

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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In the Matter of

THE PETITION OF SOME RESIDENTS)
OF BUTLER AND FALMOUTH IN PENDLETON)
COUNTY, KENTUCKY, FOR EXTENDED AREA)
TELEPHONE SERVICE (EAS) TO THE) CASE NO. 8110
EXCHANGES OF ALEXANDRIA, KENTUCKY)
METROPOLITAN, INDEPENDENCE, AND)
CINCINNATI, OHIO)

O R D E R

On October 16, 1980, a petition was filed with the Commission wherein some residents of Butler and Falmouth in Pendleton County, Kentucky, requested Extended Area Telephone Service (EAS) with the exchanges of Alexandria, Kentucky Metropolitan, Independence, and Cincinnati, Ohio. All exchanges are served by Cincinnati Bell Telephone Company (Bell). By Order in this matter dated December 30, 1980, the petition was made subject to the general provisions of the Commission's EAS Guidelines, as adopted in Administrative Case No. 221, dated October 31, 1980. Additionally, Bell was ordered to provide its response to the subject petition within thirty (30) days of the date of that Order, in accordance with the provisions of Step (1) of the Commission's EAS Guidelines. On January 30, 1981, Bell filed its response with the Commission.

Bell stated in its response that the requested establishment of non-optional two-way EAS cannot be justified, and that any requirement by the Commission that the Company institute such

service would be unreasonable. Bell also filed toll traffic information in accordance with Step (3) of the Commission's EAS Guidelines.

The traffic data submitted were based on a toll traffic study conducted in July 1979 and updated through the use of statistical sampling techniques for the period January 1980 through June 1980. The results of these studies indicate that the calling rates and calling distributions fall significantly below the minimum criteria established in Step No. (3) of the Commission's EAS Guidelines, with the exception of the calling rate established from Butler to Kentucky Metropolitan, which shows an average of 4.33 calls per main station into Kentucky Metropolitan during the study period.

The Commission, after considering this matter, including all correspondence of record, and being advised, is of the opinion and finds that:

1) Step No. (1) of the Commission's EAS Guidelines has been completed in that Bell has provided its initial response to the subject petition;

2) Under the EAS Guideline provisions, Step No. (2) would be to require petitioners to gather signatures from interested subscribers in both the desiring and desired exchanges, the purpose of which is to determine whether a 2-way community of interest exists before ordering expensive toll traffic studies;

3) Since Bell has already submitted toll traffic study results in accordance with Step No. (3), there is no need to require petitioners to undertake the signature gathering process outlined in Step No. (2) of the Guidelines, and therefore this matter should proceed to Step No. (4) of the Guidelines; and

4) In accordance with Step No. (4) of the Commission's EAS Guidelines, a public hearing should be held in this matter, at which time petitioners should be given the opportunity to present to the Commission testimony as to why this matter should be pursued, in light of the low calling activity as demonstrated by the toll traffic studies which have been filed.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that a public hearing in this matter be and it hereby is scheduled for Thursday, May 7, 1981, at 10:00 a.m., Eastern Daylight Time, in the Commission's offices at Frankfort, Kentucky.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that representatives of Cincinnati Bell Telephone Company shall be present at this hearing for the purpose of presenting testimony and answering questions relative to this matter.

Done at Frankfort, Kentucky, this 27th day of March, 1981.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Marlin M. Vohs
Chairman

Katherine Randall
Vice Chairman

Don Savage
Commissioner

ATTEST;

Secretary