

Decision No. 55538**ORIGINAL**

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of)
 THE WESTERN PACIFIC RAILROAD COMPANY)
 for authority to reduce the agency) Application No. 39152
 station at Blairsden, Plumas County)
 to non-agency status.)

Otis J. Gibson, for applicant.
Henry Magill, for the Plumas County Planning
 Commission; Grant Tombow, for W. R. Builders,
 Inc.; and Karl W. Traylor, for Buildings
 Materials Co.; Albert Tavetto, for the Feather
 River Inn, interested parties.
Edward G. McLane, for the Commission staff.

O P I N I O N

By this application filed June 13, 1957, and amended June 22, 1957, The Western Pacific Railroad Company and Railway Express Agency, Inc., request an order of this Commission authorizing the discontinuance of the agency at Blairsden, Plumas County, California. Applicant railroad proposes to maintain the station at Blairsden as a non-agency station.

Public hearing was held at Blairsden on August 13, 1957, before Examiner Rowe. Evidence was adduced and the matter was duly submitted for decision.

The annual cost of maintaining the agency at Blairsden is \$6,273. During the same period 235 carload shipments were forwarded and four received. Only four less-than-carload shipments were forwarded and forty received. The total of express shipments forwarded and received was 221. The total express revenue for the twelve months ending February 28, 1957, was \$1,204.70.

According to the evidence of record there is no substantial need for the agency at Blairsden. The agent at Portola can handle this work now performed by the local agent largely by the use of the telephone. Waybills can be made out and bills of lading can be signed by the freight conductor. Freight bills can be handled at Portola. No passenger tickets have been sold at Blairsden for sometime. The Commission finds that the expense of maintaining the agency is not justified. It is further found that freight service will not be materially affected by this discontinuance. We find that public convenience and necessity no longer require the service sought to be abandoned. Consequently, 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 The Western Pacific Railroad Company and Railway Express Agency, Incorporated, are hereby authorized to discontinue agency service at Blairsden, Plumas County, subject to the following conditions:

- (a) The Western Pacific Railroad 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 applicant 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 San Francisco, California, this 10th day of September, 1957.

[Signature]
President
[Signature]
[Signature]
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Commissioners