

ORIGINAL

Decision No. 68058

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Application of STOCKTON WIRE)
PRODUCTS, a Corporation, to)
Discontinue Service as a)
Public Utility Warehouseman)
in Lompoc, California.)

Application No. 46968
(Filed September 11, 1964)

OPINION AND ORDER

Stockton Wire Products, a corporation, operates as a public utility warehouseman at Lompoc (Santa Barbara County).¹ By this application, it seeks authority to discontinue public utility warehouse operations.

According to applicant, the bulk of its public warehouse business in recent years has involved the storage and handling of agricultural crops, especially beans; and that because of changes in the requirements promulgated in the administration of the Pure Food and Drug Act primarily with respect to the storage, handling and shipping of beans, it has become exposed to substantial liability against which it cannot protect itself at reasonable expense. Applicant alleges that this exposure results largely from the character of its warehouse facilities which are approximately sixty years old and not rodent-free nor capable of being made or maintained rodent-free on any economical basis. Furthermore, it alleges that the secondary service facilities (such as lighting, elevators, cleaning equipment, etc.) of the warehouse buildings are becoming obsolete and inefficient resulting in further expense and operating inefficiency.

¹ Prescriptive warehouse operative right was determined for applicant by order of the Commission dated June 20, 1960, in Case No. 6558. Applicant is authorized to operate 32,000 square feet of warehouse floor space.

Applicant declares that there are other facilities in Lompoc of sufficient size and character which can readily accommodate and service all of the existing and presently foreseeable requirements for public warehousing in the service area of Lompoc and its vicinity. By letter dated September 17, 1964, applicant's president informed the Commission that the principal storers have been notified of this application and have no objection to discontinuance of service by applicant. The storers have indicated that they will utilize the public utility warehouse facilities of Lompoc Warehouse Corporation or other nearby warehouses.

Applicant states that it will transfer all property now stored in its warehouse by the public to the other public warehouse facilities in Lompoc at applicant's sole cost and expense.

In the circumstances, it appears, and the Commission finds, that the discontinuance of public warehouse operations as proposed herein will not be adverse to the public interest. Applicant will be authorized to discontinue public utility warehouse operations. A public hearing is not necessary.

IT IS ORDERED that Stockton Wire Products, a corporation, is hereby authorized to discontinue public utility warehouse operations at Lompoc and the prescriptive operative right as a public utility warehouseman possessed by Stockton Wire Products, a corporation, as determined by order dated June 20, 1960, in Case No. 6558, is hereby revoked, subject to the following conditions:

- a. Applicant shall continue operating as a public utility warehouseman at Lompoc, rendering all services specified in its tariffs, at rates and charges therein provided, so long as any property remains in storage in its warehouse; except that from and after the date of filing the written acceptance specified in Condition b hereof, applicant shall not be required to receive any additional goods for storage.

- b. Applicant shall, within twenty days after the effective date of this order, file with the Commission its written acceptance of this order, including all of the provisions and conditions thereof.
- c. Applicant shall cause to be prepared and to be mailed or otherwise delivered to each of its storage patrons, on or before twenty days after the effective date of this order, a true and complete copy of this order.
- d. Applicant shall, at the direction of the owner of any property remaining in storage, transport such property to any available public warehouse at the expense of applicant and at no expense or risk to the owner of the property transported.
- e. Applicant shall, promptly on removal of all stored property from its warehouse, (a) file with the Commission a verified statement that it has fully complied with Conditions a to d, inclusive, and (b) cancel its tariff effective concurrently with the effective date of the discontinuance of service on not less than ten days' notice to the Commission and the public.

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

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 13th day of October, 1964.

Frederick B. Holbrook
President
John E. Hatchell
Walter W. Reage
William W. Duncanson

Commissioners

Commissioner George G. Grover, being necessarily absent, did not participate in the disposition of this proceeding.