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. In its December 23, 2010, the Division of Public Utilities (Division) submitted its recommendation, recommending approval of the request but asking the Commission to order a public interest survey among the Company’s residential customers. The Commission ordered that public interest survey in January 2011.

On February 24, 2011, the Division submitted its recommendation after the public interest survey was completed per the Commission’s Order. The Division found the public interest survey established residential customers generally preferred eliminating long-distance calling on a per-minute basis and instead implementing an EAS charge at a monthly cost of $.50 for Carbon residential customers and $2.00 for Emery residential customers. See Division recommendation, p.1-2. In the Emery exchange, there were 348 customers surveyed. Of those, about 82% favored the EAS charge and 18% did not. In the Carbon exchange, there were 295 customers surveyed. Of those, about 71% favored the EAS charge and 19% did not. See id. at p.2. Based on these results, the Division found that the provisions of Utah Admin. Code R746-347-5 have been met, i.e. at least 67% of the customers in the petitioning exchange and 30% of customers in the non-petitioning exchange desire the EAS.
Based on the findings of the Division, the Commission will presume the proposed EAS is in the public interest.

ORDER

The Commission approves the request to implement the EAS.

Pursuant to Sections 63G-4-301 and 54-7-15 of the Utah Code, an aggrieved party may request agency review or rehearing of this Order by filing a written request with the Commission within 30 days after the issuance of this Order. Responses to a request for agency review or rehearing must be filed within 15 days of the filing of the request for review or rehearing. If the Commission does not grant a request for review or rehearing within 20 days after the filing of the request, it is deemed denied. Judicial review of the Commission’s final agency action may be obtained by filing a petition for review with the Utah Supreme Court within 30 days after final agency action. Any petition for review must comply with the requirements of Sections 63G-4-401 and 63G-4-403 of the Utah Code and Utah Rules of Appellate Procedure.

DATED at Salt Lake City, Utah, this 24th day of March, 2011.

/s/ Ruben H. Arredondo
Administrative Law Judge
DOCKET NO. 10-042-01

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Approved and confirmed this 24th day of March, 2011, as the Report and Order of
the Public Service Commission of Utah.

/s/ Ted Boyer, Chairman

/s/ Ric Campbell, Commissioner

/s/ Ron Allen, Commissioner

Attest:

/s/ Julie Orchard
Commission Secretary
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