

STATE OF VERMONT
PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD

Docket No. 6012

Generic Investigation Into the Transition)
from Regulation to Competition for Public)
Telephone Services in Vermont)

Order entered: 4/11/2001

DISMISSAL ORDER

I. Report and Recommendation

At the last workshop in this docket held on January 25, 2001, the Department of Public Service ("DPS") indicated that it would provide to the Board and all parties recommendations for further proceedings regarding the establishment of a public interest payphone ("PIP") program in Vermont. On February 2, 2001, the DPS filed a letter with the Board in which it recommended that the Board close this docket to allow the DPS and other parties to engage in discussions toward establishing a PIP program for Vermont. Specifically, the DPS plans to coordinate discussions and workshops with the parties and other interested stakeholders on this question, and file a report with the Board by May 25, 2001, on the status of its discussions.

No party filed any comments or objections to this recommendation by the DPS to dismiss this docket.

I recommend that this docket should be dismissed at this time, without prejudice. There are no issues now before the Board that require resolution through contested case procedures. Moreover, closure will allow the DPS to undertake discussions with all interested stakeholders to determine the best ways to establish a PIP program in Vermont. It is clear, given the number of groups and organizations that the DPS plans to include in these discussions, that an open collaborative process outside of a specific docket will ensure that all interested parties can be included in the development of a comprehensive PIP program that is best for Vermont. After the DPS has developed a specific proposal, either a new docket can be opened by the Board to consider its merits, or it can be directly proposed for implementation through the rulemaking process.

The foregoing is hereby reported to the Public Service Board in accordance with the provisions of 30 V.S.A. § 8. Because this proposed dismissal order is not adverse to any party, there is no need to serve this proposed decision on the parties to this proceeding pursuant to 3 V.S.A. § 811.

Dated at Montpelier, Vermont, this 9th day of April, 2001.

s/Peter B. Meyer
Peter B. Meyer
Hearing Officer

II. ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED by the Public Service Board of the State of Vermont that:

1. The Hearing Officer's report and recommendation is accepted.
2. The Department of Public Service shall report to the Board regarding the status of the development of a proposed public interest payphone program by May 25, 2001.
3. This docket is closed.

DATED at Montpelier, Vermont, this 11th day of April, 2001.

<u>s/Michael H. Dworkin</u>	)	
	)	PUBLIC SERVICE
	)	
<u>s/David C. Coen</u>	)	BOARD
	)	
	)	OF VERMONT
<u>s/John D. Burke</u>	)	

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

FILED: April 11, 2001

ATTEST: s/Susan M. Hudson
Clerk of the Board

NOTICE TO READERS: This decision is subject to revision of technical errors. Readers are requested to notify the Clerk of the Board (by e-mail, telephone, or mail) of any technical errors, in order that any necessary corrections may be made. (E-mail address: Clerk@psb.state.vt.us)