

Decision No. 25443.

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

ORIGINAL

In the Matter of the Application of
(a) SOUTHERN PACIFIC COMPANY for an
order authorizing it to close the
agency at Lake Tahoe Station, County
of Placer, State of California, during
the period October 1st to March 31st,
inclusive, of each year, and (b)
RAILWAY EXPRESS AGENCY, INC. for an
order authorizing it to close its agency
at said Station during said period
October 1st to March 31st, inclusive of
each year.

Application No. 18530.

BY THE COMMISSION:

O R D E R

Southern Pacific Company, a corporation, joined by Railway Express Agency, Inc., on November 17, 1932, applied for authority to close their joint agency at Lake Tahoe Station, in Placer County, California, during the six-month period beginning October 1st of each year and ending the following 31st day of March. Accompanying the application is a comparative statement showing the amount of business transacted by Southern Pacific Company at said station during the six-month periods ending March 31, 1931 and 1932, as follows:

<u>Items</u>	<u>Six-month Period</u> <u>Ending March 31st</u>	
	<u>1931</u>	<u>1932</u>
Passenger tickets sold.....	897	198
Number of less-than-carload shipments received.....	684	483
Number of less-than-carload shipments forwarded.....	75	40
Number of carload shipments received....	27	15
Number of carload shipments forwarded...	4	3

Railway Express Agency, Inc., reports that the revenue during the six-month period ending March 31, 1932, for all express

shipments forwarded and received at Lake Tahoe Station amounted to \$1,875.69. In the past Southern Pacific Company's agent has acted as express agent at this point on a commission basis. Railway Express Agency, Inc., alleges that no outside party is available to handle this agency in view of the small amount of remuneration in case Southern Pacific Company should be permitted to withdraw its agent.

Lake Tahoe Station serves the summer resort territory and is located at the end of the Lake Tahoe Branch of the Southern Pacific Company's Sacramento Division. The nearest existing agency to Lake Tahoe is Truckee, located a distance of 14.7 miles east. It is alleged that the seasonal abandonment of said agency will not involve the abandonment of any facilities; that the agency will be continued as a non-agency station; and that, in applicants' opinion, the continued maintenance of the station is not necessary for the business of the applicants or for the public.

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

A representative of the Transportation Division of the Commission's Engineering Department has made an investigation and his report shows that interested shippers and receivers of freight and express business at Lake Tahoe Station indicated they will not oppose 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 that the company's telephone will be made available to patrons to communicate with the agent at Truckee for the purpose of ordering cars or for other railroad business.

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

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Southern Pacific Company and Railway Express Agency, Inc., respectively, are hereby authorized to close their joint agency at Lake Tahoe Station, located on the Lake Tahoe Branch of the Sacramento Division of the Southern Pacific Company, in Placer County, California, from approximately October 1st of each year to approximately March 31st of the following year, and to change their respective station records and tariffs accordingly, subject to the following conditions:

- (1) Southern Pacific Company shall operate said station at Lake Tahoe as a non-agency station during the time the agency is not maintained.
- (2) Applicants shall, each year, notify the public ten (10) days in advance of the closing of said agency by posting a notice in a conspicuous location at said station and shall also so advise this Commission.
- (3) Southern Pacific Company shall store less-than-carload shipments under lock in the company's warehouse and the railway telephone located at this station shall be made available to patrons. The key to both telephone and warehouse shall be obtainable from a custodian located at or near said station, notice of which shall be maintained at both telephone and warehouse, advising shippers where key may be secured.
- (4) Applicants shall, within thirty (30) days thereafter, notify this Commission, in writing, of the abandonment herein authorized and of their compliance with the conditions hereof.
- (5) 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 10th day of December, 1932.

P. C. Williams
W. B. Harris
Fred G. Stewart
Commissioners.