

ORIGINALDecision No. 57197

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of)
 SOUTHERN PACIFIC COMPANY and)
 RAILWAY EXPRESS AGENCY, INCORPORATED,)
 for authority to discontinue agency) Application No. 40075
 at Carpinteria, County of Santa)
 Barbara, State of California, and to)
 maintain said station as a nonagency.)

E. D. Yeomans, Randolph Karr and James W. O'Brien,
 for applicants.

O P I N I O N

By this application filed May 12, 1958, Southern Pacific Company and Railway Express Agency, Incorporated, request an order authorizing them to discontinue their agencies at Carpinteria, Santa Barbara County, and to maintain said station as a nonagency station.

A public hearing was held in Carpinteria on July 24, 1958, before Examiner Rowe, at which time evidence both oral and documentary was adduced and the matter duly submitted.

This station is located on the main coast line, where only one passenger train stops on flag and another train stops on Sundays and holidays to exchange U. S. mail. One local freight train serves the area coming from the Santa Barbara yard in the morning, and after going to Oxnard returns again and serves Carpinteria in the afternoon. If this railroad agency is closed patrons may telephone the agent in Santa Barbara toll free with regard to service. The removal of the Carpinteria agent will have little effect upon the efficiency of the railroad applicant's service. Approximately \$5,000 will be saved annually by this applicant. Depot deliveries will be effected approximately 10 miles distant in Santa Barbara, if this station is closed.

Such deliveries during the past two years have been 13 and 11, respectively.

The principal objection was asserted by one witness who has been receiving medical shipments by Railway Express. This patron will be inconvenienced by the discontinuance of service by Railway Express. During the 12-month period ending June 30, 1958, the gross revenue received by this applicant has been \$7,681.01, or a monthly average of \$640. This revenue is inadequate to justify requiring Railway Express to maintain a separate agency and office in Carpinteria. Efforts have been unsuccessfully made to procure the services of a local merchant to handle the business on a commission basis. The approximate sum of \$64 per month (10 per cent of the gross revenue) is inadequate to justify a merchant undertaking this business.

From the evidence of record the Commission finds that public convenience and necessity no longer require that either applicant maintain its agency at Carpinteria. The estimated annual saving by Southern Pacific Company is \$6,727. Since Southern Pacific Company will continue to handle freight in any quantity of carloads or less, it will be required to maintain this station in a Class A nonagency status.

ORDER

A public hearing having been held and the above matters having been duly submitted,

IT IS ORDERED that Southern Pacific Company and Railway Express Agency, Incorporated, are authorized to discontinue their agencies at Carpinteria, Santa Barbara County, subject to the following conditions:

- a. Southern Pacific Company shall continue to maintain said station in a Class A nonagency status.
- b. Applicants shall give not less than ten days' notice to the public of discontinuance of agency service by posting notice thereof at the station.
- c. Within ninety days after the effective date hereof, applicants, upon not less than ten days' notice to this Commission and to the public, shall file, in duplicate, amendments to their tariffs showing the changes herein authorized and shall make reference in such tariff amendments to this decision as authority therefor.
- d. The authorization herein granted shall expire if not exercised within one hundred twenty days after the effective date hereof.
- e. Within thirty days after discontinuance of service as herein authorized, applicants shall notify this Commission in writing 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 19th day of August, 1958.

E. Lynn Fox
President

W. L. Mitchell

W. H. [unclear]

Theodore [unclear]

Commissioners

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