

BEFORE THE UTILITY DIVISION

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE REGULATION
MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Application)	
of WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH COMPANY)	
for an Order Authorizing Increased)	DOCKET NO. 6323
Intrastate Rates on Full Rate)	DEFAULT ORDER NO. 4256
Telegram, Overnight Telegram and)	
Money Order Service Pates)	

On June 9, 1975, WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH COMPANY, hereinafter referred to as Applicant, filed with the Montana Public Service Commission its application, pursuant to Section 70-121, RCM 1947, requesting an order authorizing Applicant to increase the intrastate rates on full rate telegram, overnight telegram and money order service rates.

At a regular open session of the Montana Public Service Commission, held in its office at 1227 11th Avenue, Helena, Montana, on May 6, 1976, there came before the Commission for final action the matters in Docket No. 6323, and the Commission, having fully considered the application and all the data and records pertaining thereto on file with the Commission and being fully advised in the premises, makes the following:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Applicant, Western Union Telegraph Company, is a corporation organized under the laws of New York and is qualified to transact business in Montana.
2. Applicant is operating as a public utility as defined in Section 70-103, RCM 1947, and as such is engaged in furnishing telecommunication service in Montana.
3. The Commission has jurisdiction over the subject matter of this application under Sections 70-101, et seq. RCM 1947.
4. Public notice of the filing of application and opportunity for the public hearing was given about April 1, 1976, by publishing a legal advertisement in fifteen (15) newspapers

throughout the state and to the Montana Consumer Counsel. No protests or requests for a formal hearing were received by April 29, 1976.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. This Commission has a duty under the provisions of the Public Service Commission Act, RCM 1947, Section 70-101, et seq, to insure that utilities under its jurisdiction provide reasonably adequate service at just and reasonable rates.
2. The standard "just and reasonable" has been held to be the same as the constitutional standard for public utility rates. F.P.C. v. Natural Gas Pipe Line Co., 315 U.S. 575 (1942).
3. The rates approved herein are just and reasonable rates to insure continued service to Applicant's consumers.
4. The rates requested by Applicant should be approved as reflected by the above findings.

ORDER

The application of Western Union Telegraph Company for authority to increase rates for intrastate telegram, overnight telegram and money order service, as stated in Tariff Montana P.S.C. No. 1, 20th Revised Page 50 and 14th Revised Page 70A (annexed hereto), are approved, effective for telegram and money order service delivered after June 1, 1976.

Done May 6, 1976, by a 4 - 0 vote, Commissioner Monahan absent.

BY ORDER OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION:

GORDON E. BOLLINGER, Chairman

P.J. GILFEATHER, Commissioner

JAMES R. SHEA, Commissioner

GEORGE TURMAN, Commissioner

ATTEST:

GAIL E. BEHAN

Secretary

(Seal)

NOTICE: You are entitled to judicial review of this Order. Judicial review may be obtained by filing within thirty (30) days from the service of this Order, a petition for review pursuant to Section 82-4216, RCM 1947.