

P-415, 421/CP-92-1010 ORDER DETERMINING ADJACENCY AND TRAFFIC
VOLUME AND REQUIRING FURTHER FILINGS

BEFORE THE MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Don Storm	Chair
Tom Burton	Commissioner
Cynthia A. Kitlinski	Commissioner
Dee Knaak	Commissioner
Norma McKanna	Commissioner

In the Matter of a Petition for
Extended Area Service from
Kimball to St. Cloud

ISSUE DATE: March 2, 1993

DOCKET NO. P-415, 421/CP-92-1010

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TRAFFIC VOLUME AND REQUIRING
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PROCEDURAL HISTORY

On August 19, 1992, subscribers in the Kimball exchange filed a petition for extended area service (EAS) to the St. Cloud exchange. Kimball is served by the Melrose Telephone Company (Melrose); St. Cloud is served by US WEST Communications, Inc. (US WEST).

On January 25, 1993, Melrose submitted a study of the traffic between Kimball and St. Cloud.

The Commission met to consider the EAS petition on February 23, 1993.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

Minn. Stat. § 237.161 states three criteria for a successful EAS petition:

1. The petitioning exchange is contiguous to an exchange or local calling area to which extended area service is requested in the petition;
2. At least 50 percent of the customers in the petitioning exchange make one or more calls per month to the exchange or local calling area to which extended area service is requested, as determined by a traffic study; and
3. Polling by the Commission shows that a majority of the customers responding to a poll in the petitioning exchange

favor its installation, unless all parties and the Commission agree that no polling is necessary.

In this case, the proposed EAS route has met the first two statutory criteria. The Kimball exchange shares a common boundary with the St. Cloud exchange; the two exchanges are therefore contiguous and meet the first statutory criterion.

The traffic study submitted by Melrose shows that in each of the three months studied, more than 80% of the subscribers in Kimball placed one or more calls to St. Cloud. The second statutory criterion is therefore fulfilled.

A poll of Kimball subscribers is necessary to determine if the third statutory criterion will be fulfilled. In order to provide the data necessary for Kimball subscribers to make an informed decision, the Commission will order Melrose and US WEST to provide cost studies and proposed rates for the Kimball/St. Cloud route. The cost studies should be consistent with those approved in prior Commission decisions concerning non-metropolitan area EAS routes.

ORDER

1. Within 60 days of the date of this Order, Melrose and US WEST shall file cost studies and proposed rates for the proposed Kimball/St. Cloud EAS route. The proposed rates shall contain alternatives showing the petitioning exchange bearing 75%, 60% and 50% of the EAS revenue requirement.
2. Within 45 days of the filing of the above cost studies and proposed rates, the Department of Public Service shall file a report and recommendation. If the Department recommends any changes to the cost studies or proposed rates, the Department shall file new proposed rates showing alternative allocations of 75%, 60% and 50% to the petitioning exchange.
3. Parties who wish to respond to the Department's report shall do so within 20 days of its filing.
4. This Order shall become effective immediately.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

Richard R. Lancaster
Executive Secretary

(S E A L)