

Decision No. _____

ORIGINAL

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of SOUTHERN)
PACIFIC COMPANY to change schedules on certain)
trains operating between Yuma, Arizona, and) Application No. 22664
Calexico, California, and between Calexico,)
California, and Los Angeles, California.)

E. L. H. Bissinger, for Applicant.

Elmer W. Heald, District Attorney, for County of Imperial,
Protestant.

Harry W. Horton, for Imperial Irrigation District, Protestant.

Earl E. Cavanah, President, for Associated Chambers of
Commerce of Imperial County, Protestant.

B. L. Graham, Chairman, Board of Supervisors of Imperial
County, Protestant.

A. I. Seville, City Attorney, for City of Brawley, Protestant.

George R. Kirk, for City of Calexico, Protestant.

F. L. Young, for Chamber of Commerce of City of Calexico,
Protestant.

Hugh T. Osborne, a Supervisor of Imperial County, Protestant.

BY THE COMMISSION:

O P I N I O N

In this proceeding Southern Pacific Company requests permis-
sion to change the schedules of passenger trains Nos. 819 and 820
operating between Los Angeles and Calexico, California.

Prior to the filing of this application Southern Pacific
Company filed notice with the Commission, in accordance with the
terms of its General Order No. 27-A, that it proposed to change the
schedules of the above-mentioned passenger trains. Due to protests
being filed, the Commission requested the filing of the instant
application, and set the matter for public hearing.

A public hearing was held before Examiner Hall in El Centro April 7, 1939, at which time the matter was to be submitted upon the filing of briefs. Briefs have now been filed and the matter is submitted and ready for determination.

The proposed changes in schedules are as follows:

East			West	
No. 820	820-358		No. 819	357-819
Old	New		Old	New
8:45 PM	9:30 PM	Lv. Los Angeles	Ar. 6:00 AM	5:15 AM
5:53 AM	6:45 AM	Lv. Brawley	Lv. 9:50 PM	8:30 PM
6:13 AM	7:00 AM	Lv. Imperial	Lv. 9:20 PM	7:55 PM
6:50 AM	7:15 AM	Lv. El Centro	Lv. 9:10 PM	7:45 PM
7:25 AM	7:45 AM	Ar. Calexico	Lv. 8:45 PM	7:10 PM

Applicant's purpose in desiring to make the change is to effect economies in operation. A rearrangement of the crews handling these trains would eliminate one crew, thereby making the anticipated saving. It is necessary that the schedules provide for an 8-hour rest period at Niland for the crew and these changes in schedules permit the rearrangement of crews, resulting in a saving, but do not cause the abandonment of any service.

Various interests in Imperial Valley protested the change in schedules on the grounds that mail reaches Valley towns too late in the morning and leaves the Valley too early in the evening. It was contended that the later arrival in the morning delays the ultimate distribution of mail to business houses, particularly in El Centro, thereby delaying the start of the day's work which, in turn, causes inconvenience, delay, and financial loss to said business houses.

It was further contended that the earlier departure in the evening deprives salesmen of time in which to prepare their orders, etc., and to get them in the evening's mail for delivery the following day to business concerns located in the metropolitan areas.

Under the old schedule train No. 820 was a mixed freight and passenger train between Los Angeles and Niland, but under the new schedule it operates as a passenger train between these points.

Between Niland and Calexico this train will continue to operate as a mixed train. Train No. 819 between Calexico and Los Angeles will continue to operate as a passenger train.

A review of the record shows that the morning arrival of train No. 820 is approximately 20 minutes later than the old schedule, and that the departure of the evening train No. 819 is advanced approximately one hour and 20 minutes.

Protests to these changes in schedules were directed entirely to mail service, no protest being made regarding the transportation of passengers. However, it appears that either the old or the new schedule will provide reasonable passenger service.

Exhibits filed by applicant show that these passenger trains do not return sufficient revenue to compensate for the cost of their operation, but do perform a useful service to Imperial Valley.

It is clear that economies are necessary and that the plan proposed by applicant will effect these economies without abandoning any passenger service.

In order to meet the needs of the public in the future the schedules should not be definitely fixed herein but instead some latitude should be allowed to meet future requirements, and the following order will so provide.

O R D E R

A public hearing having been held, briefs having been filed, and the matter having been duly submitted

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Southern Pacific Company is authorized to change the schedules of passenger trains now known as trains Nos. 819 and 820 between Los Angeles and Calexico, California, to a

schedule approximately as hereinbefore described.

The authority herein granted shall become effective twenty (20) days from the date hereof.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 23rd day of May, 1959.

Robert W. Applegate
James R. DeLoach
Ray K. Sibley
M. B. Hall
Justin J. Queney
Commissioners