

ORIGINALDecision No. 49747

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Application of Yreka Western Railroad)
 Company, a corporation, for authority) Application No. 35108
 to discontinue service as a passenger)
 stage corporation.)

O P I N I O N

The operative rights of Yreka Western Railroad Company between Yreka and Etna were acquired pursuant to Decision No. 33275, dated July 3, 1940, in Application No. 22634. The operation had its origin in prescriptive rights established by a partnership of Peters and Reichman and consisted of the carriage of both freight and passengers by automotive equipment over the highways. The present application, filed January 30, 1954, requests authority to discontinue passenger service only. The highway common carrier service would be continued under the proposal

As justification for the relief sought applicant alleges:

"The communities of Fort Jones, Greenview and Etna are principally engaged in servicing the lumber industry. They are extremely small and the inhabitants ride between Yreka and said communities in their own vehicles. There has been practically no use of the service of Yreka Western Railroad Company as a passenger carrier during the last year. As demonstrated by Exhibit A hereto, the revenue which it has derived from such service during the past year has been insufficient even to pay the cost of the increased insurance which must be added to the insurance cost of its service as a freight carrier because it also carries passengers. Discontinuance of passenger service would not inconvenience the public and would save the revenues of the company by reducing its insurance costs. It would thus be in a better position to continue its freight service which is at the best a marginal operation. In view of these facts it would appear to be in the public interest to authorize petitioner to abandon the said service."

The Exhibit A referred to in the above-quoted provisions of the application, shows that only 149 passengers were transported during the year 1953 with a gross revenue of \$199.80. This exhibit further shows that insurance cost alone amounted to \$706.39. Consequently, regardless of other costs of operation the net loss for the year was \$506.59.

According to a letter received from applicant's attorney copies of the application were sent to the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors of Siskiyou County and to the mayors of Yreka, Fort Jones and Etna, the only incorporated cities served. Greenview is not an incorporated city. No protests or objections to the application have been presented.

The Commission finds that applicant should be relieved of the obligation to continue its passenger stage service. Therefore, the request will be granted. A public hearing is not necessary.

O R D E R

Application as above-entitled having been filed, the Commission being fully advised in the premises and finding that applicant's operative rights for the carriage of passengers should be revoked,

IT IS ORDERED:

(1) That Yreka Western Railroad Company, a corporation be, and it hereby is, authorized to abandon and discontinue service as a passenger stage corporation between Yreka, Fort Jones, Greenview and Etna, California, and intermediate points.

(2) That on or before the effective date hereof applicant shall, in accordance with Commission's General Order No. 79, cancel concurrently with the abandonment of service herein authorized, upon not less than five days' notice to the Commission and the public, all fares, rules and time schedules governing the operations to be abandoned.

(3) That Decision No. 33275, dated July 3, 1940, in Application No. 22634 and the operative rights transferred to applicant Yreka Western Railroad Company pursuant to said Decision, except as modified and limited by ordering paragraph No. (1) herein, shall remain in full force and effect.

The effective date of this order shall be twenty days after the date hereof.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 1st day of March, 1954.

R. E. Dunderberg
President
Justus F. Caswell
Wesley P. Pottel
John E. Mitchell
Gene Deegan
Commissioners