

Decision No. 39035

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

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In the Matter of the installation of switch lights on main line switches of PETALUMA AND SANTA ROSA RAILWAY COMPANY.	}) }) }) })	Case No. 1067
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BY THE COMMISSION:

SUPPLEMENTAL ORDER

By its Decision No. 4309 of May 10, 1917, the Commission issued an order after a hearing in the above matter, requiring the Petaluma and Santa Rosa Railway Company to equip all main line switches with switch lamps for the purpose of giving indication as to the position of switches during the hours of darkness and requiring the Petaluma and Santa Rosa Railway Company to thereafter maintain such switch lights until the further order of the Commission.

The Petaluma and Santa Rosa Railroad Company, successor to the respondent, on April 3, 1946, filed a Petition for Revocation of the Order in our Decision No. 4309 in the instant matter. The petitioner cited as a reason for its request, that changed operating conditions, such as abandonment of all passenger service since June, 1932; limited freight train service during the hours of darkness; and a restriction of all freight service to a speed limit of not more than 20 m.p.h., have eliminated the necessity for the use of switch lamps on its main line switches.

On April 23, 1946, three members of the staff of the Commission's Safety Division made a joint inspection of the tracks and operating methods of the petitioner, for the purpose of ascertaining the reasonableness of its request, and what, if any, conditions should be included if such request were granted. On May 16 and 17, 1946, conferences were held by the members

of the Commission's staff with the representatives of the train service organizations concerned,⁽¹⁾ and no objections were offered by such representatives to the granting of the petitioner's request, subject to certain conditions which were outlined to them at the time. The carrier concurs.

It appearing that a public hearing is not necessary herein, and that the request of the petitioner is reasonable and should be granted, subject to certain conditions,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the order in Decision No. 4309 in the above-entitled proceedings be and it is hereby revoked, subject to the following conditions:

(1) The speed of all trains and engines shall be restricted to fifteen (15) miles per hour on main track and Forestville Branch, and ten (10) miles per hour on Two Rock Branch.

(2) Every switch in the main track shall be equipped with a high type switch stand, except where the switch is in a paved street with paving on both sides of the switch, or where it is impossible to provide required clearance for a high switch stand because of buildings, bridges, or other substantially fixed structures.

(3) Every switch in the main track having a high stand shall be equipped and maintained with a full circular target painted white, displayed when the switch is lined for the main track, and a full-sized fish tail designed target, painted standard red, displayed when the switch is lined for the diverging route.

(4) Every main track switch shall be kept locked in normal position at all times when not in actual use by a train or engine, or under the personal charge of a member of the crew.

(5) Every switch target shall be kept clean and brightly painted so that its indication and color are clearly visible from a distance of at least 300 feet at night.

(1) Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, Order of Railway Conductors, Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen, and Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen.

(6) Trees, weeds, and brush shall be kept cut away to permit the unobstructed view of every main track switch target for a distance of 300 feet in either direction.

This authorization shall become void if its conditions are not complied with on or before October 1, 1946, and may be revoked or modified if public convenience, necessity, or safety so require. This order shall be effective immediately.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 28th day of May, 1946.

David Anderson

Justin J. Casper
Francis D. ...

James L. ...

Harold P. ...

COMMISSIONERS