

P-404, 421, 405, 407, 427, 430, 426, 520/CP-92-287 ORDER REQUIRING TRAFFIC STUDIES

BEFORE THE MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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

Chair
Commissioner
Commissioner
Commissioner
Commissioner

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

ISSUE DATE: July 18, 1994

DOCKET NO. P-404, 421, 405, 407, 427, 430, 426, 520/CP-92-287

ORDER REQUIRING TRAFFIC STUDIES

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

On April 9, 1992 customers in Bridge Water Telephone Company's Enfield exchange filed a petition for Extended Area Service (EAS) to the Minneapolis/St. Paul metropolitan calling area. The Commission deferred action on the petition because Enfield's eligibility for EAS depended upon whether a neighboring exchange (Monticello) became part of the metropolitan calling area.¹

On June 28, 1994 Monticello became part of the metropolitan calling area. Enfield's petition came before the Commission on July 5, 1994.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

The EAS statute sets three requirements for granting an EAS petition:

- (1) The petitioning exchange must be contiguous to the exchange or local calling area to which it seeks EAS;
- (2) Traffic studies must show that at least 50% of the customers in the petitioning exchange make at least one call each month to the exchange or local calling area to which EAS is sought;
- (3) A majority of customers responding to a Commission poll of the petitioning exchange must vote in favor of EAS.

Minn. Stat. § 237.161, subd. 1 (1992).

Enfield's petition meets the first requirement, contiguity. Before incurring the expense of polling, the Commission will require traffic studies to determine whether Enfield meets the

¹ The EAS statute limits Extended Area Service to exchanges or calling areas that are contiguous. Minn. Stat. § 237.161, subd. 1 (1992). Enfield would be contiguous to the metropolitan calling area only if Monticello, which had an EAS petition pending, were added to it.

traffic requirement. If it does, the Commission will proceed to polling.

ORDER

1. Within 45 days of the date of this Order, Bridge Water Telephone Company shall file traffic studies showing the percentage of Enfield customers who make one or more calls per month to the metropolitan calling area.
2. The traffic studies required in paragraph 1 shall cover at least six months, and if possible twelve months, of calling activity.
3. This Order shall become effective immediately.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

Burl W. Haar
Executive Secretary

(S E A L)