

Decision No. 26033.

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

In the Matter of the Application of  
(a) SOUTHERN PACIFIC COMPANY for an  
order authorizing it to close the  
agency at Hamilton Station, County of  
Glenn, State of California, during the  
period January 1st to June 14th,  
inclusive, of each year, and (b)  
RAILWAY EXPRESS AGENCY, INC. for  
authority to close its agency at said  
Station during the said period  
January 1st to June 14th, inclusive,  
of each year.

Application No. 18897.

**ORIGINAL**

BY THE COMMISSION:

O R D E R

Southern Pacific Company and Railway Express Agency, Inc., on May 18, 1933, petitioned the Railroad Commission for authority to establish a seasonal agency at Hamilton, Glenn County. At present applicants maintain a full time agency at Hamilton and propose herein to operate this agency during the period June 15th to December 31st, inclusive of each year, and as a non-agency during the remainder of the time.

Accompanying the application is a comparative statement showing the amount of business transacted at said station during the periods from April 1st to June 14th, 1931 and 1932 and from January 1st to March 31st, 1932 and 1933, as follows:

Items	: April 1st : January 1st :		: to June 14th : to March 31st :	
	: 1931 : 1932 :		: 1932 : 1933 :	
Passenger tickets sold,	0	1	0	0
Number less-than-carload shipments received,	171	42	91	32
Number less-than-carload shipments forwarded,	28	17	15	5
Number carloads received,	21	0	1	3
Number carloads forwarded,	53	18	15	5

Hamilton is unincorporated and is the trading center for a grain, stock, deciduous and citrus fruit district and is located on the Colusa Branch of the Southern Pacific Company's Sacramento Division. The present normal train service on this branch line consists of a mixed train operated between Harrington and Orland on Monday and Friday and in the opposite direction on Tuesday and Saturday.

The nearest existing agency stations to Hamilton are Colusa, located 37 miles to the south, and Orland, 12 miles to the north.

The revenue of the Railway Express Agency, Inc., for all express shipments forwarded and received at Hamilton during the period from January 1st to June 14th, 1932, amounted to \$173. and from January 1st to March 31st, 1933, was \$37. In the past Southern Pacific Company's agent has acted as express agent at this point on a commission basis. Railway Express Agency, Inc., alleged that in view of the small amount of remuneration no outside party is available to handle the agency in case the Southern Pacific Company is granted authority to withdraw its agent.

The 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 made an investigation of this matter and his report, based on an interview with interested shippers and receivers of freight, indicates that there is no serious objection from the standpoint of railroad service to the granting of this application.

Applicant, Southern Pacific Company, proposes if this application is granted to store less-than-carload shipments in its warehouse, under lock, provided a suitable arrangement can be made to secure the services of a custodian of the key; likewise

the company's telephone will be made available to patrons to communicate with adjacent agencies 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;

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Southern Pacific Company and Railway Express Agency, Inc., are hereby authorized to abandon their respective agencies at Hamilton, Glenn County, during the period from approximately January 1st to the following June 14th, inclusive, of each year, and to change their station records and tariffs accordingly, provided said station is continued as an agency station during the period from approximately June 15th to December 31st of each year, and as a non-agency station from January 1st to and including the following 14th day of June. This authority is granted subject to the following conditions:

- (1) 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 place in said station and shall also notify this Commission in writing that said agency is to be closed.
- (2) Railway Express Agency, Inc., shall continue to handle express shipments moving into or out of said point provided they are tendered to or received from an express messenger at car door of train stopping at said point.
- (3) Applicants shall, within thirty (30) days thereafter, notify this Commission of the abandonment herein authorized and of their compliance with the conditions hereof.
- (4) The authority herein granted shall lapse and become void if not exercised within one 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 5<sup>th</sup> day  
of June, 1933.

C. L. Leavelle  
Leon Whitely  
M. A. C.  
M. B. Harris  
Nathaniel  
Commissioners.