

ORIGINAL

Decision No. 67546

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Application of The Western Union  
Telegraph Company for authority  
to qualify as a self-insurer  
pursuant to the provisions of  
Section 3632 of the Public  
Utilities Code of the State  
of California.

Application No. 46786  
Filed July 8, 1964

O P I N I O N

This is an application for an order of the Commission authorizing The Western Union Telegraph Company to act as a self-insurer against liability imposed by law within the limits and provisions of Sections 3631 and 3981 of the Public Utilities Code of the State of California and of the Commission's General Order No. 100-C.

Applicant is a New York corporation engaged primarily in the business of furnishing a domestic telegraph common carrier service throughout all of the states of the Union excluding Alaska and Hawaii. The company reports that in the course of its business applicant is required to deliver telegrams and other items of personal property by motor vehicles owned and operated by the automobile messengers which it employs. The application shows that as of June 12, 1964, approximately 306 cars and telecycles were so used in applicant's behalf operating from 44 localities in the State of California. In connection

with such operations, the company possesses city carrier and radial highway common carrier permits issued by this Commission.

According to the application, (1) the California Department of Motor Vehicles has approved the company as a self-insurer under the California Motor Vehicle Financial Responsibility Law with respect to vehicles owned by applicant; (2) the company has established a plan of limited self-insurance under which it assumes liability for up to \$50,000 in any one accident caused by a vehicle used in its service; and (3) Lloyds of London insures applicant's automobile liability in excess of \$50,000 for up to \$3,000,000 additional liability for each accident.

The Commission has considered this matter and finds that applicant has sufficient resources to enable it to meet its insurance obligations under the applicable provisions of General Order No. 100-C. Based upon such finding, we conclude that the application should be granted to the extent of authorizing applicant to act as a self-insurer for up to an amount of \$50,000 against liability imposed by law. A public hearing is not necessary.

O R D E R

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. The Western Union Telegraph Company may act as a self-insurer for up to an amount of \$50,000 against liability imposed by law with respect to its operations as a city carrier and a radial highway common carrier, provided, that it shall maintain combined coverage including self-insurance in amounts of at least the minima set forth in General Order No. 100-C.

2. This order shall continue in effect unless and until hereafter otherwise ordered or directed.

3. The effective date of this order is the date hereof.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 21st  
day of July, 1964.

Frederick B. Halaloff  
President  
John E. Mitchell  
Robert W. Berg  
George L. Traver  
William W. Bennett  
Commissioners