

ORIGINAL

Decision No. 58107

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of)	
SOUTHERN PACIFIC COMPANY for authority)	
to abandon the warehouse portion of)	Application No. 40529
the station building at WATSONVILLE,)	
County of Santa Cruz, State of Califor-)	
nia.)	

Randolph Karr and Harold S. Lentz, for applicant.

O P I N I O N

By this application filed October 22, 1958, Southern Pacific Company requests an order that the Commission authorize the abandonment of the freight-house portion of the station building at Watsonville in Santa Cruz County, California.

Public hearing was held on this application in Watsonville before Examiner Rowe on February 3, 1959 at which time evidence both oral and documentary was adduced and the matter duly submitted for decision.

General Order No. 36-B provides that no railroad corporation shall abandon any service at any station without first having, by posting, given thirty days' notice to the public of its intention. Upon receipt of protest this general order further provides that the Commission shall have power to suspend the effect of any such notice of intention and to require the railroad to file a formal application requesting authority for the change.

This application alleges that such notice of intention has been given and upon the receipt of protests the Commission instructed the railroad not to place into effect the proposed reduction in service but to file its formal application. The Commission notified each of these protestants by mail on December 23, 1958, of the

hearing upon this application. Additionally, as instructed by the Secretary of the Commission, notice of such hearing was given by posting at the station and by publication in a newspaper of general circulation printed and published in Watsonville.

At the hearing, however, no one, not even those previously protesting, appeared. According to the uncontradicted evidence of record the only effect the granting of this application will have upon service to the public will be that depot deliveries will be made and received at the Watsonville Junction station instead of at the Watsonville station. This modification will result in a more convenient and a better service to the public for the following reasons:

The Watsonville station, an older building, is located in the warehouse district where the public is constantly faced with parking problems and traffic congestion. This building is located on a branch line while the station building at the junction is on the main line. This is in a new and attractive station building only 1.7 miles distant but away from traffic congestion. Also, at Watsonville Junction station, where depot deliveries are proposed to be handled, there is ample parking space for patrons who wish to avail themselves of this phase of applicant's service. The pickup and delivery service now furnished by Pacific Motor Trucking Company as well as the territory in which less than carload freight will be so handled will in no respect be modified. Consequently, there appears no valid reason why the applicant's notice of intention to modify service at the Watsonville station should be further suspended.

The Commission finds that public convenience and necessity no longer require the use of the freight-house portion of the Watsonville station as a warehouse or storage space for depot deliveries provided applicant uses sufficient space for this purpose at

the Watsonville Junction station. Application No. 40529 will therefore be granted.

O R D E R

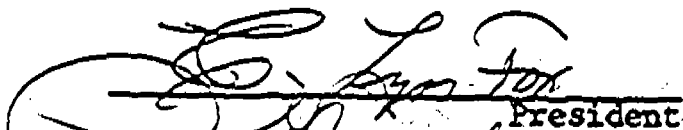
Application therefor having been filed and public hearing having been held and based upon the above findings,

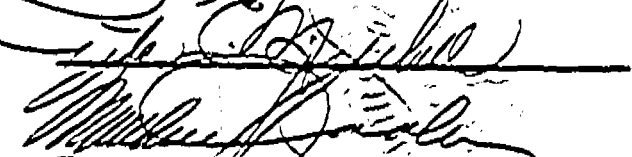
IT IS ORDERED that Southern Pacific Company is authorized to discontinue the use of its station building at Watsonville, Santa Cruz County, for less than carload freight for depot delivery or receipt, subject to the following conditions:

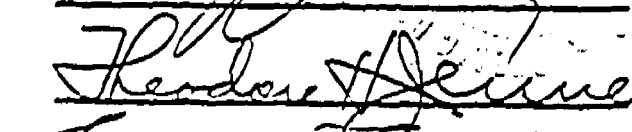
- a. Applicant shall give not less than ten days' notice to the public of discontinuance of this phase of service at the Watsonville station and of its institution at the Watsonville Junction station by posting notice thereof at each such station.
- b. Within ninety days after the effective date hereof, applicant, upon not less than ten days' notice to the Commission and the public, shall file in duplicate, amendments to its tariffs showing the changes herein authorized and shall make reference in such tariff amendments to this decision as authority therefor.
- c. Within thirty days after discontinuance of service as herein authorized, applicant 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 10th day of March, 1959.



President






Commissioners