

**ORIGINAL**

Decision No. 39089

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of PACIFIC	)	
ELECTRIC RAILWAY COMPANY, a corporation, for	)	
authority to abandon trackage between a point	)	Application
near Baldwin Park and a point near Lone Hill,	)	No. 27028
and to purchase and operate track of Southern	)	
Pacific Railroad Company between Bassett and	)	
Ganesha Junction.	)	

C. W. CORNELL, for Applicant.

DAILEY S. STAFFORD, City Attorney, for City of Covina.

HARRY SEE, for the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen.

HARVEY R. MCKEE, for General Committee of Adjustment, Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, and Legislative Board of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers.

R. W. FALLON, for Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen.

O P I N I O N

Pacific Electric Railway Company operates a line of railroad between Los Angeles and San Bernardino by way of Baldwin Park, Covina, and Lone Hill, and Southern Pacific Company operates a branch line of railroad between Bassett and Pomona by way of Covina and Lone Hill.

In this proceeding Pacific Electric proposes to abandon that portion of its line between Baldwin Park and Lone Hill and in lieu thereof to acquire and use the tracks of Southern Pacific Company between Bassett and Ganesha Junction at Pomona.

A public hearing was held in this matter on February 13, 1946, in Los Angeles, <sup>(1)</sup> at which time the matter was submitted.

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(1) This hearing was held jointly with that of Interstate Commerce Commission in Finance Docket No. 15082, Southern Pacific Company to abandon branch line between Ganesha Junction and Pomona; Finance Docket No. 15084, Pacific Electric to abandon a line of railroad between Baldwin Park and Lone Hill; and Finance Docket No. 15092, Pacific Electric Railway Company to purchase and operate a line of railroad owned by Southern Pacific, between Bassett and Ganesha Junction, all of which was granted by said Commission on May 10, 1946.

The total lines of railroad involved between Baldwin Park and Lone Hill are relatively parallel to each other, and each is about  $7\frac{1}{2}$  miles in length.

The line of Pacific Electric Railway Company operates along Badillo Street in the City of Covina with double track. This street is very narrow resulting in hazardous and objectionable operation.

During the wartime period, Pacific Electric was called upon by the Office of Defense Transportation to handle freight over its line between San Bernardino and Los Angeles via Covina in order to relieve the main line railroads of a portion of their large volume of war-time traffic. In addition, it also had its regular operation. Since the close of active warfare, this war-time freight service has been eliminated; however, regular freight service is handled through Covina by Pacific Electric which normally consists of three freight trains per day.

In order to obviate the objectionable train movements along Badillo Street in Covina in 1943<sup>(2)</sup> Pacific Electric arranged for the use of Southern Pacific's line between Baldwin Park and Lone Hill for the operation of its freight trains. The only service in Covina on Pacific Electric's tracks at the present time is passenger train service between Covina and Los Angeles.

If the proposal of applicant is granted, these passenger trains will operate from and to the existing Southern Pacific passenger station at Covina.

There are no industries on the existing line of Pacific Electric proposed to be abandoned. Citrus packing houses are located on Southern Pacific's line and it being a secondary branch, only one service per day is performed. If this application is granted, Pacific Electric will serve these packing houses more often than is done at present and will provide the industries with a very materially improved service.

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(2) Pacific Electric Railway Trackage Rights, 254 I.C.C. 844.

A considerable amount of crushed rock haul is developed on this line of Southern Pacific and Pacific Electric proposes to handle this rock haul for interchange with Southern Pacific at Bassett.

During the peak of the citrus season, due to the presence of local switching operations of Pacific Electric at the rock crushing plants about three miles west of Covina, as well as the added service east of Covina during the high period of perishable movement, applicant will be in a position to further augment the service as required by the volume of business offered in the area involved.

As far as local passenger service is concerned, either by rail or motor coach between San Bernardino and Los Angeles, it will not be affected other than moving the rail station facilities to the present Southern Pacific station at Covina which is about as centrally located as the present Pacific Electric station.

Among the advantages of moving Pacific Electric service to Southern Pacific Company's line is primarily the taking of rail service off a street in Covina and putting it on a private right of way. The City of Covina is very desirous of having this change made, thereby eliminating the hazard and congestion along Badillo Street.

It would appear, after a review of the record, that public convenience and necessity require the granting of this application and it will be so ordered.

O R D E R

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

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that permission and authority is hereby granted to Pacific Electric Railway Company to abandon and remove its trackage between Baldwin Park and a point near Lone Hill, and to purchase and operate track of Southern Pacific Company between Bassett

and Ganesha Junction, all in the County of Los Angeles, California,  
subject to the following conditions:

- (1) Applicant shall give not less than five (5) days' notice to the Commission and the public, of its change of passenger train operation.
- (2) Applicant shall, within thirty (30) days thereafter, notify the Commission in writing of the completion of said abandonment and purchase, and of its compliance with the conditions hereof.

The effective date of this Order shall be twenty (20) days from the date hereof.

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

June, 1946.

David C. Cudde  
Justice J. C. Cudde  
Francis C. Cudde  
James J. Cudde  
Harold A. Cudde  
Commissioners