

ORIGINAL

Decision No. 47283

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of)	
MERCHANTS EXPRESS CORPORATION, a)	Application No. 33415
corporation, for authority to estab-)	
lish joint rates with JOE SAIA.)	

OPINION AND ORDER

Applicants are highway common carriers of general commodities. Merchants Express Corporation operates in the territory generally bounded by Healdsburg, Calistoga, Redding, Sacramento, Stockton, Livermore and San Jose. Joe Saia operates between Sacramento, on the one hand, and points east on U. S. Highway 40 and State Highway 89, Weimar to Inspiration Point and certain other Lake Tahoe points, on the other hand. By this application, as amended, Merchants and Saia seek authority to establish, on five days' notice to the Commission and the public, joint rates between points served by Merchants and points served by Saia.

The rates proposed to be established are the same as the minimum class rates named in Highway Carriers' Tariff No. 2, except that rates equivalent to the 5th class through Class E truckload rates of Tariff No. 2 would not be maintained. Authority is also sought to depart from the long and short haul provisions of the Constitution and of the Public Utilities Code to the extent necessary to establish the proposed rates.

Service over applicants' lines between the points involved is now subject to combinations of their local rates. These combination rates, applicants represent, are higher than competing carriers' rates and the established minimum rates. They assert that establishment of the sought basis would adjust their rates to

reasonable levels and would enable them to provide expeditious and economical service.

Competing carriers have been notified of the filing of the application. No objections have been received.

It appears that the establishment of joint rates as proposed is not adverse to the public interest and is justified. The application will be granted. A public hearing is not necessary.

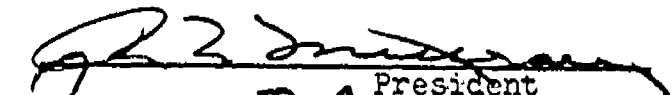
Therefore, good cause appearing,

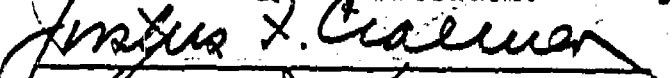
IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that applicants be and they are hereby authorized to establish the joint through highway common carrier rates proposed in the above-entitled application, as amended; on not less than five (5) days' notice to the Commission and the public and to depart from the provisions of Article XII, Section 21, of the Constitution of the State of California and Section 460 of the Public Utilities Code to the extent necessary to establish the rates authorized herein.


IT IS HEREBY FURTHER ORDERED that the authority herein granted shall expire unless the rates authorized herein are made effective within sixty (60) days after the effective date of this order.


This order shall become effective twenty (20) days after the date hereof.

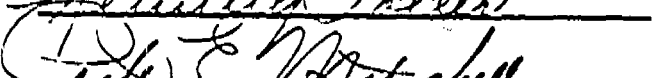
Dated at San Francisco, California, this 17th day of June, 1952.



President








Commissioners