

P-542, 421, 430, 407, 405, 520/CP-92-30 ORDER REQUIRING TRAFFIC STUDIES

BEFORE THE MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Don Storm
Tom Burton
Cynthia A. Kitlinski
Dee Knaak

Chair
Commissioner
Commissioner
Commissioner

In the Matter of a Petition for
Extended Area Service from the
Lonsdale Exchange to the
Minneapolis/St. Paul
Metropolitan Calling Area

ISSUE DATE: August 10, 1993
DOCKET NO. P-542, 421, 430, 407,
405, 520/CP-92-30
ORDER REQUIRING TRAFFIC STUDIES

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

On January 13, 1992, subscribers in the Lonsdale exchange filed a petition for extended area service (EAS) to the Minneapolis/St. Paul Metropolitan Calling Area (the MCA). This petition involves an interLATA EAS route.

On January 21, 1992, the Department of Public Service recommended that Lonsdale Telephone Company (Lonsdale) file traffic data for the proposed route. Lonsdale serves the Lonsdale exchange.

Lonsdale was aware that in another docket parties were developing a reliable and uniform traffic study methodology to be used for interLATA petitions. Lonsdale therefore informed the Commission that it would delay filing its traffic study until a generally accepted methodology had been developed.

On November 6, 1992, the Commission approved a traffic study methodology for interLATA EAS petitions in its ORDER APPROVING TRAFFIC STUDY METHODOLOGY AND REQUIRING FURTHER FILINGS. Docket No. P-401/CP-89-951.

On August 3, 1993, the Commission met to consider requiring Lonsdale to file a traffic study.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

The Lonsdale exchange is contiguous with the MCA; the petition has therefore met the adjacency requirement of the EAS statute, Minn. Stat. § 237.161. The petitioners must next meet the traffic requirement of the EAS statute by showing that at least

50 percent of exchange subscribers place one or more calls per month to the MCA. The Commission will therefore order Lonsdale to submit a traffic study to determine this factor in the EAS process. Because an approved interLATA traffic study methodology has been determined, Lonsdale should not encounter particular difficulty in developing the study. Lonsdale's traffic study should provide more than one month's data if it is available. If possible, up to one year's worth of monthly traffic data should be filed by Lonsdale.

Upon review of the filed traffic study, the Commission will determine if the traffic criterion has been met and the petition process should proceed to polling.

ORDER

1. Within 45 days of the date of this Order, Lonsdale Telephone Company shall file a traffic study consistent with the requirements of this Order.
2. This Order shall become effective immediately.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

Richard R. Lancaster
Executive Secretary

(S E A L)