Decision No. ____58361

ORIGINAL

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Application of PAXTON TRUCKING COMPANY to increase charges for Accessorial Services under Sections Nos. 454 and 491 of the California Public Utilities Code.

Application No. 40971

OPINION AND ORDER

Paxton Trucking Company operates as a highway common carrier of property. In connection with its certificate of public convenience and necessity, applicant provides a specialized service of transporting commodities of abnormal size and weight, which, because of such size and weight, require the use of and are transported on low-bed trailers. Applicant's charges for this special service are set forth in Western Motor Tariff Bureau, Inc., Agent, Local, Joint and Proportional Freight Tariff 17-A, Cal.P.U.C. No. 33 (Elmer Ahl, Agent, series).

By this application, as amended, authority is sought to adjust on five days' notice to the Commission and the public, certain charges for accessorial services. More specifically, it is proposed to increase charges for straight time for working foremen and straight and overtime for helpers; to reduce charges for overtime for working foremen; to establish separate charges for job superintendents and machinery helpers; and to define overtime.

The proposed charges are based on existing union labor scales generally applicable throughout the territory served by applicant. For helpers, applicant proposes the same hourly charge as recently established in Minimum Rate Tariff No. 2 for accessorial services.

As justification for the proposals, applicant states that since its existing rates were established on December 20, 1957,

substantial changes have taken place in the pay scales of union labor employed by applicant. According to the application, it has recently developed that applicant must furnish two new types of accessorial help, namely, that of job superintendent and machinery helper. Services of the former, the application states, normally would be used only when multiple pieces of equipment and substantial extra labor are involved in the transportation of special and unusual articles. It is mandatory, according to applicant, that supervision be provided by the carrier on this type of job.

Machinery helper, the application further states, contemplates a special type of employee who, while employed under union contract, does not fall in the category of the ordinary driver and is paid on a considerably higher scale under existing union contracts. In addition, job superintendents and machinery helpers require the use of an automobile and special on-the-job tools.

The application, as amended, shows that a copy thereof was served upon competing carriers and upon shippers of low-bed freight which are currently using applicant's services or have used applicant's services in the past. No objection to its being granted has been received.

In view of all of the circumstances, it appears and the Commission finds that applicant's proposals and the increases resulting therefrom are justified. The application, as amended, will be granted. A public hearing is not necessary.

Therefore, good cause appearing,

Commissioners