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**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
OF OREGON**

UM 932

In the Matter of the Petition for Extended Area)
Service by the MITCHELL TELEPHONE) ORDER
EXCHANGE.)

**DISPOSITION: NO COMMUNITY OF INTEREST FOUND;
PETITION DENIED.**

On April 5, 1999, the customers of the Mitchell telephone exchange (petitioners) petitioned the Commission for extended area service (EAS) to the Fossil, Monument, and Spray telephone exchanges. The Commission docketed the request as UM 931 for investigation.

On June 29, 1999, an Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) issued a proposed order in this matter. The ALJ concluded that the proposed interexchange routes between the Mitchell and the Fossil, Monument, and Spray telephone exchanges did not meet the Commission's objective criteria for a community of interest set forth in Order Nos. 89-815 and 92-1136. Based on that conclusion, the ALJ recommended that the EAS petition be dismissed, unless the petitioners requested an opportunity to establish, through demographic, economic, financial, and other evidence that a community of interest exists. The proposed order advised the petitioners that such a request had to be filed within 15 days from the date of service.

Petitioners did not request a demographic hearing, and the time for doing so has expired. The proposed order, attached as Attachment 1, has been considered and is adopted.

ORDER

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. The following interexchange routes do not meet the objective community of interest requirements of Order Nos. 89-815 and 92-1136:

Mitchell/Fossil

Mitchell/Monument
Mitchell/Spray

2. Petitioners did not request an opportunity to establish through demographic, economic, financial, or other evidence that a community of interest exists between the exchanges.
3. The petition for extended area service between the Mitchell exchange and the Fossil, Monument, and Spray telephone exchanges is denied.

Made, entered, and effective _____.

Ron Eachus
Chairman

Roger Hamilton
Commissioner

Joan H. Smith
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 ORS 756.580.