

ORIGINAL

Decision No. 35997

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of )  
SOUTHERN PACIFIC COMPANY for an order )  
authorizing it to close its Station )  
at Locke, County of Sacramento, State )  
of California, and that trackage and )  
sheds be included within the Walnut )  
Grove Station limits. )

Application No. 25181

R. S. MYERS, for Applicant

N. D. PRITCHETT, for The Order of Railroad Telegraphers

I. S. WILSON, " " " " " "

BY THE COMMISSION:

O P I N I O N

Applicant Southern Pacific Company has made application requesting authority to close its station at Locke, County of Sacramento, and that the trackage and sheds at Locke be included within the Walnut Grove Station limits.

A public hearing was held before Examiner Malquist at Locke, California, on October 20, 1942, at which time the matter was submitted.

The Station of Locke is located on the Walnut Grove Branch, Sacramento Division of the Southern Pacific Company. The nearest existing agency on the south (east in railroad direction) is Walnut Grove, a distance of .5 of a mile, while on the north (west in railroad direction) is Hood, a distance of 8.7 miles.

Applicant contends that under present conditions the business handled at Locke Station does not warrant the continued maintenance of said station and that the public will not be deprived of any necessary service or suffer any serious inconvenience by the abandonment of this station and having the trackage and sheds at Locke included within the Walnut Grove Station limits. Furthermore, that no agent is required at Locke for the purpose of train operations, and that no

passenger trains are operated on the Walnut Grove Branch.

The amount of traffic handled at the Locke Station during the 12-month period ending June 30, 1942, as compared to the 12-month period ending June 30, 1941, is as follows:

	Year Ended <u>6-30-42</u> (a)	Average Per Mo. (b)	Year Ended <u>6-30-41</u> (c)	Average Per Mo. (d)	Avg. Per Mo. Comparison Inc.      Dec. (e)      (f)	
<u>STATION DATA (1)</u>						
Baggage Handled-pieces	-	-	-	-	-	
Number of waybills made	218	18	391	33	15	
Number of freight bills made	168	14	206	17	3	
Western Union messages	143	12	278	23	11	
<u>FREIGHT RECEIVED AND FORWARDED</u>						
Carloads - cars	206	17	371	31	14	
Carload revenue-Local* \$1,276		\$106	\$953	\$79	\$27	
Carload revenue-Inter- line	\$30,577	\$2,548	\$51,874	\$4,323	\$1,775	
Less-than-carload revenue-Local*	\$143	\$12	\$199	\$17	\$5	
Less-than-carload revenue-Interline	\$45	\$4	\$69	\$6	\$2	

STATION EXPENSES COMPARED WITH LESS-THAN-CARLOAD AND TICKET  
REVENUE FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 1942

Station Expense ♂	\$2,358	
Average per month		\$197
LCL - Revenue	\$188	
Average per month		\$16
Ticket Revenue (Agency reports)- Average per month	-	-
Total average revenue per month for LCL and Ticket (Agency reports) sales		\$16

\* - For the items of local freight revenue the amounts shown represent one-half of the actual revenue in order to allocate or credit to this station its portion of the revenues derived therefrom.

♂ - The item of station expense represents only 6.442% of balance of rail operating expenses.

(1) - Exhibit No. 2.

Testimony introduced by applicant indicates that the total distance from the outer limits of Locke to the Walnut Grove Station is 4700 feet, and that in the event this application is granted the entire community of Locke will be included within the pickup and delivery limits of Walnut Grove; that the same tariff charges apply at both stations and therefore there will be no rate changes; that local and long-distance telephone charges are the same for Walnut Grove as Locke; and, that the Southern Pacific Company does not propose to remove any existing facilities at Locke, with the exception of the station. Applicant further testified that in the event this application is granted, all shipments destined to or from Locke will be billed as Walnut Grove, and all records of local shipments, which are used by the fruit and vegetable men for reference, will be available in the Walnut Grove Agency.

No witnesses appeared at the hearing protesting the granting of this application.

Counsel for The Order of Railroad Telegraphers requested that applicant be required to show the revenue received from the lease of sheds and other facilities at Locke, and that the amount so received be included with the revenue shown on applicant's Exhibit No. 2. The request was taken under advisement.

Testimony introduced by applicant indicates that lease arrangements for sheds and other facilities at Locke are handled through the Traffic department of the Southern Pacific Company. Monthly rental payments may be mailed by the lessee directly to the general office of the Southern Pacific Company or handled through the local Station Agent. It appears from the testimony of applicant that no changes are proposed in the handling of leases at Locke. It is obvious that there are certain expenses in connection with the

leasing and maintenance of sheds and other facilities. Any statement showing the revenue received from such leases would not be complete unless the expenses incurred in performing service under the lease arrangements were also shown.

The evidence is sufficient to warrant the conclusion that the record in this proceeding would not be particularly benefited by the inclusion of revenue received from the lease of sheds and other facilities at Locke. There is no showing to indicate wherein such revenue has any bearing on the closing of the station agency. The request is therefore denied.

Upon consideration of all the facts of record in this application it is apparent that the closing of the station agency at Locke would not result in serious inconvenience to the public, providing the trackage and sheds at this point are included within the Walnut Grove Station limits.

We find the application should be granted.

#### ORDER

A public hearing having been held and the matter being under submission,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Southern Pacific Company is hereby authorized to close the agency at its Station of Locke, County of Sacramento, State of California, to eliminate said agency name from its station records, and to cancel, in conformity with the rules of this Commission, all rate tariffs and time schedules applying at said station.

IT IS HEREBY FURTHER ORDERED that coincident with the abandonment of said station, the trackage and sheds at Locke be included within the Walnut Grove Station limits, and that rate tariffs and time schedules be available in the Walnut Grove Agency for the

combined territory subject to the following conditions:

1. The abandonment of this agency station shall not result in an increase in tariff rates.
2. Applicant shall give not less than ten (10) days' notice to the public of said agency abandonment by posting notice at said station.
3. Applicant shall, within thirty (30) days thereafter, notify this Commission in writing of the abandonment of the facilities authorized herein, and of its compliance with the conditions hereof.
4. The authorization herein granted shall lapse and become void if not exercised within one (1) year from the date hereof unless further time is granted by subsequent order.

For all other purposes the effective date of this order shall be twenty (20) days from the date hereof.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 1<sup>st</sup> day of December, 1942.

Justin F. Casper

M. Baker

Francis P. Stevenson

Richard K. ...  
Commissioners