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ORIGINAL

Decision No. \_\_\_\_\_

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of: )  
 )  
 C. R. NICKERSON, Agent and Attorney, )  
 for and on behalf of DOUDELL TRUCKING )  
 COMPANY, under authority of outstand- )  
 ing Power of Attorney, under the )  
 Shortened Procedure Tariff Docket, for )  
 authority to increase the present )  
 Hourly Vehicle Unit Rates on Low-Bed )  
 Equipment named in Item 529.10 of )  
 Pacific Coast Tariff Bureau Tariff No. )  
 16, Cal.P.U.C. No. 19 (Freight) of )  
 C. R. Nickerson, Agent, to the basis )  
 outlined in Exhibit "A" attached to )  
 and by reference thereto, made a part )  
 of this application. )

Shortened Procedure  
 Tariff Docket  
 Application No. 52003  
 (Filed June 29, 1970)

AND

For authority to depart from the terms )  
 of Section 454 of the Public Utilities )  
 Code when accomplishing proposed )  
 publication. )

OPINION AND ORDER

By this application, C. R. Nickerson seeks authority, on behalf of Doudell Trucking Company (Doudell), to increase the hourly rate and minimum charge for the transportation of property of abnormal size or weight which require the use of, and are transported on, low-bed equipment.<sup>1</sup>

Applicant proposes to increase (1) the hourly rate from \$14.00 per hour to \$17.50 per hour for the use of low-bed equipment; and (2) the basis for assessing the minimum charge from one hour to four hours.

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<sup>1</sup> The rate and minimum charge involved are published in Item No. 529.10 of Pacific Coast Tariff Bureau Local, Joint and Proportional Freight and Express Tariff No. 16, Cal.P.U.C. Nos. 1 (Express) and 19 (Freight) of C. R. Nickerson, Agent.

Applicant states that low-bed equipment costs considerably more than regular type equipment and that such equipment cannot be operated at the speed of regular equipment. Applicant avers that, since 1965, the costs of fuel, equipment parts and labor have increased by approximately 16, 43 and 45 percent, respectively. Applicant alleges that the sought increases are not out of line with increases which have been prescribed by the Commission for similar services.<sup>2</sup>

Applicant asserts that increases resulting from the proposal herein would not increase the intrastate gross revenue of Doudell by as much as one percent.

The application was listed on the Commission's Daily Calendar of June 30, 1970. No objection to the granting of the application has been received.

Commission staff analysis discloses that the hourly rate and minimum charge in question have been in effect without increase since June 19, 1961, and apply to transportation which is exempt from the application of the Commission's minimum rates. The increases are required to offset increased labor costs and are commensurate with those which have been authorized by the Commission for certain non-exempt transportation. The staff recommends that the application be granted by ex parte order.

In the circumstances, it appears, and the Commission finds, that increases resulting from publication of the rate and minimum charge as proposed in the application are justified. A public

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<sup>2</sup> Applicant cites various Commission decisions on page 2 of the application wherein increases totaling approximately 20 percent were authorized from 1965 to April 24, 1970, in connection with the transportation of Oil, Water or Gas Well Outfits and Supplies.

hearing is not necessary. The Commission concludes that the application should be granted.

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. C. R. Nickerson is hereby authorized to publish in Pacific Coast Tariff Bureau Local, Joint and Proportional Freight and Express Tariff No. 16, Cal.P.U.C. Nos. 1 (Express) and 19 (Freight), on behalf of Doudell Trucking Company, the rate and minimum charge as specifically proposed in the 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 five days after the effective date of this order on not less than five 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 twenty days after the date hereof.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of September, 1970.

Chairman

Commissioners

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

-3- Commissioner Thomas Moran, being necessarily absent, did not participate in the disposition of this proceeding.