

Service Date: February 28, 1992

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE REGULATION
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

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| IN THE MATTER OF AT&T'S |) | UTILITY DIVISION |
| APPLICATION TO INCREASE CHARGES |) | DOCKET NO. 90.3.24 |
| FOR OPERATOR CONFERENCE SERVICE. |) | ORDER NO. 5478a |

FINAL ORDER CLOSING DOCKET

FINDINGS

On March 20, 1990 AT&T (Company or AT&T) filed an application requesting an increase in Operator Conference Service charges, with the Montana Public Service Commission (PSC or Commission). This service provides conference calls between three or more locations wholly within Montana. AT&T proposed increasing the rate for Operator Conference Service from \$3.50 to \$6.00 per conference call.

On April 25, 1990 the Commission issued a Notice of Opportunity for Public Hearing. The notice was served on the Montana Consumer Counsel, AT&T, U.S. West Communications, Montana Telephone Association, General Telephone of the Northwest, Inc., Northwestern Telephone Systems, Inc. Department of Administration, and was published in the Billings Gazette on April 29, the Bozeman Daily Chronicle on April 29, the Montana Standard on May

1, the Great Falls Tribune on April 29, the Havre Daily News on April 30, the Independent Record on May 2, the Daily InterLake on May 3, the Livingston Enterprise on April 27, the Miles City Star on April 27, and the Missoulian on April 30. The notice stated that if no requests for a public hearing were received by May 30, 1990 an appropriate order could be issued.

No protests or requests for public hearing were received and no hearing was scheduled.

Interim Order No. 5478 approving the requested increase was issued by the Commission on June 5, 1990.

Order No. 5478 stated that this matter would be consolidated into the next AT&T general rate case. However, upon consideration of the Commission's decisions regarding the regulatory status of AT&T in Docket No. 88.11.49, the Commission considers it appropriate to issue a Final Order in this matter at this time.

The Commission has not examined AT&T's marginal costs of providing operator conference calls in this Docket; and approval of this rate increase does not constitute approval of the embedded study submitted by AT&T herein or any other cost study methodology.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. AT&T furnishes regulated telecommunications services within the State of Montana and is a public utility under the regulatory jurisdiction of the Montana Public Service Commission. Section 69-3-101, MCA. The Commission has the authority to supervise, regulate and control public utilities. Section 69-3-102, MCA.

2. The Commission has provided adequate public notice and an opportunity to be heard herein, pursuant to the Montana Administrative Procedure Act and Title 69, MCA.

3. The rates approved herein are just and reasonable. Section 69-3-201, MCA.

ORDER

1. AT&T's request for authorization to increase its tariffed rate for Operator Handled Conference Service from \$3.50 to \$6.00 is hereby APPROVED.

Done and Dated this 24th day of February, 1992 by a vote of
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BY ORDER OF THE MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

HOWARD L. ELLIS, Chairman

DANNY OBERG, Vice Chairman

BOB ANDERSON, Commissioner

JOHN B. DRISCOLL, Commissioner

WALLACE W. "WALLY" MERCER, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Ann Peck
Commission Secretary

(SEAL)

NOTE: Any interested party may request that the Commission reconsider this decision. A motion to reconsider must be filed within ten (10) days. See ARM 38.2.4806.