

Decision No. 77064

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

ORIGINAL

In the Matter of the Investigation into the rates, rules, regulations, charges, allowances and practices of all common carriers, highway carriers and city carriers relating to the transportation of any and all commodities between and within all points and places in the State of California (including, but not limited to, transportation for which rates are provided in Minimum Rate Tariff No. 2)...

And Related Matters

Case No. 5432
(Petition for Modification
No. 581)
(Filed April 3, 1970)

Cases Nos. 5435, 5438, 5439
and 5441
(Petitions for Modification Nos.
148, 77, 116 and 192,
respectively)
(Filed April 3, 1970 and
April 10, 1970)

INTERIM SURCHARGE SUPPLEMENT AND ORDER

(Applicable to Minimum Rate Tariffs 1-B, 2, 5, 8, 9-B and 10)
Except C.O.D. Charges and Railhead to Railhead Charges.
To be applied to the total transportation charges resulting under these tariffs
including current supplements thereof.

Petitioner, California Trucking Association, seeks immediate relief to offset substantial wage increases established retroactive to April 1, 1970. It is alleged that increases in the new labor contract range from 46 to 51 cents per hour which will increase carrier operating costs from 5½ to 9½ percent. Petitioner asserts that the latest available financial information indicates that, under the new labor contract, carriers will not be able to meet their financial obligations nor to provide adequate service to the public without additional revenues.

The Commission finds that for-hire carriers have incurred increased labor costs as of April 1, 1970. The Commission concludes that, until further order of the Commission, charges under the minimum rates involved herein should be increased as set forth in the following order. Public hearings will be scheduled to receive additional evidence in this matter and to consider rate scales appropriate to replace the interim surcharge.

The order which follows will amend the minimum rate tariffs involved and will be filed as a supplement to said tariffs.

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. Minimum Rate Tariffs 1-B, 2, 5, 8, 9-B and 10 are further amended to provide that charges resulting thereunder shall be increased by 6 percent on charges on any and all shipments computed on minimum weight of 20,000 pounds and over, and 8 percent on all other charges, (except as to C.O.D. charges and charges resulting from the use of railhead to railhead rates applied under the alternative application of common carrier rates) to become effective on April 24, 1970. Fractions will be disposed of as follows: Fractions of less than one-half cent shall be dropped; fractions of one half-cent or greater shall be increased to one cent.

2. Common carriers subject to the Public Utilities Act to the extent that they are also subject to the minimum rate orders herein involved are hereby directed to establish in their tariffs the surcharges specified in Ordering Paragraph 1 herein, to be applied to the total transportation charges resulting under their respective tariffs.

3. With respect to rates maintained by common carriers for transportation not subject to the minimum rate orders herein involved and/or maintained on a level other than minimum rates for transportation for which rates are prescribed in the minimum rate orders involved, said carriers are authorized to apply the surcharges specified in Ordering Paragraph 1 herein.

4. Common carriers, in establishing and maintaining the rates authorized hereinabove, are hereby authorized to depart from the provisions of Section 460 of the Public Utilities Code to the extent necessary to adjust long- and short-haul departures now maintained under outstanding authorizations; such outstanding authorizations are hereby modified only to the extent necessary to comply with this order; and schedules containing the rates published under this authority shall make reference to the prior orders authorizing long- and short-haul departures and to this order.

5. Common carriers are hereby authorized and directed to increase their rates on not less than two days' notice to the Commission and to the public and to publish said increases to become effective April 24, 1970.

6. Common carriers are hereby authorized to depart from the Commission's tariff circular requirements only to the extent necessary in establishing the interim surcharges authorized by this order.

7. Further hearings in these proceedings will be held at times and places to be determined.

The effective date of this order shall be the date hereof.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 14TH day of April, 1970.

William Synovis, Jr.
President

August

[Signature]

Yuman L. Sturgeon
Commissioners

Commissioner J. F. Vukasin, Jr., being necessarily absent, did not participate in the disposition of this proceeding.