

Decision No. 55896

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 Melrose,)	Application No. 39265
Alameda County, State of California,)	
and to maintain said station as a)	
non-agency.)	

Harold Lentz, for applicant;
I. S. Wilson, for The Order of Railroad
 Telegraphers, protestant;
E. A. McMillan, R. A. Larson and Laurie Vincinich,
 for the Brotherhood of Railway Clerks, interested
 party.

O P I N I O N

By this application filed July 24, 1957, Southern Pacific Company requests an order of this Commission authorizing it to discontinue the agency at Melrose. No passenger service is presently performed at this station which is located not on the main line but on a spur. Upon motion at the hearing the request was amended to include a prayer for removal of the station building also.

Public hearing was held in Oakland on October 24, 1957, before Examiner Rowe at which time evidence both oral and documentary was adduced and the matter was duly submitted for decision. Protestants cross-examined applicant's witnesses.

From the evidence of record it appears that the station building is in need of repair if it is to be safely used; that the freight service to the public in this area can be performed as efficiently and without inconvenience by moving the headquarters of the other personnel to the Fruitvale station and by transferring to the agent at that station the functions of the Melrose agent.

Upon full consideration of the record in this proceeding, the Commission is of the opinion and finds that public convenience and necessity no longer require the service of an agent or the maintenance of the station building at the Melrose station. It is further found that the expense of maintenance of the agency at Melrose is not justified, that freight service will not be materially affected by discontinuance of this station and of the agency thereat; and that the application as amended 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 the station building and the station agency service at Melrose, Alameda County, subject to the following conditions:
 - a. Southern Pacific Company shall maintain said station in a non-agency 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.

e. The above conditions do not include the physical removal of the station building which may be effected within a reasonable time whereupon the Commission should be notified.

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

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 3rd day of December, 1957.

[Signature]
President
[Signature]
[Signature]
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Commissioners