

ORIGINAL

Decision No. 77201

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 provi-	)	Application No. 51778
sions resulting in increases because	)	(Filed March 19, 1970)
of proposed cancellation of a mini-	)	
mum charge rule applicable to Fresh	)	
Fruits and Vegetables.	)	

OPINION AND ORDER

By this application, Western Motor Tariff Bureau, Inc., seeks authority, on behalf of various carriers participating in one of its tariffs, to cancel the minimum charges for the transportation of fresh fruits and vegetables.<sup>1</sup>

Applicant proposes to have the carriers' higher minimum charges,<sup>2</sup> which govern the rates for the transportation of general commodities, apply also in connection with the carriers' rates for the transportation of fresh fruits and vegetables.

Applicant states that the carriers involved are authorized to transport general commodities or a broad spectrum of general commodities and fresh fruits and vegetables. Applicant avers that experience has shown that the cost of handling fresh fruits and

1

The minimum charges for the transportation of fresh fruits and vegetables are set forth in Item No. 5740 of Western Motor Tariff Bureau, Inc., Agent, Local, Joint and Proportional Freight and Express Tariff No. 111, Cal.P.U.C. No. 15 (Tariff No. 111).

2

The minimum charges for the transportation of general commodities are set forth in Item No. 460 of Tariff No. 111.

vegetables on a minimum charge basis is no different than the cost of handling general commodities. Applicant contends that the carriers should receive the same compensation for the same type of service regardless of the commodity being transported and that its proposal would establish uniformity in the tariff provisions pertaining to minimum charges.

Applicant alleges that the proposed revision of the minimum charges was formally considered at a meeting of its General Commodity Standing Rate Committee on February 11, 1970, under Docket No. 2261. Applicant declares that the proposed tariff revision was circulated to interested shippers and that no shippers registered any opposition to the proposal.

Applicant asserts that increases resulting from cancellation of the minimum charges in question would not increase the gross revenue derived by any of the carriers involved by as much as one percent.

The application was listed on the Commission's Daily Calendar of March 20, 1970. No objection to the granting of the application has been received.

The Transportation Division staff has reviewed the application and recommends that it be granted by ex parte order.

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

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. Western Motor Tariff Bureau, Inc., is hereby authorized, on behalf of the carriers listed in Application No. 51778, to cancel Item No. 5740 from its Local, Joint and Proportional Freight and Express Tariff No. 111, Cal.P.U.C. 15, as specifically proposed in said application.

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 thirty days after the effective date of this order on not less than thirty days' notice to the Commission and to the public.

3. 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 12TH day of May, 1970.

William Symons, Jr.  
President  
Augusta  
John P. Sullivan  
Vermon L. Sturges  
Commissioners