

ORIGINAL

Decision No. 57627

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 at
TERRA BELLA, County of Tulare, State
of California, and to maintain said
station as a Class A nonagency station.

Application No. 40212

Randolph Karr and Harold S. Lentz, for applicants.
Raymond Muller, for Terra Bella Chamber of Commerce;
David Chamberlain, for Farmers Fertilizer Co.;
Harry Wood, for himself, and C. L. Crow, for
Crow's Grain Elevator, protestants.

O P I N I O N

By this application filed June 27, 1958, Southern Pacific Company and Railway Express Agency, Incorporated, request an order of this Commission authorizing them to discontinue their agencies at Terra Bella in Tulare County.

Public hearing was held in Terra Bella on September 3, 1958, before Examiner Rowe, at which time evidence both oral and documentary was adduced and the matters submitted.

No passenger service is performed in this area and no passenger tickets have been sold there for over two years. Terra Bella is not a train order station. Depot deliveries will be effected at Porterville, approximately eight miles to the north, when that point is designated; otherwise, at Ducor, which is four and one-half miles to the south. The carload movement of freight will not be adversely affected by the requested change. Pacific Motor Trucking Company will continue to render the same service.

The Southern Pacific Company's agent has also been acting as the agent for Railway Express Agency, receiving approximately 10% of that applicant's gross revenue in that area, or \$15.30 per month. The average monthly gross revenue received by Railway Express Agency, Inc., of approximately \$153 is inadequate to justify the employment of some other regular agent and the renting of agency space. The ten percent payable to a merchant agent is insufficient to interest anyone in assuming this function, involving as it does the extensive study of rate structures and the performance of the relatively heavy burden of paper work.

From the evidence of record the Commission finds that public convenience and necessity no longer require that either applicant maintain its agency at Terra Bella. The estimated annual saving by Southern Pacific Company is \$5,700.

O R D E R

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 Terra Bella, Tulare County, subject to the following conditions:

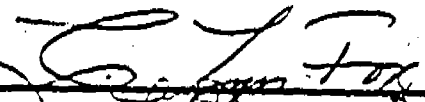
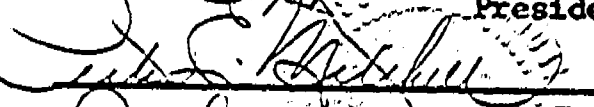
- a. Southern Pacific Company shall continue to maintain said station in Class A nonagency status.
- b. Applicants shall give not less than ten days' notice to the public of discontinuance of agency service by posting notice thereof at the station.
- c. Within ninety days after the effective date hereof, 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 and said notice to this decision as authority therefor.


- d. The authorization herein granted shall expire if not exercised within ninety 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.

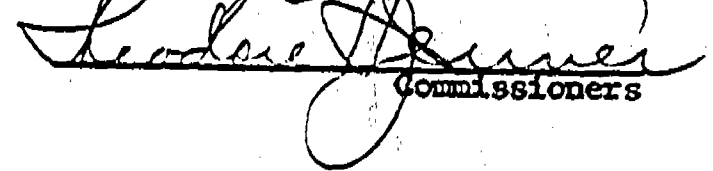
The effective date of this order shall be twenty days after the date hereof.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 7th day of OCTOBER, 1958.


 _____ President







 _____ Commissioners