

Decision No. 25156.

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

In the Matter of the Application of (a) SOUTHERN PACIFIC COMPANY for authority to establish a part-time agency at the stations of Gazelle and Edgewood, in the County of Siskiyou, State of California, and (b) RAILWAY EXPRESS AGENCY, INC. to establish a part-time agency at each of said stations.

ORIGINAL

Application No. 18357.

BY THE COMMISSION:

ORDER

Southern Pacific Company, a corporation, joined by Railway Express Agency, Inc., a corporation, on August 19, 1932, petitioned the Railroad Commission for authority to establish a part-time agency in lieu of the present full-time agency at both Gazelle and Edgewood, located on the Southern Pacific Company's main line Shasta Division in the County of Siskiyou, State of California.

Accompanying the application is a comparative statement showing the amount of business transacted by Southern Pacific Company at said stations, respectively, during the two-year period ending May 31, 1932, as follows:

Items	Gazelle		Edgewood	
	Year Ending May 31st 1931	Year Ending May 31st 1932	Year Ending May 31st 1931	Year Ending May 31st 1932
Passenger Tickets Sold	117	144	93	52
Number of Less-than-carload Shipments Received	2,067	972	347	264
Number of Less-than-carload Shipments Forwarded	179	52	26	27
Number of Carload Shipments Received	79	64	23	18
Number of Carload Shipments Forwarded	249	135	29	8

The express revenue derived during the year ending July 31, 1932, on all shipments forwarded and received at Gazelle amounted to \$922.18, and at Edgewood \$526.85. The station agent at each of these points takes care of both the railroad and express business.

Gazelle and Edgewood are both located between the agency station of Weed on the south and Grenada on the north, a distance of 20.7 miles, Edgewood being 5 miles north of Weed and Gazelle 8.1 miles south of Grenada.

Applicant, Southern Pacific Company, alleges that under the present conditions the revenue derived at said station does not warrant the continuance and maintenance of a full-time agent at each of said stations and that the business can be adequately handled by the maintenance of an agency at Gazelle during the approximate hours of 7:35 to 8:35 A.M. and 1:15 to 4:35 P.M., and at Edgewood from 8:55 A.M. to 11:55 A.M. When the agent is absent from each of these stations during business hours, the company plans to store less-than-carload shipments in warehouse and provide a telephone, to be located outside of the depot, for patrons to communicate with the agent at the adjacent station for the purpose of ordering cars, obtaining information, or any other railroad business; the key for said warehouse to be obtainable from a custodian at or near said station.

Applicant, Railway Express Agency, Inc., proposes to maintain an agent at each of the two stations involved during the same hours as does the railroad. When the agent is absent express shipments can be tendered or received by express messenger at the car door of trains stopping at said points.

California Farm Bureau Federation signified, in writing, that it does not object to the granting of this application.

A member of the Transportation Division of the Commission's Engineering Department has made an investigation of this matter and his report, based on an interview with interested shippers and receivers of freight, indicates there is no serious objection to the granting of this application.

It appearing that a public hearing is not necessary herein and that the application should be granted,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Southern Pacific Company and Railway Express Agency, Inc., respectively, are hereby authorized to establish a part-time agency at Cazelle and Edgewood, in Siskiyou County, California. The approximate hours the agencies are to be open each weekday are as follows:

Cazelle	7:35 A.M. to 8:35 A.M. 1:15 P.M. to 4:35 P.M.
Edgewood	8:55 A.M. to 11:55 A.M.

The authorization herein granted is subject to the following conditions:

1. The part-time operation of these agencies shall not result in an increase in fare for Southern Pacific Company passengers boarding train at these points.
2. During the absence of agent, less-than-carload freight shipments shall be stored under lock and key in railroad company's warehouse, at each location, and a telephone shall be made available to patrons; the keys to both warehouse and telephone shall be made obtainable from a custodian located at or near said stations, notice of which shall be maintained at both warehouse and telephone box advising where key may be secured.
3. Railway Express Agency, Inc. shall, during the absence of agent, continue to handle express shipments moving into, or out of, said points, provided they are tendered to or received by an express messenger at car door of train stopping at said points.
4. Applicants shall notify the public of the establishment of the proposed part-time agencies by posting a notice in a conspicuous place at said stations for at least ten (10) days in advance.

5. Applicants shall, within thirty (30) days thereafter, notify this Commission, in writing, of the change herein authorized and of its compliance with the conditions hereof.
6. 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 authority herein granted shall become effective on the date hereof.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 6<sup>th</sup> day of September, 1932.

C. C. Seaver  
Leon Whittell  
W. A. Lee  
M. B. Linn  
Fred G. Stewart  
Commissioners.