

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
BEFORE THE UTILITY REGULATORY COMMISSION

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In the Matter of

PETITION OF RESIDENTS OF FINCHVILLE,)
KENTUCKY, REQUESTING A SURVEY TO)
DETERMINE THE NEED FOR EXTENDED AREA) CASE NO. 7424
TELEPHONE SERVICE BETWEEN FINCHVILLE)
AND LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY.)

O R D E R

On March 16, 1979, the Commission received a letter from Mrs. Michael D. Spink, Finchville, Kentucky, and an accompanying petition concerning the establishment of Extended Area Telephone Service (EAS) between Finchville, Kentucky, and Louisville, Kentucky. Both Finchville and Louisville are served by South Central Bell Telephone Company (Bell).

After considering the letter and petition, and being advised, the Commission on April 12, 1979, Ordered that Bell conduct a one month traffic study with respect to the toll calling patterns between Finchville, Kentucky, and Louisville, Kentucky. Subsequently, on May 31, 1979, Bell filed the results of its toll traffic study.

After receiving the traffic study results, the Commission, by Order dated October 1, 1979, directed Bell to send out a survey and letter of explanation to all subscriber accounts served by its Finchville Exchange. The form of survey and letter of explanation was prescribed in the Order of October 1, 1979, and was designed to determine Finchville subscribers' interest in and willingness to pay their share of the costs for the requested EAS, and additionally to offer Finchville subscribers the option of a one-way EAS Plan from Finchville to Louisville, with the Finchville subscribers paying the entire cost of such service. This survey was completed and the results were tabulated and confirmed by letter of the Secretary of the Commission, dated January 4, 1980, to the petition leader, Mrs. Michael D. Spink.

Subsequently, by Order dated November 25, 1980, the matter was

set for public hearing on December 17, 1980, at 10:00 a.m., Eastern Standard Time, in the Commission's offices at Frankfort, Kentucky, for the purpose of granting petitioners the opportunity to demonstrate to the Commission why this matter should be pursued, in view of the low calling activity from Louisville to Finchville as indicated by the toll traffic studies. Bell was also Ordered to appear at the hearing and offer testimony with respect to the toll traffic study results and further to respond to questions relative to the matter. The hearing was held as scheduled and all parties of interest were given the opportunity to be heard.

The Commission, after consideration of this matter, including the public hearing and all correspondence of record, and being advised, is of the opinion and FINDS that:

1) The toll traffic studies which were conducted show considerable calling activity from Finchville to Louisville, but only minimal calling activity from Louisville to Finchville. In fact, the studies indicate that Louisville subscribers average only (0.008) calls per subscriber into Finchville during the one month study period;

2) At the public hearing of December 17, 1980, evidence of interest in calling from Finchville to Louisville was introduced, but no demonstration of calling interest from Louisville into Finchville was shown;

3) Neither petitioners nor the toll traffic studies have demonstrated a two-way community of interest which must be shown to justify further consideration of this matter, and therefore this case should be dismissed;

4) Optional Calling Plans are available which will allow special rates for those Finchville subscribers desiring to call Louisville.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the petition for Extended Area Telephone Service (EAS) between Finchville and Louisville be and it hereby is denied.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that within thirty (30) days of the date of this Order, South Central Bell Telephone Company shall inform its Finchville subscribers via the use of bill inserts of the availability, conditions, and rates of the approved Optional Calling Plans.

Done at Frankfort, Kentucky, this 23rd day of January, 1981.

UTILITY REGULATORY COMMISSION

Katharine Randall

Chairman

Johns. Hoffmann

Vice Chairman

Mary Kay Oaker

Commissioner

ATTEST:

Secretary