

ORIGINAL

Decision No. 71497

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application)
of PACIFIC SOUTHEAST FREIGHT)
BUREAU, Agent, for authority to) Application No. 48739
make certain revisions in rates) (Filed August 25, 1966)
on soap and related articles)
published in P.S.F.B. Tariffs)
263, 294, and 300.)

OPINION AND ORDER

By this application, Pacific Southcoast Freight Bureau, Agent, on behalf of thirty California rail carriers,¹ seeks authority to revise the rates on soap and related articles in its tariffs.² Applicant requests relief from the long- and short-haul provisions of Section 460 of the Public Utilities Code.

Applicant proposes to update the commodity descriptions to reflect new products and current transportation conditions and generally to increase the rates for the transportation involved from 53 and 55 cents to 60 and 62 cents per 100 pounds, respectively, and to increase the minimum weight governing the rates in question from 30,000 to 45,000 pounds.

Applicant alleges that the rates, which it publishes in the aforementioned tariffs on soap and related articles, are competitive with those of highway common carriers and permitted carriers and,

¹ The rail carriers involved are listed in Appendix "A" attached to the application.

² The rates are set forth in Pacific Southcoast Freight Bureau Tariffs 263-G, 294-E and 300 and apply between certain central and northern California points and points in Los Angeles Basin Territory.

for competitive reasons, the pattern of rates and charges maintained by it on such commodities has been governed closely by the rate adjustments in Minimum Rate Tariff No. 2 which have been prescribed by the Commission for highway carriers.

According to applicant, the recent revisions in the rates on soap and related articles in Minimum Rate Tariff No. 2 have materially altered the pre-existing competitive relationships between highway common carriers and permitted carriers, on the one hand, and rail carriers, on the other hand.³ Applicant avers that the proposed rates will restore such pre-existing competitive relationships and will better serve the distribution needs of shippers.

Copies of the application were served upon various chambers of commerce, shippers, shipper organizations and carrier representatives. The application was listed on the Commission's Daily Calendar of August 26, 1966. No objection to the granting of the application has been received.

In the circumstances, it appears, and the Commission finds, that the proposed rates are reasonable and, to the extent that increases are involved, such increases are justified. A public hearing is not necessary. The Commission concludes that the application should be granted.

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. Pacific Southcoast Freight Bureau, Agent, is authorized to publish and file rates as proposed in Application No. 48739.

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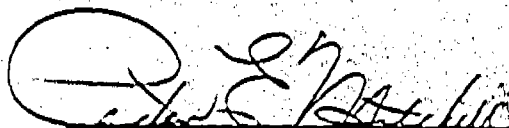
The revisions were authorized by Decisions Nos. 70591 and 70963, dated April 19 and July 15, 1966, in Case No. 5432 (Petitions for Modification Nos. 407 and 416), respectively.

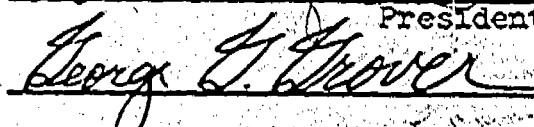
2. Tariff publications authorized to be made as a result of the order herein may be made effective not earlier than thirty days after the effective date of this order on not less than thirty days' notice to the Commission and to the public.

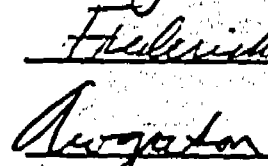
3. Pacific Southcoast Freight Bureau, Agent, is hereby authorized to depart from the long- and short-haul provisions of Section 460 of the Public Utilities Code to the extent necessary to exercise the authority granted herein.

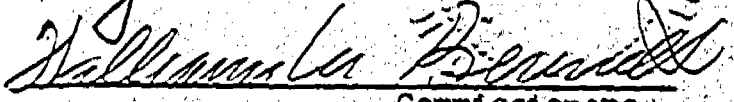
4. The authority herein granted shall expire unless exercised within ninety days after the effective date of this order. The effective date of this order shall be twenty days after the date hereof.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 10th day of November, 1966.



President


Frederick B. Holduff


Auguston


Commissioners