

ORIGINAL

Decision No. 17979

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application)
of F. W. Gomph, Agent, for an)
Order granting permission to)
Publish Uniform Commodity De-)
scription on Salt in certain Tariffs.)

APPLICATION NO. 13332

- Platt Kent and A. L. Whittle, for Applicant
- Seth Mann, for San Francisco Chamber of Commerce
- Z. Clements, for Leslie Salt Company
- G. W. Griswold, for Morton Salt Company
- A. A. Oliver, for Oliver Salt Company
- C. M. McDaniel, for Arden Salt Company.

BY THE COMMISSION:

O P I N I O N

This is an application filed by F. W. Gomph, as agent for and on behalf of Pacific Freight Tariff Bureau, Southern Pacific Company, Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railway Company, Los Angeles & Salt Lake Railroad Company, Pacific Electric Railway Company, San Diego & Arizona Railway Company, and Northwestern Pacific Railroad Company, for an order granting permission to amend numerous items in tariffs, shown in Exhibits A, B, C, D, E, F and G, attached to the application and as amended at the hearing, by publishing the

following uniform description of salt:

"Salt, common (sodium chloride) in packages, in blocks, or in bulk, carloads".

The exhibits named above list the items published in the individual tariffs of petitioning carriers, proposed to be changed.

A public hearing was held before Examiner Geary at San Francisco January 10, 1927 and the application having been duly submitted is now ready for our opinion and order.

For many years applicants tariffs have contained commodity rates on salt, undefined, also on crude, cake, refuse, rock, rough, etc., and the proposed changes are to eliminate these various and unsatisfactory terms.

Witness for applicant testified that the above description will be specific and thus designate clearly the article for which the rates are established and will simplify the tariffs, inasmuch as the proposed description will conform to that shown in Consolidated Freight Classification No.4, page 381, item 20. This description was approved by the Interstate Commerce Commission in Docket No.14106, Sterling Salt Company vs. Ann Harbor Railroad Company, et al., decided October 14, 1924, reported in 92 I.C.C.388.

In referring to the commodity description in that Docket, the Commission said:

"The term salt, as used herein, will mean sodium chloride, generally called common salt. The consolidated classification provides carload ratings on 'salt', common (sodium chloride)' of sixth class in official, class A in southern, and class C in western classifications, 'in packages, in blocks, or in bulk, C.L.min.wt 40,000 lbs.' Separate ratings are named on 'salt' flavored (Celery, Garlic or Onion and Salt combined)', and on 'salt, live stock, medicated'."

At the hearing, protestants representing the principal

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salt manufacturers in California called attention to the fact that the amended description would possibly result in increases in rates, as the so-called common salt now moving under the present salt rates contains small quantities of either iodine or sulphur or magnesium carbonate. The latter article is added in order to make the salt run freely. Applicants' witness testified that under the proposed classification description the rates now in effect would continue to apply in the future as in the past on salt containing a small quantity of the articles mentioned above. With this understanding protestants withdrew all opposition to the granting of the application.

Upon consideration of all the facts of record, we are of the opinion and find that the application should be granted, subject to the stipulation agreed to at the hearing, that no increases in rates will result because the salt shipped may contain a small quantity of either iodine, sulphur or magnesium carbonate.

O R D E R

This application having been duly heard and submitted, full investigation of the matters and things involved having been had, and basing this order on the findings of fact and the conclusions contained in the opinion which precedes this order, and which said opinion is hereby referred to and made a part hereof,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the applicants, Southern Pacific Company, Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railway Company, Los Angeles & Salt Lake Railroad Company, Pacific Electric Railway Company, San Diego & Arizona Railway Company, Northwestern Pacific Railroad Company and Pacific Freight Tariff Bureau, by F.W.Gomph, Agent, be and they are hereby authorized to amend tariffs shown in Exhibits A. B. C. D. E, F and G attached to the application and as amended at the hearing, by publishing the commodity description on salt as proposed in the application, with a proviso that the rates on salt, common (sodium chloride) will also apply when same contain small quantities of iodine, sulphur or magnesium carbonate.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 8th day of February, 1927.

Edward
H.B. Burdige
Chas
Leon Whittell
Thos S. Rauter
 Commissioners.