

ORIGINAL

Decision No. 69863

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of)	
Western Motor Tariff Bureau, Inc., a)	
Corporation, for permission to es-)	Application No. 47854
tablish on behalf of certain of its)	(Filed August 30, 1965)
member carriers Increased Charges)	
for the Transportation of Freight)	
Requiring Low-Bed Equipment.)	

OPINION AND ORDER

By this application, Western Motor Tariff Bureau, Inc. seeks authority to increase certain tariff rates and charges which it publishes, on behalf of participating highway common carriers, for the transportation of freight requiring the use of low-bed equipment.¹ For this specialized service, rates and accessorial charges are published on an hourly basis. Minimum rates for such transportation have not been established in Minimum Rate Tariff No. 2.

Applicant proposes to increase the present hourly rates for use of equipment on this exempt traffic by approximately 3 percent and to increase the rates and charges for straight labor

¹ Western Motor Tariff Bureau, Inc., Local and Proportional Freight Tariff No. 6, Cal.P.U.C. No. 14 (J.L. Beeler, Agent, Series) hereinafter referred to as Tariff No. 6. This tariff is filed on behalf of approximately twelve (12) carriers, most of whom are authorized to transport oil, water, and gas-well outfits and supplies and certain other property more specifically set forth in said carriers' individual operative rights.

without equipment by approximately 5.7 percent, and to publish these increased rates and charges on five days' notice to the Commission and to the public. As justification for the proposed increases, applicant refers to the last major adjustment in the rates and charges named in Minimum Rate Tariff No. 2.²

Applicant states that the increases in Minimum Rate Tariff No. 2 prescribed by Decision No. 69330 aggregate approximately 3 percent insofar as equipment and labor combined are concerned and approximately 5.7 percent insofar as straight labor charges are concerned. Accordingly, authority is sought in this application to increase the exempt rates for low-bed trailer service on the same basis that the nonexempt rates were increased. Applicant further states that the fact the rates involved in this application are stated in terms of hourly rates instead of in terms of class rates should in no way preclude them from being susceptible to increases in rates otherwise authorized.

Applicant avers that it is the policy of the Commission, as stated in Decision No. 62915, dated December 5, 1961, (unreported),

" . . . that it is appropriate and proper that general commodities for which rates have not been established should bear their fair share of the increased cost of performing the transportation services"

² By Decision No. 69330 dated June 29, 1965 (unreported), the rates in Minimum Rate Tariff No. 2 were increased and highway common carriers were authorized to increase class rates for transportation of commodities for which minimum rates have not been established. However, authority was not granted to highway common carriers to increase their commodity rates applicable to transportation of commodities for which minimum rates have not been established.

Applicant declares that the sought increases are urgently needed in order to allow the carriers involved, when transporting commodities requiring the use of low-bed equipment, to be compensated for their services on a basis that will provide a fair return and so that this specific type of transportation will not be a burden on their other traffic.

The application was listed on the Commission's Daily Calendar of August 31, 1965. No objection to the granting of this application has been received.

The Commission finds that the proposed increases are justified. A public hearing is not necessary. We conclude that the application should be granted. Applicant will be authorized to publish the proposed rates and charges on five days' notice.

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. Western Motor Tariff Bureau, Inc., is authorized to establish the increased rates and charges as proposed in Appendix A of Application No. 47854.

2. Tariff publications authorized to be made as a result of the order herein may be made effective not earlier than five days' after the effective date of this order on not less than five days' notice to the Commission and to the public.

3. The authority granted herein shall expire unless exercised within ninety days after the effective date of this order.

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

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 26th day of October, 1965.

Frederick B. Hallock
President
Paul E. D'Amico
George T. Grover
Augusta
Commissioners

Commissioner William M. Bennett, being necessarily absent, did not participate in the disposition of this proceeding.