

Decision No. 5673.

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

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In the matter of the application)	
of JAMES A. GRAY for permit and)	
for certificate of public convenience)	
and necessity to operate an auto-)	Application No. 3908.
mobile stage and truck service be-)	
tween Banning and Palm Springs,)	
Riverside County, California..)	

Geo. I. Wing for applicant.
 C. H. Ingelow and Zeddie Bunker for
 C. E. Bunker, Jr. protestant.

BY THE COMMISSION:

O P I N I O N

The original application herein seeks au-
 thority to operate passenger stage and truck service between
 Whitewater and Palm Springs. The amended application seeks
 authority to operate between Banning and Palm Springs via
 Whitewater, all in Riverside County.

A public hearing upon the application
 was held by Examiner Westover at Banning, August 1st.

Applicant has recently been awarded the
 contract to carry the United States mail between Whitewater
 on the Southern Pacific system and Palm Springs, a winter
 health resort, off the railroad, about ten miles to the

southeast. The territory between Whitewater and Palm Springs appears to be well served by C. M. Bunker, Jr. who has been operating a freight and passenger line over that route for several years. Applicant testifies that additional service is not needed between those points. This was also shown by testimony on behalf of Mr. Bunker.

Applicant urges, however, that a through service from Banning to Palm Springs via Whitewater would prove a public convenience, but did not show that such a line would be apt to receive sufficient patronage to justify its establishment.

Applicant's testimony showed that there were frequent inquiries at the garage in Banning for stage accommodation to Palm Springs and that shipments of meat, ice, bakery goods and similar products from Banning, destined for Palm Springs, might be procured for the proposed truck service because these shipments by freight, express or parcel post are sometimes carried past Whitewater through error and delays in delivery result. Most of these shipments for Palm Springs originate at Los Angeles.

It appears from the testimony that most of the passenger travel to and from Palm Springs originates at or is destined to points west of Banning, usually Los Angeles and vicinity. It does not sufficiently appear that such travelers would prefer to change from train to stage at Banning rather than at Whitewater and increase the stage journey by fourteen miles between Whitewater and Banning, especially as the road is reported to be in poor condition usually. The present stage service between Palm Springs and Whitewater affords good connection with passenger

trains in both directions. Public convenience and necessity does not appear to require the additional service proposed.

O R D E R

JAMES A. GRAY having applied for declaration that public convenience and necessity require him to operate automobile stage and truck service between Banning and Palm Springs via Whitewater, all in Riverside County, a public hearing having been held thereon, and it appearing from the testimony that public convenience and necessity do not require the additional service proposed,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the application be and it is hereby denied.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 10th day of August, 1918.

Edwin O. Edgerton
A. S. Howard
W. Gordon
Commissioners.