

BEFORE THE MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Gregory Scott	Chair
Edward A. Garvey	Commissioner
Marshall Johnson	Commissioner
LeRoy Koppendrayner	Commissioner
Phyllis A. Reha	Commissioner

In the Matter of a Petition for Extended Area
Service from the Argyle Exchange to the
Stephen and Warren Exchanges

ISSUE DATE: June 6, 2002

DOCKET NO. P-407/CP-97-1582

ORDER ESTABLISHING RATES FOR
POLLING

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

On October 27, 1997, telephone subscribers in the Argyle exchange filed a petition seeking extended area service (EAS) to the Warren and Stephen exchanges. Argyle, the petitioning exchange, and Warren and Stephen, the petitioned exchanges, are all served by Citizens.

On December 18, 1997, Citizens Telecommunications Company (Citizens, then known as GTE) filed a traffic study showing that the Argyle-Warren portion of the petition satisfied the familiar traffic criterion, while the Argyle-Stephen portion of the petition failed the traffic test.

On June 18, 1999, the Commission issued its *Order Requiring Cost Studies and Proposed Rates*. In that Order, the Commission denied the Argyle-Stephen portion of the petition and ordered the cost studies and proposed rates for the Argyle-Warren portion of the petition.

On August 17, 1999, Citizens filed its cost studies and proposed rates.

On June 23, 2000, the Minnesota Department of Commerce (the Department) filed its comments.

On November 21, 2001, in light of the implausibility of the EAS rates proposed by the parties, the Commission issued a Notice soliciting revised cost studies and proposed EAS rates for Argyle and Warren.

On January 17, 2002, Citizens filed revised cost studies and proposed EAS rates.

On March 22, 2002, the Department filed comments accepting the Citizens' cost estimates and proposed EAS rates.

The Commission met on May 2, 2002 to consider this matter.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

Citizens proposed EAS rates as follows:

EAS Rates for Polling Argyle Exchange			
Service	Facilities-Based EAS Rate	Lost Access Recovery	Monthly EAS Rate
Residence	\$0.280	\$1.236	\$1.516
Business	\$0.560	\$2.472	\$3.032

EAS Rates for Warren Exchange			
Service	Facilities-Based EAS Rate	Lost Access Recovery	Monthly EAS Rate
Residence	\$0.086	\$0.372	\$0.458
Business	\$0.172	\$0.744	\$0.916

Citizens and the Department agreed that Citizens' cost studies and proposed EAS rates are in compliance with the various Commission directives. The Commission has also reviewed the Company's cost studies and proposed EAS rates and finds them acceptable.

Accordingly, the Commission will adopt the rates proposed by Citizens and impose other customary requirements as set forth in the Ordering Paragraphs.

ORDER

1. The Commission hereby adopts the following EAS rates for polling Argyle subscribers:

EAS Rates for Polling Argyle Exchange			
Service	Facilities-Based EAS Rate	Lost Access Recovery	Monthly EAS Rate
Residence	\$0.280	\$1.236	\$1.516
Business	\$0.560	\$2.472	\$3.032

2. The Commission hereby adopts the following EAS rates for the petitioned exchange, Warren:

EAS Rates for Warren Exchange			
Service	Facilities-Based EAS Rate	Lost Access Recovery	Monthly EAS Rate
Residence	\$0.086	\$0.372	\$0.458
Business	\$0.172	\$0.744	\$0.916

3. Citizens shall provide a single EAS number which reflects both the facilities cost and lost access and EAS revenues in customers' monthly bills, if the proposed EAS is implemented.
4. The balloting materials and Citizens' tariffs shall itemize EAS rate additives so as to indicate the portion of the EAS rate additive that recovers facilities cost and the portion that recovers lost access revenue and/or lost toll contribution.
5. Citizens shall provide cooperation and assistance to the Commission staff and Commission contractors during the polling process by providing usable, deliverable addresses for all access lines in a format and under time frames set by the Commission staff. In addition, the affected telephone companies shall provide proof of the accuracy of customer lists as requested by the Commission staff.
6. This Order shall become effective immediately.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

Burl W. Haar
Executive Secretary

(S E A L)

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