

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
OF OREGON**

UM 916

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| In the Matter of |) | |
| |) | |
| EXTENDED AREA SERVICE |) | |
| |) | ORDER |
| Petition by the Government Camp |) | |
| exchange for EAS to the Portland Extended |) | |
| Area Service Region. |) | |

DISPOSITION: PETITIONS GRANTED

On June 7, 2004, the Commission signed Order No. 04-315, granting the extended area service (EAS) petition by the Government Camp exchange to the Portland EAS Region. In that order, the Commission required the telephone companies to provide two brochures to each customer regarding the change in EAS service.

On August 12, 2004, GVNW Consulting, Inc., filed a joint petition on behalf of Canby Telephone Association, Cascade Utilities, Inc., Clear Creek Mutual Telephone Company, Colton Telephone Company, and Molalla Communications Company. The joint petition seeks waiver of the brochure requirement for exchanges in which EAS rates will not change. Those exchanges are Canby, Estacada, Corbett, Redland, Colton, and Molalla. On August 18, 2004, Beaver Creek Cooperative Telephone Company submitted a similar petition, applicable to the Oregon City and Beaver Creek exchanges.¹ The petitions mirror the requests for waiver of notification in exchanges where the rates will not change made by Verizon Northwest Inc. and Qwest Corporation and approved by the Commission in Order No. 04-422.

The companies have instead offered to print notices on their customers' monthly telephone bills. The notice would read as follows:

Effective October 2, 2004, you will no longer have to dial 1+ for calls to Government Camp (prefix 272). Calls to Government Camp will become part of your local calling area and your Flat or Measured Extended Area Service rate will not change.

The other parties and Staff did not object to using the substitute notice instead of the brochures.

¹ We do not require Beaver Creek Cooperative Telephone Company to notify its customers in the Oregon City exchange, because there is no Commission requirement that a competitive local exchange carrier notify its customers of EAS rate changes. Therefore, we take no action on that part of the petition. Qwest, not Beaver Creek, is the incumbent local exchange carrier in the Oregon City exchange. See CP 131, Order No. 96-248.

The companies are correct that the extensive notice requirements are more useful for exchanges in which rates will increase than for exchanges in which rates will remain the same. Therefore, the EAS notice requirements are waived as to the exchanges in which rates will remain the same. The proposed language is approved and shall be printed on customer bills prior to the EAS implementation date.

ORDER

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. The EAS customer notice requirements are waived as to customers in exchanges in which EAS rates will not increase.
2. Canby Telephone Association, Cascade Utilities, Inc., Clear Creek Mutual Telephone Company, Colton Telephone Company, Molalla Communications Company, and Beaver Creek Cooperative Telephone Company shall print the proposed notices on customer bills prior to the date of EAS implementation.

Made, entered, and effective _____.

Lee Beyer
Chairman

John Savage
Commissioner

Ray Baum
Commissioner

A party may request rehearing or reconsideration of this order pursuant to ORS 756.561. A request for rehearing or reconsideration must be filed with the Commission within 60 days of the date of service of this order. The request must comply with the requirements in OAR 860-014-0095. A copy of any such request must also be served on each party to the proceeding as provided by OAR 860-013-0070(2). A party may appeal this order to a court pursuant to applicable law.