

ORIGINALDecision No. 76208

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of)
 WESTERN COMPRESS COMPANY, a corpora-)
 tion, for an increase in rates. }

Application No. 51358
 (Filed September 12, 1969)

O P I N I O N

Western Compress Company is a corporation engaged, as a public utility warehouseman, in the storage and handling of cotton at Fresno and Tulare. It seeks authority to increase rates and accessorial charges for storage, handling and compressing of cotton.

The last rate increase authorized to applicant was granted by Decision No. 67661, dated August 4, 1964, in Application No. 46713. The application alleges that since that date applicant has experienced substantial increases in operating costs, particularly in increased wage costs.

The application states that pursuant to Senate Bill No. 568, enacted by the Legislature and approved by the Governor on July 8, 1969, this Commission will no longer have jurisdiction over applicant's public utility warehouse operations for the storage of cotton in bales on and after November 10, 1969. Applicant requests that it be authorized to put in effect the increased rates and charges set forth in Exhibit A to the application for the short period of time this Commission will have jurisdiction over applicant's operations. The application states that the 1969 season for the storage of cotton will begin October 1, 1969. The applicant alleges

that it is desirable to have uniform storage and handling rates during an entire season; that applicant intends to establish the rates proposed herein on and after November 10, 1969; that applicant and its customers will be greatly inconvenienced if different rates are applied during a single storage season; and that applicant urgently needs the relief requested herein. Applicant requests that it be authorized to place the sought increased rates in effect on October 1, 1969.

The Commission finds as follows:

1. Applicant's public utility warehouse operations in connection with cotton in bales will cease to be subject to regulation by this Commission on and after November 10, 1969.
2. Applicant intends to raise its rates and charges on and after November 10, 1969 to the levels sought herein.
3. Applicant's customers appear to desire uniform season storage and handling rates for cotton in bales and have no objection to the increases sought.
4. As a convenience to applicant and its customers applicant should be authorized to establish on October 1, 1969 the increased rates which it intends to establish on November 10, 1969 and maintain thereafter.
5. The rate increases sought herein are justified.

The Commission concludes the application should be granted.

O R D E R

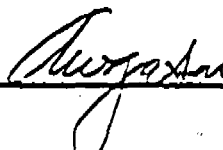



IT IS ORDERED that:

1. Western Compress Company, a corporation, is authorized to establish the increased rates and charges sought in Application No. 51358.

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

The effective date of this order is September 28, 1969.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 23rd
day of SEPTEMBER, 1969.

 President


 Commissioners

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