

Decision No. 24919.

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application
of SOUTHERN PACIFIC COMPANY for
authority to close the agency at
Bradley Station, County of Monterey,
State of California.

ORIGINAL

Application No. 18004.

Roy G. Hillebrand, for Applicant.
Chas. E. Waldron, for Protestants.

BY THE COMMISSION:

O P I N I O N

In this application Southern Pacific Company requests authority to close its agency at Bradley, Monterey County, California. A public hearing was held at Paso Robles by Examiner Johnson on June 7, 1932, at which hearing the matter was submitted and is now ready for decision.

Bradley is located on the main Coast Line of Southern Pacific Company, 13 miles south of San Ardo, and 11.1 miles north of San Miguel, agencies being maintained at both of these latter stations. It is a shipping point for a considerable agricultural and stock raising area and is the nearest railway point to the farming area located in the mountains lying to the west of Bradley. This community was represented at the hearing by the Hisperia Farm Center, who protested the granting of the

application.

Applicant presented an exhibit at the hearing showing the amount of business handled at this point during two seven-month periods, the complete data for the year 1931 not being available because the agency was reopened, after having been closed for a number of years, on April 30, 1931. Some of the data shown in this exhibit has been reproduced in the following table:

	<u>Averages per Month During Seven Months Ending Apr. 30, 1931.</u>	<u>Averages per Month During Seven Months Ending May 30, 1932.</u>
<u>Freight Forwarded & Received:</u>		
Carload (cars),	21	12
L.C.L. Shipments (tons),	18	7
Carload Revenue,	\$3,518.	\$1,229.
L.C.L. Revenue,	\$247.	\$89.
<u>Passenger Service:</u>		
Number of passenger tickets sold,	14	2
Passenger Revenue (Agency Reports),	\$36.	\$9.
Milk and Cream Revenue,	\$11.	\$28.
<u>Station Data:</u>		
Pieces of Baggage Handled,	12	3
Number of Waybills Made,	29	13
Number of Freight Bills Made,	79	40
Western Union Messages,	120	51

During the period ending April 30, 1931, the State Division of Highways was constructing a bridge across the Salinas River in the vicinity of Bradley and probably considerable of the revenue shown during this period was occasioned by this construction work.

The average revenue per month from less-than-carload milk and cream shipments and passengers during the seven months ending April 30, 1932, was \$126., which is approximately the

monthly cost of maintaining an agency.

The principal commodities shipped in and out of Bradley appear to be stock and an earth product produced by the Pacatome Company. The number of less-than-carload shipments appear to be negligible.

In the event the agency is closed, Southern Pacific Company proposes to leave the key to the freight house with a local merchant and to make available the Company telephone for communication with the agents at the adjacent stations. A paved highway also extends from San Ardo to San Miguel, passing through Bradley.

The chief protest against the granting of this application appears to originate in the mountainous district previously referred to and this protest relates chiefly to the shipments of live stock, it being claimed that the services of an agent are desirable in connection with such shipments. The other commodities produced by the witnesses offering testimony appeared to be those which generally move by express and as the Express Company has arranged to maintain an agent at this point these shippers should suffer no inconvenience through the closing of the Southern Pacific agency.

After considering the evidence in this proceeding, we fail to see wherein the expense of maintaining an agent at Bradley is warranted by the slight use which the public would make of such a facility and we believe that the application should be granted.

O R D E R

Southern Pacific Company, a corporation, having applied for authority to abandon its agency at Bradley, Monterey County,

a public hearing having been held and the matter having been submitted and now being ready for decision,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that applicant, Southern Pacific Company, is hereby authorized to abandon its agency at Bradley, Monterey County, on ten (10) days' notice to the public and to this Commission, and to change its station records and tariffs accordingly, provided that said station be continued as a non-agency station.

Applicant shall, within thirty (30) days thereafter, notify this Commission, in writing, of the abandonment of the facilities authorized herein and of its compliance with the conditions hereof.

The authorization herein granted shall lapse and become void if not exercised within one (1) year from the date hereof, unless further time is granted by subsequent order.

The effective date of this Order shall be ten (10) days from the date hereof.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 27th day of June, 1932.

C. C. Harvey
L. W. Whitely
M. D. Van
M. B. Harrison
Fred G. Stevenson
 Commissioners.