

ORIGINAL

Decision No. 53426

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of THE RIVER LINES, INC., a corporation, for an order authorizing increases in rates in the State of California.))))	Application No. 38161
In the Matter of the Application of THE HARBOR TUG AND BARGE COMPANY, a corporation, for an increase in rates.)))	Application No. 38162
In the Matter of the Application of BAY CITIES TRANSPORTATION COMPANY, a cor- poration, for an order for an increase in the rates for the transportation of liquid petroleum in bulk.))))	Application No. 38163
In the Matter of the Application of J. C. FREESE COMPANY, a copartnership, for an increase authorizing it to increase and revise its rates within the State of California.))))	Application No. 38165

INTERIM OPINION AND ORDER

Applicants are engaged in the transportation of property as carriers by water between points on San Francisco Bay, the Sacramento and San Joaquin Rivers, and tributaries thereto. By these applications they seek authority to increase their rates applicable to the transportation of petroleum products in bulk by barge by approximately 16 percent, to make various changes in the governing tariff rules, and to establish the revised rates and rules on one day's notice to the Commission and to the public.

Applicants state that their operations were shut down during the period from January 2, 1956, to May 14, 1956, by a strike of two operating unions. The strike was settled under labor agreements which assertedly will increase the applicants' operating expenses substantially. Applicants aver that the sought increases in transportation rates are necessary if they are to continue operations.

Applicants have notified their shippers of the proposed rate changes. No objections have been received.

A study made by the Commission's staff indicates the evident necessity for early relief. It appears that an increase of approximately eight percent in the rates and charges will be necessary to offset the immediate effect of the increased wages now being paid to the personnel of the operating unions. Other expenses have been and will be increased, the full extent and effect of which cannot be immediately determined.

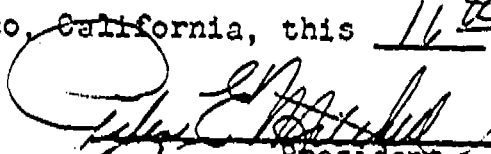
An interim increase of eight percent in the rates and charges is found to be justified and will be authorized. Applicants will be permitted to publish such increase as a surcharge by supplement to their tariffs on one day's notice. The applications will be set for public hearing to determine what further adjustment of the rates, charges and governing tariff rules may be justified.

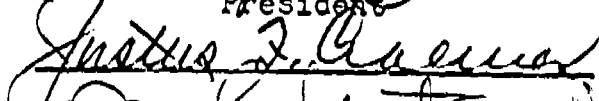
Therefore, good cause appearing,

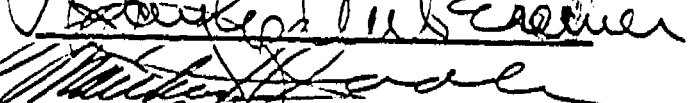
IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that The River Lines, Inc., The Harbor Tug and Barge Company, Bay Cities Transportation Company and R. F. Conway and C. C. White, doing business as J. C. Freese Company, be and they are hereby authorized to publish and file, on not less than one day's notice to the Commission and to the public, supplements to their tariffs establishing a surcharge of eight percent applicable to the rates and charges for the transportation of petroleum products in bulk; and to depart from the provisions of Tariff Circular No. 2 to the extent necessary to carry out the effect of the order herein.

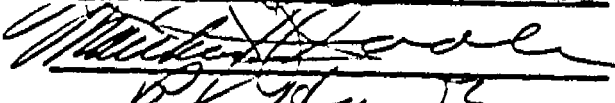
The effective date of this order shall be the date hereof.

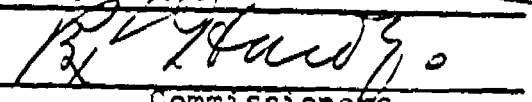
Dated at San Francisco, California, this 16th day of July, 1956.



President








Commissioners