

Decision No. 17958 .

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

In the Matter of the Application
of THE ATCHISON, TOPEKA AND SANTA
FE RAILWAY COMPANY, a corporation,
for permission to abandon that
portion of its line of railroad
extending from Perris to Elsinore
Junction, in the County of River-
side, State of California.

ORIGINAL

Application No. 13279.

BY THE COMMISSION:

O P I N I O N

The Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railway Company, a corporation, hereinafter sometimes called the Santa Fe, has filed with the Commission an application for an order authorizing the abandonment and removal of that portion of its railroad extending from Perris to Elsinore Junction in the County of Riverside, State of California, and shown in yellow on a blue-print map (Dwg. No. C.E.C.L. 76-17203) attached to and forming a portion of the application.

The track herein proposed to be abandoned was constructed by California Southern Railroad Company, a subsidiary of the Santa Fe, in the year 1882 as part of a through line from San Bernardino to San Diego, California. After several bad washouts in the Temecula Canyon, the portion of said San Bernardino-San Diego line extending through said canyon was abandoned in the year 1896; since that time said line herein sought to be abandoned has been operated as a part of what is known as the Temecula Branch of the Santa Fe.

Most of the business of this branch originates at

Alberhill, which is about eight miles northwest of Elsinore Junction, toward Corona. This eight miles of line was built in 1896 under the name of the Elsinore, Pomona and Los Angeles Railway Company, which was absorbed by the California Southern Railroad Company in 1899, in turn controlled by the Santa Fe. By Decision No. 14698, dated March 24, 1925, (Application No. 10897) the Santa Fe was granted permission to extend this line toward Corona across three county roads to the property of the Los Angeles Brick Company. This extension is about one mile in length.

On July 17, 1926, the Interstate Commerce Commission, under Finance Docket No. 5443 and 5490, granted a certificate to the Corona and Santa Fe Railway Company to extend this line to Corona a distance of about fifteen miles and authorized the control of this Company by the Santa Fe. Under Decision No. 17837, dated January 5, 1927, (Application No. 13352), this Commission granted the Corona and Santa Fe Railway Company the right to build across two county roads on the extension into Corona. Under Commission's Decision No. 16950, dated June 17, 1925, the Corona and Santa Fe Railway Company was given authority to issue stock and to lease its line to the Santa Fe. This extension between the end of present track about one mile northwest of Alberhill and Corona, as shown in red on said drawing No. C.E.C.I. 76-17203, is under construction and when completed will allow of shipments of clay products, which comprise the greater portion of the freight from the vicinity of Alberhill, to be made by a route into Los Angeles shorter by some thirty-seven miles than the existing route via Elsinore, Perris, Highgrove and Riverside. It is proposed to abandon that portion of the latter route between Elsinore Junction

and Perris, a distance of about ten miles.

The Temescal Water Company is developing a water supply for Corona and vicinity and plans to construct a dam across San Jacinto Canon through which this Elsinore-Perris line runs and this dam if constructed will cause the waters behind it to flood about four and one-half miles of the railroad line. Rather than attempt to relocate this line on higher ground, applicant prefers to discontinue service thereover and remove the track..

The California Farm Bureau Federation has informed the Commission by letter that the abandonment of this branch line will not affect any agricultural interests in its vicinity. It appears to the Commission that equally good, if not better, service will be afforded by the new line under construction between Alberhill and Corona than is afforded by the existing line between Elsinore and Perris; that this is not a matter in which a public hearing is necessary and that the application should be granted, providing the abandonment sought herein is not effected until the new line between Alberhill and Corona is constructed and placed in operation.

O R D E R

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that permission and authority be and it is hereby granted to The Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railway Company to abandon and remove that portion of its railroad extending from Perris to Elsinore Junction, located in the County of Riverside, State of California, as more definitely shown in yellow on map (Dwg. No. C.E.C.L. 76-17203) attached to the application and described as follows:

Beginning at a point on the north line of Section 6, Township 5 South, Range 3 West, S.B.M., said line being also the south city limits of Perris; thence running in a southerly and westerly direction to a

point in the west line of Section 10, Township 6 South, Range 4 West, S.B.M., said line being the east city limits of Elsinore, a total length of 10.29 miles.

Said line shall not be abandoned nor service thereover discontinued until the new line from Alberhill to Corona, shown in red on said Drawing No. C.E.C.L. 76-17203, shall have been completed and placed in operation.

The effective date of this order shall be twenty (20) days from the date hereof.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 5th day of February, 1927.

Emmenda
H. B. Brundage
Chairman
Leon E. White
Thomas R. Smith
Commissioners.