

Decision No. 25198.

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

In the Matter of the Application of SOUTHERN PACIFIC COMPANY for authority (a) to close its seasonal agency at Soda Springs Station in the County of Nevada, State of California, and (b) to discontinue the maintenance of a caretaker at said station during the period, November 1st to April 30th, inclusive, of each year.

Application No. 18280.

**ORIGINAL**

BY THE COMMISSION:

O R D E R

Southern Pacific Company, a corporation, on July 18, 1932, petitioned the Commission for authority to close its agency at Soda Springs, Nevada County, California, which is now maintained over the period May 1st to October 31st, inclusive of each year, and also seeks permission to discontinue the caretaker during the period of the year when the agency has been closed, from November 1st to April 30th.

Accompanying the application is a comparative statement showing the amount of business transacted at said station during the two years' period ending May 31, 1932, as follows:

<u>Items</u>	<u>Year Ending May 31st</u>	
	<u>1931</u>	<u>1932</u>
Passenger tickets sold .....	35	33
Number of less-than-carload shipments received .....	296	250
Number of less-than-carload shipments forwarded .....	82	38
Number of carload shipments received .....	4	14*
Number of carload shipments forwarded .....	198	223**

\*11 of the 14 carload shipments consisted of highway construction material.

\*\*220 of the 223 carload shipments consisted of live stock.

It is alleged in the application that the nearest agency to the north of Soda Springs is Truckee, located a distance of 17.5 miles, and Towle, to the south, a distance of 33.6 miles; that the seasonal abandonment of said agency and caretaker will not involve the abandonment of any facilities; that the station will be continued as a non-agency station and that in applicant's opinion the continued maintenance of the agency and caretaker is not necessary for the business of applicant or for the public.

The California Farm Bureau Federation on August 2, 1932, signified in writing that it does not object to the granting of this application.

A representative of the Commission's Engineering Department made an investigation of this matter and his report, based on an interview with interested shippers and receivers of freight, indicates that there is no serious objection, from the standpoint of railroad service, to the granting of this application.

Southern Pacific Company has indicated that if the application is granted it plans to take care of less-than-carload shipments by storing them in the warehouse, under lock and key, and the company's telephone, located outside the depot, is to be made available to patrons to communicate with the agent at Truckee for the purpose of ordering cars or any other railroad business.

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

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Southern Pacific Company is hereby authorized to abandon its seasonal agency now maintained during the period May 1st to October 31st, inclusive of each year, and to discontinue its caretaker from November 1st to April 30th of the following year, at its station of Soda Springs, located on the main line of its Sacramento Division, in Nevada County, California, and to change its station records and tariffs accordingly,

subject to the following conditions:

- (1) Said agency is to be continued as a non-agency station.
- (2) The seasonal abandonment of this agency shall not result in an increase in fare for Southern Pacific passengers boarding trains at this point.
- (3) Applicant shall store less-than-carload shipments under lock and key in its warehouse and the railroad telephone located at this station shall be made available to applicant's patrons, the key to both warehouse and telephone to be obtainable from a custodian located at or near said station, notice of which shall be maintained at both warehouse and telephone advising shippers where key can be secured.
- (4) Applicant shall give the public at least ten (10) days' notice prior to the abandonment of said agency and caretaker by posting notices in a conspicuous place at said station.
- (5) Applicant shall, within thirty (30) days thereafter, notify this Commission, in writing, of the abandonment 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 19th day of September, 1932.

Ch. Deane  
Leon A. White  
M. A. Lee  
W. B. Harris  
Fred G. Stewart  
Commissioners.