

P-421, 405, 407, 430, 426, 520, 427/CI-87-76 REQUIRING THE FILING OF TRAFFIC STUDIES  
AND GRANTING

BEFORE THE MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Darrel L. Peterson	Chair
Cynthia A. Kitlinski	Commissioner
Norma McKanna	Commissioner
Robert J. O'Keefe	Commissioner
Patrice Vick	Commissioner

In the Matter of the Petitions of Certain Subscribers in the Exchanges of Zimmerman, Prescott, Waconia, Belle Plaine, North Branch, Lindstrom, New Prague, Cambridge, Hudson, Houlton, LeSueur, Cannon Falls, Delano, Northfield, Buffalo, and Watertown for Extended Area Service to the Minneapolis/St. Paul Metropolitan Calling Area

ISSUE DATE: August 20, 1990

DOCKET NO. P-421, 405, 407, 430, 426, 520, 427/CI-87-76

ORDER REQUIRING THE FILING OF TRAFFIC STUDIES AND GRANTING TIME EXTENSION

**PROCEDURAL HISTORY**

On June 26, 1990, the Commission issued its ORDER AFTER RECONSIDERATION OF JUNE 20, 1989 ORDER IN LIGHT OF MINNESOTA STATUTE § 237.161 (1990).

On July 13, 1990, US West filed a letter indicating that it did not have the necessary information to enable it to provide a traffic study adequate to enable the Commission to determine whether at least 50 percent of the subscribers in the Northfield exchange make one or more calls per month to the metro calling area. US West indicated that the interexchange carriers (IXCs) serving the Northfield exchange could provide this information.

On July 27, 1990, US WEST filed a letter requesting an extension of time to file cost studies and proposed rates as required by the Commission's June 26, 1990 Order for the exchanges of Belle Plaine, Lindstrom, New Prague, Waconia, Watertown and Zimmerman. US West also indicated that it needed to receive point-to-point traffic information for Cannon Falls to the metro calling area and the metro calling area to Cannon Falls from the IXCs serving the Cannon Falls exchange in order to complete its cost studies for the Cannon Falls petition.

On July 31, 1990, the Minnesota Telephone Association's (MTA) EAS Committee filed a letter indicating that the local exchange companies (LECs) serving Cannon Falls and the metro calling area needed point-to-point traffic information for Cannon Falls to the metro calling area and the metro calling area to Cannon Falls from the IXCs serving the Cannon Falls exchange and the metro calling area in order to complete their cost studies for the Cannon Falls petition.

On July 31, 1990, the Commission received petitions from Contel of Minnesota, Inc. (Contel), Central Telephone Company (Central), Eckles Telephone Company (Eckles), and Sherburne County Rural Telephone Company (Sherburne) requesting a 45 day extension for filing cost studies and proposed rates required by the Commission's June 26, 1990 Order.

On August 6, 1990, the Commission received a request from United Telephone Company (United) for a 60 day extension to file the cost studies and proposed rates required by the June 26, 1990 Order.

On August 7, 1990, the Commission met to consider these matters.

## **FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS**

### Traffic Studies

Northfield: In its June 26, 1990 Order, the Commission directed US West to provide the Commission with a traffic study regarding the Northfield exchange. Through this study the Commission sought adequate information to enable it to determine whether at least 50 percent of the subscribers in the Northfield exchange make one or more calls per month to the metro calling area. See Minn. Stat. § 237.161, subd. 1(a)(3) (1990). Based upon information from US West, it appears that US West does not have all the information needed to fully inform the Commission on this point but that the IXCs serving the Northfield exchange could provide this information. Therefore, the Commission will require the IXCs serving the Northfield exchange to file the requisite traffic information with the Commission within 60 days of the date of this order.

Cannon Falls: The Commission's June 26, 1990 Order directed the local exchange company (LEC) serving the Cannon Falls exchange, Contel, and each of the LECs serving the existing metro calling area (US West, Contel, Central, United, and Scott-Rice Telephone Company) to file cost studies and proposed rates regarding EAS between Cannon Falls and the metro calling area. It now appears that these companies will need point-to-point traffic information for calls from Cannon Falls to the metro calling area and from the metro calling area to Cannon Falls in order to complete their cost studies for the Cannon Falls petition. The LECs in question do not have this information, but the IXCs serving Cannon Falls and the metro calling area do. To facilitate the filing of complete and accurate cost studies in connection with the Cannon Falls petition, the Commission will direct the IXCs serving the Cannon Falls exchange and the metro calling area to file the point-to-point traffic information with the Commission and serve copies on the affected LECs within 120 days of the date of this Order. The affected LECs will then be required to file cost studies and proposed rates regarding EAS for Cannon Falls within 45 days of the date the IXCs file their traffic studies.

### Time Extension

Under the Commission's June 26, 1990 Order, cost studies were due from the LECs serving the Belle

Plaine, Lindstrom, New Prague, Waconia, Watertown and Zimmerman exchanges and the LECs serving the existing metro calling area on August 10, 1990. In light of the complex and time consuming nature of these studies, the Commission will grant the companies' requests for a 45 day extension to file these studies and proposed rates. The studies and proposed rates will be due September 24, 1990.

### **ORDER**

1. Within 60 days of the date of this Order, the interexchange carriers (IXCs) serving the Northfield exchange are hereby directed to file traffic information with the Commission necessary to allow the Commission to determine whether at least 50 percent of the subscribers in the Northfield area are making one or more calls per month to the metro calling area.
2. Within 120 days of the date of this Order, the interexchange carriers (IXCs) serving the Cannon Falls exchange and the IXCs serving the metro calling area are hereby directed to file point-to-point traffic studies for traffic between Cannon Falls and the metro calling area with the Commission and serve copies of those traffic studies upon the affected local exchange carriers, i.e. the LEC serving the Cannon Falls exchange, Contel, and each of the LECs serving the existing metro calling area: US West, Contel, Central, United, and Scott-Rice Telephone Company.

3. Within 45 days of the filing of the traffic studies required by Ordering Paragraph 2, the affected local exchange carriers identified in Ordering Paragraph 2 shall file cost studies and proposed rates for EAS between Cannon Falls and the metro calling area.
4. Time extensions for filing cost studies and proposed rates are hereby granted to US West, Contel of Minnesota, Inc. (Contel), United Telephone Company (United), Central Telephone Company (Central), Eckles Telephone Company (Eckles), Scott-Rice Telephone Company (Scott-Rice) and Sherburne County Rural Telephone Company (Sherburne). The companies shall file their cost studies and proposed rates by September 24, 1990.
5. This Order shall become effective immediately.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

Richard R. Lancaster  
Executive Secretary

(S E A L)