## (SPT) A. /48880 - hh

Decision No.

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Application of Western Motor Tariff ) Bureau, Inc. under the Shortened ) Procedure Tariff Docket to publish ) for and on behalf of George Chuck ) and Edward Papazian, doing business ) as Desert Belt Transportation Com- ) pany tariff provisions resulting in ) increases because of the proposed ) cancellation of certain specific ) commodity rates. )

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Shortened Procedure Tariff Docket Application No. 48880 (Filed October 19, 1966)

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## OPINION AND ORDER

By this application, Western Motor Tariff Bureau, Inc., seeks authority, on behalf of George Chuck and Edward Papazian, doing business as Desert Belt Transportation Company (Desert), to increase their rates for the transportation of fresh strawberries by applying their any-quantity rates to all shipments of strawberries regardless of their weight.<sup>1</sup>

Applicant states that the transportation of fresh strawberries is a specialized type of operation that requires more care to avoid spoilage and damage than is necessary in connection with most fruits and vegetables. Applicant avers that Desert has become proficient in the handling of fresh strawberries and that the costs of this special handling have rendered the rates for the above transportation noncompensatory when such rates are based on minimum weights of 2,000 pounds or more. Applicant alleges that the carrier discussed the matter in question with the one shipper of strawberries involved and that the shipper has no objection to its proposal.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>The rates are set forth in Item No. 6100 of Western Motor Tariff Bureau, Inc., Agent, Local, Joint and Proportional Freight and Express Tariff No. 111, Cal.P.U.C. No. 15.

Applicant asserts that increases resulting from the proposal herein would not increase the California intrastate gross revenue of the carrier involved by as much as one percent.

The application was listed on the Commission's Daily Calendar of October 20, 1966. No objection to the granting of the application has been received.

In the circumstances, it appears, and the Commission finds, that increases resulting from the publication of the tariff provisions as proposed in the application are justified. A public hearing is not necessary. The Commission concludes that the application should be granted.

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. Western Motor Tariff Bureau, Inc., Agent, is hereby authorized to publish, on behalf of George Chuck and Edward Papazian, doing business as Desert Belt Transportation Company, rates in its Local, Joint and Proportional Freight and Express Tariff No. 111, Cal.P.U.C. No. 15, as proposed in the application.

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

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

Dated at San Francisco, California, this  $\frac{29^{-12}}{2}$  day

of <u>DECEMBER</u>, 1966.

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Commissioner <u>George C</u> not participate in the disposition of this proceeding.

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