

Decision No. 24653.

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

In the matter of the application of  
SAN FRANCISCO, NAPA & CALISTOGA RY.,  
a corporation, for partial resumption  
of service and continued suspension  
of service of certain portion of its  
line.

Application No. 18037.

**ORIGINAL**

Nathan F. Coombs for the Applicant.  
Captain B. S. Jackson and Lieut. E. D. Griffin,  
U. S. Navy, representing the Navy Department.  
Lowell Palmer, Napa, Calif., representing the  
St. Helena Chamber of Commerce.  
Mervin C. Lermhart and Thos. C. Anglin, Napa,  
representing the Calistoga Chamber of  
Commerce.  
Dr. M. M. Booth, St. Helena Chamber of Commerce.  
W. H. Hornady, representing the Veterans Home  
and other Veteran Organizations.  
Roy E. Lockman, City Attorney of Napa, representing  
the City of Napa.

WHITSELL, COMMISSIONER:

O P I N I O N

In this proceeding San Francisco, Napa and Calistoga  
Railway requests permission to temporarily suspend operation over  
that portion of its line of railroad between St. Helena and  
Calistoga, County of Napa, California.

A public hearing was held in this matter at Napa,  
March 30th, 1932, at which time the matter was duly submitted.

Applicant operates an electric railway between Vallejo,  
Solano County, and Calistoga, Napa County, and passing through  
the cities of Napa and St. Helena. The carhouse and substation  
are located at Napa. Freight service is also provided to Mare  
Island Navy Yard.

On January 22nd, the company's carhouse and substation  
at Napa were destroyed by fire, thus causing a temporary suspension

*CORRECTION*

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THIS DOCUMENT  
HAS BEEN REPHOTOGRAPHED  
TO ASSURE LEGIBILITY

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Island Navy Yard.

On January 22nd, the company's carhouse and substation  
at Napa were destroyed by fire, thus causing a temporary suspension

of electric train service over the entire system. During this emergency, service between Vallejo and Calistoga is being maintained through the operation of automotive stages and the freight service to Mare Island Navy Yard is conducted by means of a leased steam locomotive.

It is the proposal of the applicant to reconstruct its substation and resume electric train service between Vallejo and St. Helena, and temporarily suspend service between St. Helena and Calistoga.

It is applicant's contention that the amount of passenger business offered north of St. Helena does not warrant the continued operation of that portion of its passenger service. This contention is supported by Exhibits Nos. 3, 4, 7 and 8, filed in this proceeding. This proposed suspension of service will not entirely deprive Calistoga of passenger service as Pacific Greyhound Lines operates through this territory. For the hauling of express and freight, applicant showed that Napa Valley Bus Company would apply to the Commission for a certificate of public convenience and necessity to operate between St. Helena and Calistoga.

Many witnesses from Calistoga and the entire Napa Valley testified that they were very desirous of having the electric service continue to operate to Calistoga but signified that if by so doing the operation of the entire system would be jeopardized, then they were agreeable to the granting of this application.

Applicant showed that it could have its substation rebuilt in less than a month and again place the line in operation.

After a review of the record it is my opinion that it is in the public interest to grant this application to permit of

temporary abandonment of service between St. Helena and Calistoga, pending further development of the transportation problem in this location, and it is recommended that applicant be allowed to suspend this service for one year.

O R D E R

A public hearing having been held, the matter being under submission and ready for decision,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that permission and authority is hereby granted to San Francisco, Napa and Calistoga Railway to suspend electric train service between the towns of St. Helena and Calistoga for a period of one (1) year from the date of this order, unless further time is granted by subsequent order, subject, however, to the following conditions:

- (1) Applicant shall resume electric train service upon the remainder of its system between Vallejo, Solano County, and St. Helena, Napa County, within sixty (60) days from the date of this order.
- (2) Applicant shall give not less than five (5) days notice to the public of said suspension of electric train service by posting notice at all stations from St. Helena to Calistoga, inclusive.

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

The foregoing Opinion and Order are hereby approved and ordered filed as the Opinion and Order of the Railroad Commission of the State of California.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 4<sup>th</sup> day of April, 1932.

J. L. Seavey

Leon White

M. J. Con

M. B. Lewis

Fred G. Stewart