

ORIGINALDecision No. 57753

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the matter of the investigation and suspension by the Commission on its own motion of reduced rates published in Pacific Southcoast Freight Bureau, Agent, Tariff No. 48-U, M. A. Nelson, Tariff Publishing Officer, for the transportation of lumber and its products, in carloads, from and to certain California points.

Case No. 6110

(Appearances will be listed in the final order)

INTERIM OPINION AND ORDER

By order dated May 20, 1958, the Commission suspended until September 18, 1958, certain reduced rail carload rates for the transportation of lumber and lumber products between points in California. By order dated September 10, 1958, the suspension was extended to March 18, 1959. Similar reduced rates from points in Oregon and California to points in California and Arizona were suspended by the Interstate Commerce Commission.

Public hearings and oral argument have been held, but briefs are yet to be filed in this proceeding.

The reduced interstate rates became effective December 20, 1958, at the end of the statutory period of suspension permitted by the Interstate Commerce Act. The decision of the Interstate Commerce Commission concerning the lawfulness of the reduced interstate rates is expected at a later date.

The record in the instant investigation is not complete and determination of the reasonableness of the suspended rates

cannot yet be made. Preliminary examination of the evidence of record indicates, however, that continuance of the suspension of the reduced intrastate rates, while substantially reduced rates are applicable on interstate shipments from Oregon to California markets, might cause great damage to lumber producers located in northern California. It therefore appears to be in the public interest to vacate the aforesaid order of suspension, pending further order.

The conclusions hereinabove reached are not based on a complete analysis of the record in this proceeding and this interim order is made without prejudice to the conclusions which may be reached upon further deliberation by the Commission when the record is complete.

Therefore, good cause appearing,

IT IS ORDERED that, pending further order of this Commission, the suspension of the operation of Supplement No. 88 to Pacific Southcoast Freight Bureau, Agent, Freight Tariff No. 48-U, M. A. Nelson, Tariff Publishing Officer, be and it is hereby vacated.

This order shall become effective on the date hereof.

Dated at San Francisco California, this 26th day of December, 1958.

President

[Signature]

[Signature]

Theodore Deane
Commissioners

C. Lyn Fox

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