Decision No. 26306

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 its agency at Friant Station, County of Fresno, State of California, and (b) RAILWAY EXPRESS AGENCY, INC., authorizing it to abandon its agency at said Station.

Application No. 18964.



BY THE COMMISSION:

<u>o r d e r</u>

Southern Pacific Company and Railway Express Agency, Inc., have filed the above entitled application requesting authority to close their respective agencies at Friant, Fresno County, California.

Applicant Southern Pacific Company states that during the twelve-month period ending March 31, 1933, but forty-two carload shipments and one hundred thirty-seven less-than-carload shipments were handled at this station. There is no passenger service at this point.

Applicant Railway Express Agency, Inc., alleges that during the twelve-month period ending April 30, 1933, one hundred eleven express shipments, producing a revenue of \$115.58 were hendled at Friant.

The California Farm Bureau Federation has written the Commission that it does not oppose the granting of this application and the California Cattlemen's Association has stated in writing that it has no objection to the closing of the station if facilities are provided whereby cattlemen can order cars for loading live stock and secure information about the arrival and departure of trains.

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Southern Pacific Company proposes that if the application is granted it will provide a telephone service between Friant Station and Clovis, 12¹/₂ miles distant, whereby patrons can, without charge, communicate with an agent of the company.

Applicant Southern Pacific Company further states that less-than-carload shipments will be stored in the freight house and that it will endeavor to engage a responsible individual located in the vicinity to act as custodian of freight house key.

It appears that this is not a matter in which a public hearing is necessary; that public convenience can be adequately served under the proposed arrangement, and that the application should be granted; therefore

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Southern Pacific Company and Railway Express Agency, Inc., are hereby authorized to close their respective agencies at Friant Station, Fresno County, California, on ten (10) days' notice to the public, and to change their station records and tariffs accordingly.

Said authority is granted subject to the following conditions:

- (1) Said station shall be continued as a non-agency station.
- (2) Applicant Southern Pacific Company shall provide telephone facilities whereby its patrons can communicate with the nearest agency station, without charge, for the transaction of railway business.
- (3) Applicant Railway Express Agency, Inc. shell continue to receive and deliver express shipments at said station, provided said shipments are delivered to or received from the conductor of freight train operating through said point.
- (4) Applicants shall within thirty (30) days thereafter notify this Commission, in writing, of the abandonment

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of the facilities herein authorized.

The authority herein granted shall become effective on the date hereof.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 24th day of August, 1933.

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Ó Commissioners.