

Decision No. 31250

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of)
SOUTHERN PACIFIC GOLDEN GATE FERRIES,)
LTD., for authority to abandon its) Application No. 22256
vehicular ferry services between San)
Francisco and Alameda.)

E. J. FOULDS, for Applicant.

H. ALBERT GEORGE, City Attorney, and
REGINALD L. VAUGHAN, Special Counsel, for the
City of Alameda.

JOHN J. O'TOOLE, by Dion Holm and Paul Beck,
for the City and County of San Francisco.

BY THE COMMISSION:

OPINION ON PETITION FOR IMMEDIATE MODIFICATION OF DECISION NO. 31631

Applicant, by its "Petition for Immediate Modification of Decision No. 31631", filed February 3, 1939, requests the Commission to amend said Decision in order that the auto ferry schedule between San Francisco and Alameda may be changed to a different time of the day than that prescribed in said Decision.

Public hearing in this matter was held before Examiner Hall, in San Francisco on February 8, 1939, at which time applicant's "Petition for Suspension of Order and Rehearing", filed January 10, 1939, was also considered.

At the request of all parties appearing the "Petition for Suspension of Order and Rehearing" is taken off the calendar to be reset at a future date on the Commission's own motion or at the request of the parties.

In Decision No. 31631 Applicant was authorized to reduce its auto ferry service between San Francisco and Alameda to one round trip per day, as follows:

"Leave Alameda at about 8:00 A.M. Monday to Saturday, inclusive.
"Leave San Francisco about 5:20 P.M. Monday to Friday, inclusive.

"Leave San Francisco at about 12:20 P.M. Saturday only."
"No Service on Sundays or Holidays."

The record shows that this service was placed in operation on January 16, 1939, and has been operating continuously since that date.

In order that the people of Alameda would be apprised of this service, extensive advertising was conducted by both applicant and the City of Alameda.

Applicant showed by Exhibit No. 7 the detail of the operating experience of this service from its inauguration to the morning of February 8, 1939, which is summarized as follows:

	<u>From Alameda</u>	<u>From San Francisco</u>	<u>Total</u>
Average No. of Vehicles per day	19	27	46
Average Revenue	\$4.76	\$6.83	\$11.59
Average Total Operating Expenses	" "		88.76
Average Loss	" "		77.17

It is necessary for applicant to place an additional boat in service for the morning trip from Alameda and take a boat from the Oakland Pier service in the evening. Applicant contends that this service is not only operated at a substantial loss, but it disrupts the Oakland Pier service. All of applicant's serviceable boats are needed to properly handle this latter service.

It was expected that the extensive advertising resorted to would stimulate the traffic to a point which would warrant the continuance of the service at the times specified, but the record clearly shows that there was little response to this advertising, and that the service cannot be sustained with the existing traffic.

In order to preserve a service between Alameda and San Francisco, applicant proposes to operate one round trip between 9:00 and 10:00 P. M., alleging that a service at that time would not disturb its Oakland Pier operations, and would not involve any appreciable added expense. Applicant's proposal would therefore preserve a service which could in the future be augmented if conditions developed whereby sufficient patronage could be obtained to justify such increased service, or if public convenience and necessity so required. The record indicates that Decision No. 31631 should be modified as prayed for.

O R D E R

A public hearing having been held on "Petition for Immediate Modification of Decision No. 31631," and the matter being duly submitted,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that paragraphs Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4, in the Order of Decision No. 31631, be and they are hereby amended to read as follows:

1. One round trip between Alameda and San Francisco, Mondays to Saturday, inclusive.
2. Sundays and Holidays, no service.

IT IS HEREBY FURTHER ORDERED that applicant is authorized to file its time schedules for said change in service on not less than two (2) days' notice to the Commission and the public.

In all other respects Decision No. 31631 shall remain in full force and effect.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 14th day of February, 1939.

Raymond J. [Signature]
James H. [Signature]
W. H. [Signature]
[Signature]
Justice J. [Signature]