

Decision No. 15869

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of
Southern Pacific Company for permission
to extend the Sacramento River Boat
Freight Service to points on the East
Side of San Francisco Bay.

ORIGINAL

APPLICATION NO. 12047.

H. C. Booth, for Applicant.
E. W. Hollingsworth, Traffic Department Oakland
Chamber of Commerce.
E. H. Maggard and Donald Geary, for Petaluma &
Santa Rosa Railway.

BY THE COMMISSION:

O P I N I O N

The Southern Pacific Company, a corporation, with its principal offices at 65 Market Street, San Francisco, applies under the provisions of paragraph 4, section 50, of the Public Utilities Act, for a certificate of public convenience and necessity authorizing the extension of its river lines permitting its vessels to serve any and all docks, wharves and piers located or situated within or abutting on the corporate limits of the cities of Oakland, Alameda, Berkeley and Emeryville in the County of Alameda.

For many years past the applicant has been conducting a steamer line between San Francisco, Crockett, Port Costa, South Vallejo, Benicia and other bay landings on the one hand, and Sacramento, Hood, Walnut Grove, Collinsville and other Sacramento river landings on the other, and the object of this application

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is to serve points on the east side of San Francisco Bay in the same manner and with the same facilities now employed in serving San Francisco and the other points on the west side of the bay.

A public hearing was held at San Francisco January 12, 1926, before Examiner Geary, and the matter having been duly submitted is now ready for our decision.

Applicant presented one exhibit setting forth the tonnage and the revenue of all freight transported via its river steamers during the calendar years 1907 to 1924 inclusive, a statement showing the territory served, the landings on the river banks, and time schedules, not only of applicant's boats but of the competing lines, the location of the open docks on the east side of the bay, the number of registered steamers in 1914 and 1924, and a description of the boats now in operation by it on the Sacramento river. The number of vessels in use in 1914 is given as 210, with a net registration of 34,407 tons; in 1924 there were 247 vessels having a registration of 22,378 tons. It would appear that many of the vessels in use in 1914 have been replaced during the past ten years by barges and gas-propelled craft. The freight traffic increased from a total of 721,090 tons in 1914 to a total of 1,796,105 tons in 1924. The testimony showed that during the past few years great improvements have been made in the public docks and warehouses in Oakland and Alameda. The Parr Terminal Company has increased its facilities at Oakland and the Encinal Terminals have enlarged their facilities in Alameda. Both of these companies are served by ocean-going, coastwise, and river steamers.

Failure of the Southern Pacific Company to operate its Sacramento River steamers to the terminals at Oakland and Alameda has resulted in inconvenience and loss to the shipping public, as

was shown by the testimony of its Assistant General Freight Agent.

Witnesses appeared on behalf of the Parr Terminals, the Encinal Terminals and the Oakland Chamber of Commerce indorsing the application and recommending that a certificate be granted.

We are of the opinion and find as a fact that public convenience and necessity require the extension of operation by petitioner of its river boat lines for the transportation of freight to and from the public docks, wharves and piers situated within or abutting the corporate limits of Oakland, Alameda, Berkeley and Emeryville on the east side of San Francisco bay.

ORDER

A public hearing having been held in the above entitled proceeding, the application having been duly submitted and now being ready for a decision,

THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA HEREBY DECLARES that public convenience and necessity require the operation by the Southern Pacific Company of its Sacramento River steamer service to and from all docks, wharves and piers situated within or abutting on the corporate limits of Oakland, Alameda, Berkeley and Emeryville on the east side of San Francisco bay, a full investigation of the matters and things involved having been had, and the Commission having on the date hereof made and filed its opinion containing its findings of fact and conclusions, which said opinion is hereby referred to and made a part hereof

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IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the application of the Southern Pacific Company for authority to extend its operations in freight service on the Sacramento river and connecting waters to and from all docks, wharves and piers located or situated within or abutting the corporate limits of the cities of Oakland, Alameda, Berkeley and Emeryville on the east side of San Francisco Bay be and it is hereby granted, subject to the following conditions:

Applicant shall file tariffs, within thirty (30) days from the date of this order, according to the rules of this Commission, setting forth the rates, rules and regulations governing transportation between the points in question.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 18th day of January, 1926.

H. B. Bondage

O. Beatty

George W. Squires

Leon Whitell
Commissioners.

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