

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

BEFORE THE UTILITY REGULATORY COMMISSION

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In the Matter of

THE APPLICATION OF THACKER-GRIGSBY )  
TELEPHONE COMPANY FOR AUTHORITY TO )  
CONVERT EXISTING PARTY-LINE SUB- ) CASE NO. 7886  
SCRIBERS IN THE TOPMOST EXCHANGE )  
TO ONE-PARTY SERVICE )

O R D E R

On May 13, 1980, Thacker-Grigsby Telephone Company, Inc. (Applicant), filed with the Commission a letter requesting authority to convert ten (10) existing party-line subscribers in the Topmost Exchange to one-party. These customers are presently served by "farmer-lines" from the Wayland Exchange of South Central Bell Telephone Company (Bell). The Commission has previously received letters from some of those subscribers wherein they state their desire to keep their party-line service from Wayland, since this service provides extended-area calling (EAS) with the Prestonsburg Exchange of Bell, and this EAS would not be available with Topmost service.

The matter was set for hearing on July 14, 1980, at 1:30 p.m., Eastern Daylight Time, in the Commission's offices at Frankfort, Kentucky. The hearing was held as scheduled and all parties of interest were given the opportunity to be heard. The potentially affected party-line customers, as well as other customers and potential customers desiring service from the Wayland Exchange, were represented by attorney at the hearing.

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

(1) In Case No. 6911, dated February 21, 1978, Applicant was granted authority by the Commission to upgrade all telephone service in Applicant's operating territory to one-party service;

(2) All subscribers in Applicant's Topmost Exchange have been converted to one-party service, with the exception of the ten (10) subject subscribers who receive their dial tone from Bell's switching center at Wayland, Kentucky;

(3) The testimony in this case clearly shows that Applicant is incurring a financial loss in serving the ten (10) "farmer-line" subscribers, not only due to the charges which are paid to Bell for providing switching service and dial-tone, but also due to the loss in toll revenues because of the EAS available through the Wayland Exchange;

(4) Bell is upgrading the Wayland Exchange to one-and two-party service by December 31, 1980, and the two (2) four-party lines will in any event no longer be able to retain the four-party service;

(5) Applicant is ready, willing, and able to provide one-party telephone service from the Topmost Exchange to the ten (10) subject subscribers;

(6) All telephone subscribers within the Topmost Exchange boundary should receive service from the Topmost Exchange;

(7) Applicant should be given the authority to convert the ten (10) subject subscribers to one-party Topmost service, should those subscribers desire to keep telephone service.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that Thacker-Grigsby Telephone Company, Inc., in accordance with the Commission's Order in Case No. 6911, dated February 21, 1978, be and hereby is granted the authority to convert all of its telephone system to one-party service, including the ten (10) subscribers which are the subject of Applicant's request.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the ten (10) subject subscribers currently receiving "farmer-line" service from Wayland shall be allowed to continue that service until South Central Bell converts the Wayland Exchange to one-and two-party service, which date is expected to be not later than December 31, 1980.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that upon completion of South Central Bell's upgrade in the Wayland Exchange, Thacker-Grigsby Telephone

Company, Inc. shall no longer offer "farmer-line" service from the Wayland Exchange to any subscriber within the Topmost Exchange.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Thacker-Grigsby Telephone Company, Inc., shall make available Foreign Exchange Service and Optional Calling Plans to any customer desiring those services, at the approved, tariffed rates for such services on file with this Commission.

Done at Frankfort, Kentucky, this 29th day of August, 1980.

UTILITY REGULATORY COMMISSION

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman

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Vice Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Commissioner

ATTEST:

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Secretary