

Decision No. 95284.

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

In the Matter of the Application of
SOUTHERN PACIFIC COMPANY for an order
authorizing it to close the agency at
Raymond Station, County of Madera,
State of California.

Application No. 18459.

BY THE COMMISSION:

O R D E R

ORIGINAL

Southern Pacific Company, on October 8th, 1932, applied for authority to abandon its agency at Raymond Station on its Raymond Branch in Madera County.

Accompanying the application is a comparative statement showing the amount of business transacted at said station during the two years' period ending July 31, 1932. A summary of this statement follows:

<u>Items</u>	<u>Year Ending July 31st</u>	
	<u>1931</u>	<u>1932</u>
Passenger Tickets Sold,	4	2
Number of Less-than-carload shipments received,	2735	2517
Number of Less-than-carload Shipments forwarded,	226	143
Number of carload shipments received,	110	66
Number of carload shipments forwarded,	27	4

A survey of the station record indicates that carload business received is confined to road and fuel oil, flour and mill stuff, ice and salt. 75% of the less-than-carload business received is consigned to mining and cattle grazing communities adjacent to Raymond off of railroad.

Raymond is located at the end of the Raymond Branch, which extends from Raymond to Berenda, a non-agency station, a distance of 20.9 miles. Applicant operates mixed train service on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays over said branch. The

nearest existing agencies to Raymond are Madera, 28.3 miles north, and Chowchilla, 29.2 miles south. In this proceeding it is not proposed to abandon any of the facilities; said station to be continued as a non-agency station.

The California Farm Bureau Federation has 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 in this matter and his report, based on an interview of interested shippers and receivers of freight at Raymond, shows that there is no objection to the granting of this application.

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

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

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Southern Pacific Company is hereby authorized to abandon its agency at Raymond, located on its Raymond Branch of its Western Division in Madera 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 abandonment of this agency shall not result in an increase of fares to Southern Pacific Company's passengers boarding trains at this point.
- (3) Applicant shall store less-than-carload shipments under lock in its warehouse and the railroad telephone located at this station shall be available to patrons; the key to both warehouse and telephone shall be in the custody

of a duly appointed caretaker and shall be made available to patrons whenever occasion demands; and notice advising shippers where key may be secured shall be maintained at both warehouse and telephone.

- (4) Applicant shall give the public at least ten (10) days notice prior to the abandonment of said agency by posting notice in a conspicuous place at said station.
- (5) Applicant shall within thirty (30) days thereafter notify this Commission 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.

The authority herein granted shall become effective on the date hereof.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 21st day of November, 1932.

W. J. Seavey
Leon A. Whidell
W. A. Linn
M. B. Harris
Fred G. Stewart
Commissioners.