

Decision No. 55483**ORIGINAL**

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of )  
 SOUTHERN PACIFIC COMPANY for author- )  
 ity to discontinue agency at Pacific )                    Application No. 39026  
 Grove, Monterey County, State of )  
 California, and to maintain said )  
 station as a non-agency. )

Randolph Karr and Harold S. Lentz, for  
 applicant.  
H. D. Smith and I. S. Wilson, for The  
 Order of Railroad Telegraphers,  
 protestant.  
Edward G. McLane, for the Commission staff.

O P I N I O N

By this application filed April 26, 1957, Southern Pacific Company requests an order of the Commission authorizing it to discontinue its agency at Pacific Grove and permitting the maintenance of the station as a non-agency station.

Public hearing was held in Pacific Grove on June 18, 1957, before Examiner Rowe. Evidence was adduced and the matter is now duly submitted and ready for decision.

According to the evidence there is no substantial present need for an agency at this station. Commencing in 1955, agency functions have been performed by the Monterey agency located 2.7 miles away, except that passenger tickets have been sold and accounted for at Pacific Grove. During 1957, an average of only 68 passenger tickets per month has been sold and only eight pieces of baggage handled. This has required only about fifteen minutes of the agent's time daily.

The LCL shipments of freight have been picked up or delivered by truck or, if the customer wishes, delivered or received at the Monterey Station. Because of a 16 minute delay at Monterey while mail and express is loaded and unloaded, most inbound passengers detrain there rather than going on to Pacific Grove. Passenger tickets may be purchased from the conductor by passengers boarding applicant's train in Pacific Grove. Approximately \$5,400 will be saved annually by Southern Pacific Company by closing this agency.

Upon full consideration of the facts of record in this proceeding the Commission is of the opinion and finds, that the expense of maintaining this agency is not justified; that the freight service will in no way be 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 is hereby authorized to discontinue agency service at Pacific Grove, subject to the following conditions:

- (a) Southern Pacific Company shall maintain said station in a non-agency status.
- (b) It 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, Southern Pacific Company shall notify this Commission thereof and of compliance with the above conditions.

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

Dated at Los Angeles, California, this 27<sup>th</sup> day of August, 1957.

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 President  
*Paul W. [unclear]*  
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*[unclear]*  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
*[unclear]*  
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 Commissioners

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