

Service Date: March 16, 1999

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

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IN THE MATTER Of Citizens)	UTILITY DIVISION
Telecommunications Company of Montana,)	
Tariff changes to Remote Call Forwarding)	DOCKET NO. N99.2.25
Service.)	ORDER NO. 6156

NOTICE OF COMMISSION ACTION AND ORDER

1. PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Montana Public Service Commission (Commission), at a regularly scheduled business meeting held on March 1, 1999, approved Citizens Telecommunication Company of Montana's (Citizens) tariff filing for changes to their Remote Call Forwarding Service. On February 5, 1999, Citizens filed proposed tariff revisions to their Remote Call Forwarding Service. Remote Call Forwarding (RCF) is a service whereby a call placed from a station (the originating station) to a customer's (the RCF customer) telephone number in one exchange (the call location) is automatically forwarded by company central office equipment to another station designated by the RCF customer (the terminating station) which is located in a different exchange or prefix. The subscriber to remote call forwarding is responsible for dial type station to station, local and toll charges applicable to calls transferred from the forwarding location to the terminating station. The charges apply for each call answered, including person to person and collect call which are refused at the terminating station and are in addition to any equipment charges and to all applicable local exchange network access line charges.

2. The filing was noticed on a regularly scheduled weekly Commission agenda. A Lincoln County Commissioner contacted the Public Service Commission and expressed concern that Lincoln County plans to use this type of service to serve Eureka and Troy residents and to eliminate their current 800 number. Citizens responded to this concern and advised the Lincoln County Commission that the proposed tariff changes would not result in increased rates for this type of service but were meant to add "per minute" charges to accounts that did not have a presence in communities. Since Lincoln County has offices in Troy and Eureka, therefore having

a presence in those communities, these charges would not be applicable. Based upon that assurance, Lincoln County had no objection to the proposed tariff changes.

3. Frederick Weber, Rexford, Montana, filed a letter of concern regarding the tariff filing. Citizens responded to Mr. Weber's concerns and indicated that Mr. Weber is currently not a subscriber to Remote Call Forwarding. Mr. Weber does subscribe to Variable Call Forwarding. Variable Call Forwarding is not impacted by this tariff filing. Citizens indicated that Mr. Weber's account may have been provisioned incorrectly and may be in violation of existing tariffs. The Commission requests that Citizens communicate with Mr. Weber, explain the differences between Remote Call Forwarding and Variable Call Forwarding and confirm Mr. Weber's intention to subscribe to the appropriate service. If it is found that Mr. Weber was incorrectly subscribed to Variable Call Forwarding rather than Remote Call Forwarding, he should not be billed for the difference in rates for charges incurred prior to the date of this order.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Commission has the authority to supervise, regulate and control public utilities Section 69-3-102, MCA. Citizens Telecommunications Company of Montana is a public utility offering regulated telecommunications services in Montana. Section 69-3-101, MCA.

2. The Commission has the authority to do all things necessary and convenient in the exercise of the powers granted to it by the Montana Legislature and to regulate the mode and manner of all investigations and hearings of public utilities and other parties before it. Section 69-3-103, MCA.

3. Adequate public notice and an opportunity to be heard has been provided to all interested parties in this Docket, as required by the Montana Administrative Procedure Act, Title 2, Chapter 4, MCA.

ORDER

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that Citizens Telecommunications Company of Montana's application for tariff revisions to the Remote Call Forwarding Service is APPROVED subject to the discussion above.

DONE AND DATED this 1st day of March, 1999, by a vote of 4 to 0.

BY ORDER OF THE MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

DAVE FISHER, Chairman

BOB ANDERSON, Commissioner

GARY FELAND, Commissioner

BOB ROWE, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Kathlene M. Anderson
Commission Secretary

(SEAL)

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