

ORIGINAL

Decision No. 72554

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF:)	
Russell P. Sampoul, An Individual,)	Application No. 49175
doing business as: COLONIAL VAN &)	(Filed February 28, 1967)
STORAGE CO., for an increase in rates.)	

OPINION AND ORDER

Russell P. Sampoul, doing business as Colonial Van & Storage Co., operates as a public utility warehouseman in the vicinity of Fresno.¹ By this application, he seeks authority to increase his rates and charges, on one day's notice, for storage, handling and miscellaneous services by approximately 5, 40 and 45 percent, respectively.

Applicant states that his current rates have been in effect since October 21, 1957; that he has experienced increases in costs of labor, taxes, rents and materials since that date; and that such rates do not now yield sufficient revenue to permit him to conduct his warehouse operations at a reasonable profit.

According to applicant, the sought increases would only raise his rates and charges to the level of rates and charges which competing warehousemen have assessed since August 5, 1963.² Applicant avers that the proposed increases in rates and charges are necessary in order that he may offset some of the aforementioned increased costs and continue to render adequate and efficient service to the public.

¹ Applicant is authorized to operate 16,500 square feet of warehouse floor space for the storage of general commodities at 2742 South Railroad Avenue, Fresno County, pursuant to Decision No. 68386 dated December 22, 1964, in Application No. 47026.

² Pursuant to Decision No. 65717 dated July 16, 1963, in Application No. 45266.

Revenue and expense data submitted by applicant indicate that the warehouse operations yielded \$25,724 in revenue, incurred \$26,789 in expenses and resulted in a loss of \$1,065 and an operating ratio of 104 for 1965; and that operations under the proposed rates would yield \$30,061 in revenue, incur \$27,758 in expenses and result in a profit of \$2,303 and an operating ratio of 92.3 before taxes.

The certificate of service shows that copies of the verified application were mailed to various competing warehousemen on February 20, 1967. The application was listed on the Commission's Daily Calendar of March 1, 1967. Applicant has notified all storers of property in his warehouse of his rate proposal. No objection to granting of the application has been received.

In the circumstances, it appears, and the Commission finds, that increases resulting from the establishment of rates and charges for storage, handling and other services as proposed in the application are justified. A public hearing is not necessary. The Commission concludes that the application should be granted to the extent set forth in the ensuing order.

Applicant will be authorized to publish the tariff changes on not less than five days' notice to the Commission and to the public. In authorizing the increases as proposed, the Commission does not make any finding of fact as to the reasonableness of any particular rate or charge.

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. Russell P. Sampoul is hereby authorized to establish increased rates and charges and other adjustments as specifically proposed in Application No. 49175.

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 is subject to the express condition that applicant will never urge before this Commission in any proceeding under Section 734 of the Public Utilities Code, or in any other proceeding, that the opinion and order herein constitute a finding of fact of the reasonableness of any particular rate or charge, and that the filing of rates and charges pursuant to the authority granted herein will be construed as consent to this condition.

4. 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 6th day of June, 1967.

Edward E. Mitchell
President

William B. ...

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William ...

Shed P. Morssey
Commissioners