Decision No. 45717

ORIGINAL

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of MOUNTAIN STAGE LINE, INC. for (a) an order modifying authority heretofore granted to operate a passenger service between points in San Diego and Imperial Counties; (b) authority to amend its passenger tariff so as to effect certain fare increases and to correct certain irregularities therein; and (c) an order permitting the exercise of authority heretofore granted to assess rates for the transportation of express on a unit basis instead of a weight basis.

Application No. 30946 First Supplemental

In the Matter of the Investigation by the Commission upon its own motion into the rates, rules, regulations, charges, allowances, and practices of all common carriers, as defined in the Public Utilities Act of the State of California, highway carriers as defined in Chapter 223, Statutes of 1935, of the State of California, as amended, relating to the transportation of property for hire within the State of California.

Case No. 4808

OPINION.

Applicant presently operates as a passenger stage corporation between San Diego and Julian, California, under authority of this Commission granted by Decision No. 14212, as amended, dated May 23, 1950, on Application No. 30946, as amended. Decision No. 14212 was amended by Decision No. 14297, dated June 13, 1950, on Application No. 30946, as amended. This latter decision also extended the time during which the certifi-

cate granted by Decision No. 44212 could be accepted, to and including the 50th day after May 23, 1950.

The certificate was accepted during said extended period, but applicant failed to comply with the requirement of said Decision No. 44212 that the increased tariff authorized therein be filed with the Commission.

Ey the present supplemental application, Mountain Stage Line, Inc. asks that it be authorized again to file tariffs in accordance with the authorization of said Decision No. 44212, and that it be permitted to depart from the provisions of General Orders Nos. 79 and 80, which require the designations by symbols of advances and reductions. Applicant alleges that its fare, rate, and rule changes are numerous, and the designation of each change would unduly complicate its tariff. Permission also is sought to establish such increased rates on not less than five days' notice to the Commission and the public. Applicant alleges that its failure to comply with the tariff filing requirements of Decision No. 44212 was unintentional, and resulted from a lack of knowledge and understanding of Commission rules and regulations.

Applicant asks that it be exempted from the minimum rates established in Cases Nos. 4246 and 4808 by the addition of its name to Paragraph "C" of Finding No. 14 of Decision No. 31606. Decision No. 44212, in Application No. 30946, in effect authorized applicant to deviate from the minimum rates. However, in order that there be no ambiguity with respect to applicable provisions, applicant asks that it be specifically exempted from the minimum rates. Aside from the justification hitherto advanced with respect to

Application No. 30946, applicant evers that the transportation of express accounts for only a small portion of its revenues, that the shipments are limited to those not exceeding 100 pounds, and that application of the present minimum rate provisions would be unduly burdensome and accomplish no useful purpose.

Amendment is sought of the authorized route between Lakeside and Ramona so as to exclude Fernbrook and Foster. The highway between Lakeside and Ramona was relocated a number of years ago. As a result, these two points are now located on a branch road. Applicant has not provided service to these points since the road was relocated, and believes that there is not sufficient demand for its service to justify the expense of deviating from the main highway to serve these points.

Authority is sought to provide "on-call service" for the transportation of persons, baggage, and express between Julian and Cuyamaca and intermediate points via Sunrise Junction, and between Julian and Pine Hills Lodge and intermediate points. This authority is sought as reinstatement of authority formerly held by applicant under Decision No. 41068. When applicant's present operative authority was consolidated in an in-lieu certificate by Decision No. 44212, authorization to serve Cuyamaca and Pine Hills Lodge was by implication, but not expressly granted.

Applicant also requests that the transportation of baggage and express be limited to its movement on passenger-carrying
Vehicles. A restriction likewise is requested between applicant's
terminal in San Diego and a point on Camino Del Rio one-half mile
easterly from the easterly line of the intersection of Camino Del

Rio, Taylor and Moreno Boulevard. In view of the requested rerouting by Application No. 31917 and the granting of such request
by Decision No. 45599, dated April 17, 1951, this requested restriction becomes inapplicable and consequently will not be
granted. A restriction against carrying express between San Diego
and Ramono and intermediate points is also asked.

From an examination of said Decision No. 44212, as amended, it appears that, through inadvertence, the certificate granted by Decision No. 41069 was revoked and rescinded, whereas Decision No. 41068 was intended to be, and should have been, revoked and rescinded.

As it appears that the requests and proposed amendment are not contrary to the public interest and will not affect other carriers, the application, with the exceptions hereinbefore noted, will be granted. It should be stated, however, that, with the change in route granted by said Decision No. 45599 on Application No. 31917 to serve the community of Fletcher Hills, any reduction in fares to meet competition in that area must not be permitted to result in a violation of Section 21 of Article XII of the State Constitution. At the hearing on said Application No. 31917, applicant's president testified that, if necessary, its other rates would be reduced so that charges for through transportation would not exceed the aggregate of intermediate rates. A public hearing on Supplemental Application No. 30946 is unnecessary.

The effective date of this order shall be twenty (20)

days after the date hereof.

Dated at Jam Francisco, California, this 15th

day of May, 1951.

August J. Cealures

Harolet. Huls

COMMISSIONERS