

- BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF UTAH -

In the Matter of the Extended Local Calling)
Area Service (EAS) for Carbon and Emery) DOCKET NO. 10-042-01
Counties) INTERIM ORDER
)

ISSUED: January 13, 2011

By The Commission:

This matter is before the Commission on the request of Emery Telephone (Company) for an order from the Commission approving the creation of an EAS which would include all of Carbon and Emery Counties.¹ On December 23, 2010, the Division of Public Utilities (Division) submitted its recommendation.

In that recommendation, the Division stated it did not generally oppose the Company's request to implement the new EAS. The Division stated it reviewed the cost study conducted by the Company and found an appropriate cost base for the Company's proposed EAS rates. If implemented, the new EAS rates will provide adequate revenue to recover the facility costs, loss of access revenues, and meet the revenue requirement.

However, previous to the implementation of any EAS rates and final approval of the EAS, the Division recommended the Commission order the Company to perform "a public interest survey, using its call center, to be conducted of/upon the residential customers of Emery and Carbon/Emery according to the criteria outlined in R746-347-5." *Division Recommendation, p.2.* The Division represented that the decision to use the Company's call center was reached by the Company, the Division and the Office of Consumer Services (OCS). The Division also made other specific recommendations for the public interest survey.

¹ This request does not propose the inclusion of the Scofield exchange, which is served by Central Utah Telephone.

DOCKET NO. 10-042-01

- 2 -

ORDER

Based on the Division's recommendation, the Company shall:

1. Conduct a public interest survey of residential customers within Emery and Carbon Counties according to the criteria in Utah Admin Code R746-347-5;
2. Use its call center in conducting the survey;
3. Provide recordings of all survey calls to the Division and the OSC;
4. Ensure that it receives at least 249 survey responses originating from the Emery exchange and at least 259 survey responses originating from the Carbon exchange;
5. Use the following survey questions:
 - a. "This is ____ calling on behalf of the Division of Public Utilities, Emery Telcom and the Office of Consumer Services. Currently, when you make a call between Carbon and Emery Counties you are charged for a long distance call on a per minute basis. Emery Telcom has proposed an Extended Area Service between the counties, which would eliminate such long distance charges. Would you be willing to pay an Extended Area Service Fee of \$____ each month in order to have unlimited, toll-free calling to anywhere in Carbon and Emery Counties."
 - b. For customers who subscribe to bundled service, an additional sentence shall be added at the end of the above-stated question reading as follows:
"Please note that because you currently subscribe to one of the Emery

DOCKET NO. 10-042-01

- 3 -

Telcom bundles, you will not see any increase in your monthly bill for the Extended Area Service at this time.”

6. The Division shall provide the Commission with a status update or recommendation by Monday, February 28, 2011.

DATED at Salt Lake City, Utah, this 13th day of January, 2011.

/s/ Ruben H. Arredondo
Administrative Law Judge

Attest:

/s/ Julie Orchard
Commission Secretary
G#70357