

Decision No. 29893.

ORIGINAL

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

In the Matter of the Application of )  
THE RIVER LINES (The California )  
Transportation Company and Sacramento )  
& San Joaquin River Lines, Inc.), )  
(a) for leave temporarily to discon- )  
tinue the local passenger service now )  
being rendered by the vessels "Delta )  
King" and "Delta Queen" on the Sacramento Application No. 20158.  
route of applicants, and by the vessels )  
"Port of Stockton" and "Fort Sutter" on )  
the San Joaquin River route of applicants; )  
(b) for an order authorizing such dis- )  
continuance of service on less than )  
thirty days' notice. )

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McCutchen, Olney, Mannon & Greene,  
by F.W. Mielke, for applicant.

WAKEFIELD, Commissioner.

THIRD SUPPLEMENTAL OPINION.

By Decisions Nos. 28257 and 28755 in the above entitled proceeding the applicants were granted authority to suspend passenger service between San Francisco and Stockton and intermediate points and to and from Rio Vista (the only intermediate point served between San Francisco and Sacramento) until May 1, 1936 and May 1, 1937 respectively.

By second supplemental application filed April 10, 1937, applicants seek authority further to continue the suspension of passenger service for a period of twelve months, commencing with May 1, 1937. By Decision No. 29731 such suspension was authorized until June 30, 1937 and the matter set for hearing for the purpose of determining what, if any, further suspension should be authorized.

A public hearing was had on June 9, 1937.

J. C. Stone, Traffic Manager of applicants, The River Lines, testified in support of the application for a further suspension of passenger service between the points named. He testified in confirmation of the facts alleged in the application and further pointed out that there was a limited demand for passenger service between San Francisco and Stockton; that the Companies could not afford to operate their larger passenger-carrying steamers to meet this limited demand but that the applicants desired to have constructed Diesel operated freight boats for the Stockton to San Francisco service as soon as finances would permit the acquisition of such boats and that when these boats were constructed accommodations could be provided for twenty to thirty passengers; that this number of passenger accommodations would adequately care for the usual demands for this service; that the revenue derived from the passenger traffic, combined with decreased operating costs through the use of the Diesel powered boats would materially improve the general earning position of the Companies.

With reference to the Rio Vista suspension, the witness Stone testified that the original suspension was necessitated, first, because the wharf at Rio Vista was out of repair and the cost of repairs was prohibitive and, second, because the increased necessity of accomplishing earlier morning freight delivery in Sacramento on account of competitive conditions made the stop at Rio Vista inadvisable.

The applicants are working on a plan to make the Rio Vista stop possible and also to accomplish early morning Sacramento delivery. If this plan is perfected, the wharf will necessarily

be repaired to accommodate such boats as stop at Rio Vista.

Ordinarily, repeated and lengthy suspensions are not in the public interest. However, in view of the showing made concerning the impracticability of resuming service under existing conditions, I am of the opinion that this application should be granted but that applicants should be placed on notice that they will be expected on or before the expiration of the period of suspension herein authorized to resume service or relinquish their operative rights as to passenger service to and from the points covered by this order.

The granting of this application will not deprive the public of means of transportation as the territory is served by other carriers. These carriers have been informed of applicants' proposal and have offered no opposition.

I recommend the following form of order:

O R D E R

A public hearing having been held in the above entitled application and the matter having been submitted,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that applicants be, and they are, hereby authorized to continue the suspension of passenger service to and from Rio Vista and between San Francisco and Stockton, and intermediate points, until May 1, 1938, provided they immediately supplement their tariffs on file with the Commission on not less than one day's notice to the Commission and to the public to show that their service has been further suspended as authorized herein.

This order shall become effective on the date hereof.

The foregoing Opinion and Order are hereby approved and ordered filed as the Opinion and Order of the Railroad Commission of the State of California.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 28<sup>th</sup> day of June 1937.

Matthew Brown  
Leon Carter  
Robert H. Kelly  
Raymond J. Kelly  
Raymond J. Kelly  
Commissioners.