

ORIGINALDecision No. 55276

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of)	
SOUTHERN PACIFIC COMPANY for authority)	
to discontinue agency at Keeler,)	
County of Inyo, State of California,)	Application No. 38832
and to maintain said station as a non-)	
agency.)	

Randolph Karr and Harold Lentz, for applicant.
I. S. Wilson, for The Order of Railroad Tele-
graphers, as protestant and intervenor.

O P I N I O N

By this application filed February 19, 1957, Southern Pacific Company requests an order of this Commission authorizing the discontinuance of its agency at Keeler, Inyo County, on the narrow gauge line which operates between Keeler and Laws approximately 70 miles to the north. Applicant proposes to maintain the station at Keeler as a nonagency station.

Public hearing was held in Keeler on May 23, 1957, before Examiner Rowe. Evidence was submitted on behalf of applicant. Aside from cross-examining applicant's witnesses protestants introduced no evidence. The matter is now submitted and ready for decision.

According to the uncontradicted evidence, it is found there is no present need for an agent at this station. Scheduled passenger service was long ago discontinued. The only passenger service maintained consists of a special excursion once each year on open flat cars. The total revenue from L.C.L. shipments, in 1955, amounted to \$241, during 1956 to \$75, and during the first three months of the present year to approximately \$21. Approximately three carloads of

talc are shipped daily from Keeler by the Sierra Talc and Clay Company. A local agent at Keeler is not required in connection with this movement. This shipper, by letter to the applicant, has stated that it has no objection to the discontinuance of the agency. A pickup and delivery service of less than carload shipments of freight is presently offered by Western Truck Lines, Ltd. A key to the station will be available at a local filling station for shippers and receivers of less-than-carload freight moving over the narrow gauge line. Bills of lading will be signed by the train crew and mailed to the customers. By discontinuing this unnecessary agency applicant will save \$5,524 annually although 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 applicant's agency at Keeler is not justified; that freight 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 and the above matter having been duly submitted,

IT IS ORDERED:

1. That Southern Pacific Company is hereby authorized to discontinue agency service at Keeler, Inyo County, subject to the following conditions:

- a. Southern Pacific Company shall maintain said station in a nonagency status.
- b. Applicant shall give not less than ten days' notice to the public of 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 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 15th day of July, 1957.

President
Roughly

Mitchell

R. Higgins

E. L. Fry

Commissioners

Commissioner Peter E. Mitchell, being necessarily absent, did not participate in the disposition of this proceeding.