

ORIGINAL

Decision No. 53117

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of)
 SOUTHERN PACIFIC COMPANY and of)
 RAILWAY EXPRESS AGENCY, INCORPORATED,)
 for authority to discontinue agency) Application No. 37278
 at Biola, County of Fresno, State of)
 California, and to maintain said)
 station as a non-agency.)

Frederick E. Fuhrman and R. S. Myers for
 applicants.
J. Heinrich for Fresno Cooperative Raisin
 Growers, Inc. interested party.

O P I N I O N

By this application filed September 10, 1955, Southern Pacific Company and Railway Express Agency, Incorporated, request an order of the Commission authorizing them to discontinue their agency at Biola on the Western Division, and permitting Southern Pacific Company to maintain said station as a non-agency station.

Public hearing was held in Biola on April 12, 1956, before Examiner Rowe. Evidence was submitted on behalf of applicants. The matter is now duly submitted and ready for decision.

According to the uncontradicted evidence there is no present need for an agent at this station. For the last several years there has been no passenger service at Biola. The less-than-carload pickup and delivery service has been handled by Pacific Motor Trucking Company. The carload service will be handled by the agent at Kerman which is seven miles west of Biola. The Railway Express Agency has received an annual gross income of about \$200 from the Biola station for the last two years. The expense of maintaining an agency at this station is clearly not justified. Although notice of the proposed abandonment and of the hearing was duly given to all interested

persons no one appeared in opposition. Approximately \$4,800 will be saved annually by Southern Pacific Company by closing this agency, and service will not be materially impaired.

Upon full consideration of the facts of record in this proceeding the Commission is of the opinion and finds, that the expense of maintenance of applicants' agencies at Biola is not justified; that the freight and express service will not be materially affected by discontinuance of this station as an agency; and that the application should be granted.

O R D E R

A public hearing having been held in the above-entitled proceeding and the matter having been duly submitted,

IT IS ORDERED:

(1) That Southern Pacific Company and Railway Express Agency, Incorporated, are hereby authorized to discontinue agency service at Biola, Fresno County, subject to the following conditions:

- (a) Southern Pacific Company shall maintain said station in a non-agency status.
- (b) Each applicant shall give not less than ten days' notice to the public of the discontinuance of agency service by posting notice thereof at the station.
- (c) The authorization herein granted shall expire if not exercised within ninety days after the effective date hereof.

(d) Within thirty days after discontinuance of service as herein authorized each applicant shall notify this Commission thereof and of compliance with the above conditions.

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

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 22nd day of May, 1956.

John E. ...
President

Justin D. ...

Paul ...

...

...
Commissioners