

Decision No. 22650

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.) for )  
leave temporarily to substitute service by auto )  
truck in place of service by vessel in the )  
transportation of freight between San Francisco )  
Bay Points and Stockton during the continuance )  
of the existing waterfront strike. )

Application  
No. 23187

ORIGINAL

BY THE COMMISSION:

O P I N I O N

Applicants The California Transportation Company and Sacramento & San Joaquin River Lines, Inc. are corporations doing business as The River Lines. Said applicants are engaged in the transportation of property by vessel upon the inland waters of the state of California, between points on San Francisco Bay and points on the Sacramento and San Joaquin Rivers and their tributaries, pursuant to authority conferred by the Commission in its Decisions Nos. 24420 and 28853.

Applicants herein propose to operate automotive equipment, in lieu of vessel equipment, between San Francisco, Oakland and Alameda (Encinal Terminal) on the one hand, and Stockton, on the other hand, temporarily, during the existence of the present San Francisco waterfront strike and request authority of the Commission therefor.

As justification for the temporary authority sought applicants allege substantially as follows:

That under normal conditions applicants transport large volumes of interstate and foreign traffic between Sacramento and Stockton, on the one hand, and San Francisco, Oakland and Alameda (Encinal Terminal), on the other hand, for interchange with oceangoing vessels. That by reason of the existing waterfront strike at the aforesaid San Francisco Bay points, the movement

of such traffic has completely ceased and the only traffic now transported by applicants between said points consists of intrastate shipments comprised principally of general merchandise in less than carload lots or quantities. That such shipments aggregate less than one-third of the volume of the freight transported between said points during normal conditions.

That applicants' estimated revenue for the current month is \$30,000 and that its costs and expenses under its present operations would approximate \$65,000, indicating a resultant operating loss of \$35,000 for the month or over \$1,000 per day. That an immediate reduction in applicants' operating costs has therefore become imperative by reason of the aforesaid stoppage of intercoastal and foreign shipments.

That the direct or out-of-pocket cost of transporting said freight between San Francisco Bay points and Stockton by vessel is approximately \$320 per day and said cost is far in excess of the revenue derived from the present traffic. That applicants are able to transport said freight by auto truck at a cost greatly less than when transported by vessel and the revenue derived from said traffic will exceed the cost of its transportation by auto truck. That a saving in cost of operations of approximately \$200 per day will be effected by transporting said Stockton traffic by means of auto truck instead of by vessel.

In view of the circumstances alleged by applicants, we are of the opinion that the authority requested is in the public interest and it will be granted. A public hearing is not necessary.

O R D E R

THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA HEREBY DECLARES that public convenience and necessity require the establishment and operation, for a temporary period only, by The California Transportation Company and Sacramento and San Joaquin River Lines, Inc., corporations, doing business as The River Lines, of automotive equipment, as a highway common carrier of property, between San Francisco, Oakland and Alameda (Encinal Terminal), on the one hand, and Stockton, on the other hand, under tariffs now on file with the Commission over the public highways between such points, including the route over San Francisco - Oakland Bay Bridge and/or Southern Pacific - Golden Gate vehicular ferries.

IT IS ORDERED that a certificate of public convenience and necessity therefor is hereby granted to The California Transportation Company and Sacramento and San Joaquin River Lines, Inc., doing business as The River Lines, subject to the following conditions:

1. The authority herein conferred shall expire and become void, with or without notice, at the discretion of the Commission and in any event it shall expire and become void upon the termination of the strike now in effect along the San Francisco waterfront.
2. When applicants are able to resume normal operation of their vessel equipment between the points involved herein, they shall immediately notify the Commission in writing.
3. Applicants shall immediately file a written acceptance of the certificate herein granted.
4. Applicants shall immediately amend their tariffs so as to provide that the rates for the service herein authorized will be those now provided in applicants' tariffs for the transportation of like property by vessel, and said service may be established on December 16, 1939, provided applicants' tariffs shall have been so amended.

5. The authority herein granted is limited to service to be performed by automotive equipment in lieu of, and not in addition to, service by vessel equipment.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that applicants, during the period of temporary authority herein granted may suspend operation of their vessel service between San Francisco, Oakland and Alameda (Encinal Terminal) on the one hand and Stockton, on the other hand.

The effective date of this order shall be the date hereof.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 18<sup>th</sup> day of December, 1939.

Raymond A. ...  
Frank ...  
W. Baker  
Justin J. ...  
COMMISSIONERS