A. 38627-AMS

Decision No. <u>54316</u>

**N**RIHINA

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of ) WATSON BROS. TRANSPORTATION CO., INC.,) to establish joint rates with DELTA ) LINES. INC., CHAS. P. HART TRANS- ) Application No. 38627 PORTATION CO., INC., MERCHANTS ) EXPRESS OF CALIFORNIA, WESTERN ) TRUCK LINES, LTD., and VILLIG ) FREIGHT LINES.

## OPINION AND ORDER

Applicants are highway common carriers of general commodities. Watson Bros. Transportation Co., Inc., operates generally between Los Angeles and San Diego. The other carriers operate generally between the San Francisco area and the Los Angeles area. By this application authority is sought to establish, on less than statutory notice, through service, through routes and joint rates between Watson Bros. Transportation Co. and the other applicants. The freight would be interchanged at Los Angeles.

The proposed rates are on the same level as the minimum class rates named in Minimum Rate Tariff No. 2. Service over applicants: lines between the points involved is now subject to combinations of their local rates. These combination rates are higher than the proposed joint rates. Applicants represent that it will be advantageous to the public to be able to make through shipments over their lines under the lower rates.

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

It appears that the establishment of the proposed through service, through routes and joint rates, on ten days notice, is not adverse to the public interest and should be authorized. A public hearing is not necessary.

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Therefore, good cause appearing, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

(1) That applicants be and they are hereby authorized to establish, on not less than ten days' notice to the Commission and the public, the through service, through routes and joint rates proposed in the above-entitled application.

(2) That the authority herein granted be and it hereby is limited to the extent that it may be exercised in conformity with the provisions of Article XII, Section 21, of the Constitution of the State of California and Section 460 of the Public Utilities Code and that the authority shall not be construed as relieving applicants from the operation and requirements of said provisions of the Constitution and of the Public Utilities Code to any extent whatsoever.

(3) That the authority herein granted shall expire unless the authorized rates are made effective within sixty days after the effective date of this order.

This order shall become effective twonty days after the date hereof.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this  $\frac{27-4}{2}$  day of December, 1956.

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Commissioners