Decision No. 60044

ORIGINAL

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of Robert F. Hines and Allen P. Williams, partnership, doing business as Hines-Williams Service, for authority to publish flat charges.

Application No. 42172

OPINION AND ORDER

Applicants possess a certificate of public convenience and necessity authorizing them to transport property as a highway common carrier between Oroville and Cascade, and intermediate points. By this application, filed November 12, 1959, they seek authority to establish a flat charge of \$1.00 for shipments weighing 100 pounds or less and a flat rate of \$1.50 per 100 pounds for all shipments weighing over 100 pounds.

On shipments weighing 100 pounds or less applicants publish flat rates lower than the prescribed minimum rates. These rates range from 30 cents per 100 pounds for a constructive distance of 25 miles between Oroville and Enterprise to 60 cents per 100 pounds for a distance of 54.5 miles between Oroville and Lumpkin. The above rates are subject to a minimum charge of 15 cents. These rates and charges have not been adjusted since July 28, 1941. Applicants' proposal will result in increases on these shipments, but to a level below the currently prescribed minimum rates.

On shipments over 100 pounds, applicants' rates are generally on the level of Minimum Rate Tariff No. 2.1 Their proposal

Ton shipments over 100 pounds, applicants' (and the minimum) any-quantity first class rate for a distance of 25 constructive miles is 181 cents per 100 pounds. For 54.5 constructive miles it is 194 cents. Both of these rates are subject to a minimum per shipment charge of 220 cents.

to establish a flat rate results in reductions in rates for shipments between 100 and 2000 pounds and increases in rates for shipments over 2000 pounds.

In justification for the proposed rate adjustment, applicants allege that they conduct a very small operation over a treacherous all-mountain route, that their rates on shipments of 100 pounds or less have not been adjusted since 1941 and that applying different rates on each commodity has proven very difficult to them.

The Commission is of the opinion and finds that the increases in rates proposed by applicants are justified. Respecting applicants' proposal to assess rates less than the minimum, it appears that this carrier's operations are similar to others in rural areas now exempted from the minimum rates. Under the circumstances it appears that no good purpose would be served by requiring this carrier to adhere to the established minimum rates. A public hearing is not necessary. The application will be granted.

Therefore, good cause appearing, IT IS ORDERED:

- (1) That Robert F. Himes and Allen P. Williams are hereby authorized, on not less than thirty days' notice to the Commission and to the public, to establish a flat charge of \$1.00 per shipment for shipments weighing 100 pounds or less, and a flat rate of \$1.50 per 100 pounds, for shipments weighing over 100 pounds, for the transportation of property between Oroville and Cascade and intermediate points in lieu of the rates presently applicable thereto.
- (2) That concurrently with the effective date of the rate and charge authorized in Paragraph (1) hereof, applicants' present rates shall be canceled.
- (3) That the authority herein granted shall expire unless exercised within ninety days after the effective date of this order.

A. 42172-FMcG.

This order shall become effective twenty days after the date hereof.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 31d. day of

May, 1960.