Decision No. Y234

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

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In the Matter of the Application of San Joaquin County for permission to cross the right of way of the Southern Pacific Company (Stockton and Copperopolis Railroad) with a proposed public highway.

Application No. 6014.

Mr. George French, for Applicant. Arthur L. Levinsky, for Southern Pacific Company.

By the Commission:

<u>O P I N I O N</u>

This is an application by the Board of Supervisors of San Joaquin County for an order authorizing the construction of a high-way crossing at grade across the right of way and tracks of the Southern Pacific Company on the west line of Section 36, Township 2 North, Range 7 East, M.D.B. & M.

A public hearing was held at Stockton before Examiner Westover on September 7, 1920.

The proposed crossing is on what is known as the E.S. Beecher road which extends south from the Linden road along the west line of Section 36 to the Stockton-Peters branch of the Southern Pacific Company. It is proposed to extend the Beecher road on south to join the Copperopolis road. The Linden and Copperopolis roads are two miles apart at this point. At the present time there is a north and south road joining these two roads at Walthall Station on the east line of Section 36 about 5700 feet

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distant, and a similar north and south road to the west 6700 feet distant, near Orford. There is on the north side of the railroad a narrow roadway running east and west through lot 92 of the Weber Grant and adjoining the E. S. Beecher road with the north and south road through Orford.

The line of railway over which this crossing is desired was in former years not greatly traveled and was more or less below standard construction. Due to the growth of freight traffic on the main lines it became necessary to improve this line and it has been rolaid with 75 pound steel with new ties and fully ballasted. Considerable freight traffic which was formerly routed over the main lines has been diverted over this branch.

The land in the vicinity of this crossing has been cut up into small tracts but inspection in the field fails to show any houses in the vicinity of the crossing which cannot be easily reached from either the Linden or Copperopolis roads, both of which run directly into Stockton. Through traffic between the Linden and Copperopolis roads can be handled over either of the north and south roads about one mile each of the proposed crossing. All of the right of way for the proposed road has not been procured. Public convenience and necessity do not seem to demand the construction of this crossing.

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San Josquin County having on August 12, 1920, filed an application with the Commission for permission to construct a public road at grade crossing the tracks of the Southern Pacific Company on the west line of Section 36, Township 2 North, Range 7 East, M.D. B and M., on what is known as the E. S. Beecher road as hereinabove described, a public hearing having been held and the Commission being fully apprised in the premises and being of the opinion that the application should be denied,

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

Dated at San Francisco, California, this _// day of September, 1920.

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