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Decision No. 6520.

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

In the Matter of the Application of MALKER D. HINES, DIRECTOR GENERAL OF RAILROADS, operating IOS ANGELES & SAIN LAKE RAILROAD, for permission to abandon station at Nipton, California.

Application No. 4677.

E. E. Bennett and Dana T. Smith for Applicant.

LOVELAND, Commissioner.

OBINION

Walker D. Hines, Director General of Railroads, operating Los Angeles & Salt Lake Railroad, has petitioned the Railroad Commission for an order authorizing the discontinuance and abandonment of the station heretofore maintained at Nipton, California.

A public hearing was held at los Angeles on July 7, 1919, the matter was duly submitted and is now ready for decision.

The station of Nipton has been maintained by the applicant herein and his predecessors in interest for some years having been originally established to serve the mining district known as Searchlight, some twenty-three miles distant, stages serving as a means of communication. The activities at Searchlight have been reduced to a minimum and the stage line has been discontinued. On April 5, 1919, the station building at Nipton was destroyed by fire and same has not been rebuilt.

A statement presented by applicant showing the business transacted during the calendar year ending March 31, 1919, shows the following data:

The expense of maintaining the agency station is estimated at approximately from \$125.00 to \$140.00 per month. The territory adjacent to Nipton is desert and there are no agricultural products of any kind or other business justifying the re-building and maintenance of an agency station.

Patrons who may desire to use the line of applicant will be served at Ivanpah, located 10.3 miles west and an agency station: or from Jean, located 23.6 miles east and an agency station; or from Desort 4.9 miles east where a non-agency station and pumping plant is located. The station of Nipton will remain as a flag station for passengers only, and passengers desiring to board or leave trains at such point will be accorded such privilege.

In view of the evidence in this proceeding, I am of the opinion and find as a fact that the public convenience and necessity do not require the maintenance of an agency station at Ripton and that public necessity will be served by the establishment of a flag station for the accommodation of such occasional passengers as may desire to leave or board trains at such point.

Herewith the following form or order.

OBDER

Walker D. Hines, Director General of Railroads,

operating Los Angeles & Salt Lake Railroad, having made application for permission to discontinue the agency station heretofore maintained at Nipton, California, a public hearing having been held, the matter having been duly submitted and the Commission being fully advised and basing its order on the finding of fact as set forth in the opinion which precedes this order,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that this application be and the same hereby is granted subject to the provision that said station of Nipton will hereafter be classed as a flag station and that passenger trains operated by applicant and his successors in interest will stop to discharge passengers upon notice to train conductors and will pick up passengers upon being flagged for such purpose.

The foregoing opinion and order are heroby approved and ordered filed as the opinion and order of the Railroad Commission of the State of California.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this $24^{\prime\prime}$ day of July, 1919.

Commissioners.