

ORIGINAL

Decision No. 72998

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)	Shortened Procedure
for and on behalf of certain of its)	Tariff Docket
participating carriers tariff pro-)	Application No. 49559
visions resulting in increases)	(Filed July 21, 1967)
because of the proposed publication)	(Amended July 28, 1967)
of increased charges for the trans-)	
portation of multiple shipments of)	
Fruits and Vegetables.)	

OPINION AND ORDER

By this application, Western Motor Tariff Bureau, Inc., for and on behalf of Oregon Nevada California Fast Freight, Inc., Southern California Freight Forwarders and Southern California Freight Lines, Ltd., seeks authority to publish increases in their minimum charges applicable to multiple shipments of fruits and vegetables, which originate on the lines of said carriers within a radius of 25 air miles of Indio.¹ The specific charges proposed to be published by applicant for such shipments are set forth in Appendix "A" attached to the amended application. Applicant requests authority to publish the tariff charges proposed herein on five days' notice to the Commission and to the public.

¹The proposed minimum charges are to be published in Item 5750 of Western Motor Tariff Bureau, Inc., Agent, Local, Joint and Proportional Freight and Express Tariff No. 111, Cal.P.U.C. No. 15, hereinafter referred to as Tariff No. 111.

Applicant states that the proposed charges are special charges which will apply only when the point of origin is within 25 miles of Indio and, while they will apply generally on all fresh fruits and vegetables, actually are to be published for the transportation of dates.

According to applicant, on July 1, 1967, most motor carriers in California, including the aforesaid carriers involved in this proposal, experienced substantial increases in labor charges for drivers and other categories of labor, including office help, mechanical employees, and others. Since the special minimum charges proposed herein are not included in the Commission's Minimum Rate Tariff No. 8, the aforesaid carriers will not receive the benefit of these increased rates and charges, under the regular wage offset rate proposal resulting from the aforementioned labor increases, despite the fact that similar increases in their costs will accrue for such transportation.

Applicant asserts that it held extensive conferences with the shippers of dates, principal users of the charges proposed herein, and that these shippers agree with the carriers involved herein that, in order for them to render a competent and equitable service, the increased charges proposed in this application must be incorporated into Tariff No. 111.

Applicant alleges that, in the event this application is granted and the resulting tariff publication is made, such publication will not increase the gross revenue derived by these three carriers, insofar as their California intrastate traffic is concerned, by as much as one percent.

In regard to its request for authority to publish the proposed charges on five days' notice, applicant declares that such relief is necessary since shipments of dates, which are the principal commodity to be transported under the charges proposed herein, are of a seasonal nature. This commodity will commence to be shipped in the very near future and, unless the requested less-than-statutory notice for tariff publication is authorized, the movement of dates will start before the proposed increases in such charges will become effective.

The application and amendment thereto were listed on the Commission's Daily Calendar of July 24 and 31, 1967, respectively. No objection to the granting of the application, as amended, has been received.

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

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. Western Motor Tariff Bureau, Inc., Agent, is hereby authorized to publish in its Local, Joint and Proportional Freight and Express Tariff No. 111, Cal.P.U.C. No. 15, on behalf of Oregon Nevada California Fast Freight, Inc., Southern California Freight Forwarders and Southern California Freight Lines, Ltd., increased charges for the transportation of multiple shipments of fruits and vegetables as specifically proposed in Application No. 49559, as amended.

2. Tariff publications authorized to be made as a result of the order herein may be made effective not earlier than three days after the effective date of this order on not less than three 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.

This order shall become effective on the date hereof.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 24th day of August, 1967.

Arthur E. Hatchell
President
William J. ...
...
William J. ...
Fred P. ...
Commissioners