

STATE OF IOWA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
UTILITIES BOARD

IN RE: DUNKERTON TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE	DOCKET NO. SPU-99-13
--	----------------------

ORDER APPROVING INTRALATA DIALING PARITY PLAN

(Issued June 22, 1999)

On April 22, 1999, Dunkerton Telephone Cooperative (Dunkerton) filed for the Board's consideration and approval a plan for implementing intraLATA dialing parity. Dunkerton generally proposes to allow customers to choose their intraLATA carrier prior to the implementation of intraLATA dialing parity and to assign customers who do not make an affirmative choice to a long-distance subsidiary of Dunkerton Telephone Company that is yet to be established.

Dunkerton does not propose any mechanism to recover the cost of implementing intraLATA dialing parity.

Dunkerton provided a proposed customer notification form for direct mailing and asks that the Board approve the form. The proposed notice will inform customers that they have 90 days from the date of implementation (which is projected to be July 21, 1999) to designate an initial preferred intraLATA carrier without incurring a PIC charge.

On May 5, 1999, the Consumer Advocate Division, Department of Justice (Consumer Advocate) filed a "Response To IntraLATA Dialing Parity Plan." Consumer Advocate does not state whether it has an objection to Dunkerton's plan, but notes that the plan provides only 90 days for customers to evaluate their intraLATA carrier choices and make a change from the default provider. Consumer Advocate also notes that the plan does not specify how Dunkerton intends to ensure competitive neutrality when new customers are choosing their intraLATA carrier. Consumer Advocate suggests that the Board should require Dunkerton to amend its plan to extend the PIC charge waiver to 120 days and to clarify how it intends to assure competitive neutrality when new customers choose an intraLATA carrier when initiating local service.

On May 24, 1999, Dunkerton filed an amended implementation plan giving customers a 120-day PIC charge waiver for each customer's initial PIC change and stating that Dunkerton will not market its intraLATA toll services to customers who call to initiate local service.

On May 27, 1999, Consumer Advocate filed an amended response to the Dunkerton plan, withdrawing its objection.

The Board will approve Dunkerton's plan for implementation of intraLATA dialing parity, as amended by Dunkerton's filing of May 24, 1999.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

The IntraLATA Dialing Parity Plan filed by Dunkerton Telephone Company on April 22, 1999, as amended by Dunkerton on May 24, 1999, is approved.

UTILITIES BOARD

/s/ Allan T. Thoms

/s/ Susan J. Frye

ATTEST:

/s/ Raymond K. Vawter, Jr. /s/ Diane Munns
Executive Secretary

Dated at Des Moines, Iowa, this 22nd day of June, 1999.