

ORIGINALDecision No. 75766

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of WALKUP'S MERCHANTS EXPRESS, a corporation, for permission to charge less than minimum rates for the transportation of green coffee for Hills Bros. Coffee, Inc., in the City and County of San Francisco.

Application No. 51042
(Filed April 30, 1969)

OPINION AND ORDER

Walkup's Merchants Express, a corporation, holds radial highway common carrier and highway contract carrier permits. By Decision No. 74262, dated June 18, 1968, in Application No. 50222, applicant was authorized to charge a rate less than the established minimum rate for the transportation of green coffee for Hills Bros. Coffee, Inc., from piers on the San Francisco waterfront to the coffee company's plant in San Francisco. The currently authorized rate is 15-1/2 cents per 100 pounds and is subject to a minimum weight of 1,000 tons per calendar month, the monthly tonnage to be averaged over twelve calendar months. The above authority is scheduled to expire with June 30, 1969.

By this application, applicant seeks authority to:

(1) extend the current rate authority to and including June 30, 1970; and (2) increase the less-than-minimum rate now authorized to 16-1/2 cents per 100 pounds.

Applicant alleges that, except for an increase in its labor cost and an increase in the volume of the coffee movement in San Francisco, there has been no change in the circumstances

A. 51042 ds

which justify a reduced rate for the transportation involved herein. According to applicant, the volume of the traffic is substantially above the minimum tonnage requirements specified in the existing authority. Applicant asserts that it has experienced an increase in labor cost for the transportation involved herein which requires that the rate now authorized be increased as proposed for the forthcoming year.

Applicant and its predecessor, Walkup Drayage and Warehouse Company, have performed this transportation under prior rate authorities for many years past and applicant desires to maintain its long-standing relationship with the shipper by providing service between the points specified at the proposed rate.

Revenue and expense data submitted with the application indicate that the transportation involved has been profitable and reasonably may be expected to be profitable during the ensuing year.

The certificate of service shows that copies of the verified application were mailed to Draymen's Association of San Francisco and California Trucking Association on April 30, 1969. The application has been listed on the Commission's Daily Calendar and no objection to the granting of the application has been received.

In the circumstances, it appears, and the Commission finds, that the proposed rate is reasonable. A public hearing is not necessary. The Commission concludes that the application should be granted.

In view of the impending expiration date of the current authority, the order which follows will be made effective June 30, 1969.

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. Walkup's Merchants Express, a corporation, is hereby authorized to transport green coffee for Hills Bros. Coffee, Inc., from piers on the San Francisco waterfront and public warehouses in San Francisco to the coffee company's plant in San Francisco and from said piers to said public warehouses at a rate less than the minimum rate established for such transportation but not less than 16-1/2 cents per 100 pounds, subject to a minimum weight of 1,000 tons per calendar month, the monthly tonnage to be averaged over twelve calendar months commencing with the month in which the property is first transported.

2. The authority herein granted shall, on and after June 30, 1969, supersede the authority granted by Decision No. 74262 and shall expire with June 30, 1970.

This order shall become effective June 30, 1969.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 10th day of JUNE, 1969.

William Agnew
President

Alfred P. Morrison

U. H. Brown

[Signature]
Commissioners

Commissioner A. W. Gatov, being necessarily absent, did not participate in the disposition of this proceeding.