its High Volume Discount Plan as requested in its Advice Letter No. 25. This authority shall become effective on the effective date of this Resolution.

2. Fresno MSA Limited Partnership is granted authority to withdraw its High Volume Discount Plan as requested in its Advice Letter No. 48. This authority shall become effective on the effective date of this Resolution.

The effective date of this Resolution is June 10, 1992.

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NEAL J. SHULMAN
Executive Director