

**ORIGINAL**Decision No. 69553

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of )  
 NORTHWESTERN PACIFIC RAILROAD COMPANY )  
 and RAILWAY EXPRESS AGENCY, INC., for )  
 authority to discontinue agency at ) Application No. 47449  
 Alderpoint, County of Humboldt, State ) Filed March 29, 1965  
 of California, and to maintain said )  
 station as a Class A nonagency station. )

Harold S. Lentz, for applicant.  
Eugene L. Elys, Jr., for Trans-  
 portation Communications  
 Employees Union, interested  
 party.  
Kenneth G. Soderlund, for the  
 Commission staff.

O P I N I O N

Applicants request authority to discontinue the agency at Alderpoint, California, and to maintain it as a Class A nonagency station.

A public hearing was held before Examiner Porter at Garberville on June 30, 1965 and the matter was submitted. There were no protestants.

Exhibit No. 3 shows that the gross operating revenue associated with traffic originating and terminating at Alderpoint, California, for the year 1963 was \$106,384, for 1964 \$127,221, and for the first five months of 1965 \$0. The agency has been closed in 1965 due to flood damage in the area.

Evidence was presented that if Alderpoint, California, is operated as a nonagency station and the business handled from the Fort Seward agency station, the net annual saving would be \$6,660. Patrons in Alderpoint would be served by the agent in Fort Seward,

which is approximately 7 miles from Alderpoint. The agent formerly at Alderpoint has died and there is a shortage of qualified agents.

The Vice President and General Manager of the railroad testified that the railroad suffered approximately \$11,000,000 flood damage and they must practice strict economy. He believed that adequate service would be provided at Alderpoint if the agency at Alderpoint is not reestablished.

A representative of the Railway Express Agency, Inc., testified that commissions were so low on Express business that it would be impossible to obtain a commission merchant to handle the small amount of Express business.

After consideration the Commission finds that public convenience and necessity no longer require an agency at Alderpoint, California. The application will be granted.

O R D E R

IT IS ORDERED that Northwestern Pacific Railroad Company and Railway Express Agency, Inc., are authorized to discontinue their agency at Alderpoint, California, subject to the following conditions:

- a. Northwestern Pacific Railroad Company shall maintain said station in a Class A nonagency status for the receipt or delivery of freight in any quantity, carload or less.
- b. Within ninety days after the effective date hereof and on not less than ten days prior to the discontinuance of the agency, Northwestern Pacific Railroad Company and Railway Express Agency, Inc., shall post a notice of such discontinuance at the station, and, within ninety days after the effective date hereof and on not less than ten days' notice to the Commission and to the public Northwestern Pacific Railroad Company and Railway Express Agency, Inc., shall file in duplicate amendments to their tariffs showing the charge authorized herein and shall make reference in such notice and tariffs to this decision as authority for the charges.

c. Within thirty days after discontinuance of service as herein authorized Northwestern Pacific Railroad Company and Railway Express Agency, Inc., shall notify this Commission in writing thereof and of compliance with the above conditions.

The effective date of this order shall be ten days after the date hereof.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 17<sup>th</sup> day of AUGUST, 1965.

Frederick B. Holcomb  
President

W. E. Nathan

George E. Trover

August

William W. Beards  
Commissioners