

P-407, 421, 520, 426, 430, 405/CP-93-615 ORDER SETTING  
STIMULATION FACTOR AND GRANTING TIME EXTENSION

BEFORE THE MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Don Storm	Chair
Tom Burton	Commissioner
Marshall Johnson	Commissioner
Cynthia A. Kitlinski	Commissioner
Dee Knaak	Commissioner

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

ISSUE DATE: February 7, 1994

DOCKET NO. P-407, 421, 520, 426,  
430, 405/CP-93-615

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**PROCEDURAL HISTORY**

On June 26, 1991, the Commission issued its ORDER CERTIFYING ELECTION RESULTS, DIRECTING INSTALLATION OF EXTENDED AREA SERVICE IN CERTAIN EXCHANGES, REQUIRING IMPLEMENTATION PLANS, AND CLOSING CERTAIN DOCKETS. In that Order the Commission closed a Mayer extended area service (EAS) proceeding because polling of Mayer customers had not shown a majority in favor of EAS. Docket No. P-407, 421, 430, 405, 426/CP-88-839.

Minn. Rules, part 7815.1500 states that the Commission may not consider an EAS petition sooner than two years after denial of a previous petition. On July 6, 1993, more than two years after the Order closing the previous Mayer EAS docket was issued, the City of Mayer filed a second petition for EAS to the Minneapolis/St. Paul calling area (the MCA).

On October 18, 1993, the Commission issued its ORDER REQUIRING COST STUDIES AND PROPOSED RATES in the above-captioned docket. The Commission ordered GTE, which serves Mayer, and the telephone companies serving the MCA to file cost studies and proposed rates within 75 days of the Order. The Commission also established timeframes for filings by the Department of Public Service (the Department) and any additional commenting parties.

In December, 1993, GTE and US WEST Communications, Inc. (US WEST) requested 45-day time extensions in which to file their cost studies and proposed rates. The companies also requested that the Commission establish a stimulation factor of 4.0 for the cost studies.

The matter came before the Commission on February 1, 1994.

## FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

In recent decisions<sup>1</sup> the Commission has found that 4.0 is a reasonable stimulation factor for EAS petitions to the MCA. The Commission finds that the facts in this case are sufficiently similar to the aforementioned cases to render a 4.0 stimulation factor reasonable. The Commission accepts the companies' proposal to include a stimulation factor of 4.0 in their data.

The Commission finds that the companies' requests for time extensions are reasonable and should be granted. The additional time should allow the companies to apply the stimulation factor set in this Order. No party will be prejudiced by the delay. The Commission will grant the requests for time extensions, and will reestablish the time frames from the October 18, 1993 Order accordingly.

## ORDER

1. Within 45 days of the date of this Order, GTE and the companies serving the MCA shall file their cost studies and proposed rates, using a stimulation factor of 4.0 and the parameters established in the October 18, 1993 Order. GTE shall also file its proposed lower priced alternative within 45 days of this Order.
2. Within 45 days of the filing of the above cost studies, the Department shall file its report and recommendations. Any party wishing to file comments regarding the Department's report shall do so within 20 days of its filing.
3. This Order shall become effective immediately.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

Burl W. Haar  
Executive Secretary

(S E A L)

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<sup>1</sup> In the Matter of the Petitions of Belle Plaine, Cologne, New Prague and Waconia for Extended Area Service to the Minneapolis/St. Paul Metropolitan Calling Area, Docket Nos. P-405, 421/CP-86-55; P-407 et al./CI-90-441; P-520, 421/CP-86-537; P-430, 421/CP-86-5, ORDERS APPROVING STIMULATION FACTOR FOR SETTLE UP FILING (January 27, 1994).