

Decision No. 78097

ORIGINAL

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application  
of AUTOMOBILE TRANSPORT COMPANY  
OF CALIFORNIA, a California  
corporation, for authority to  
abandon its operations as a high-  
way common carrier in the  
transportation of motor vehicles  
and other special commodities,  
between points in California,  
pursuant to §1070 of the  
California Public Utilities Code.

Application No. 52300  
(Filed November 16, 1970)

OPINION AND ORDER

Applicant holds a certificate of public convenience and necessity which authorizes it to transport motor vehicles, trailers, certain component parts and other specified commodities as a highway common carrier between all points and places in California. Said certificate was issued pursuant to Decision No. 45990, dated July 24, 1951, in Application No. 30741, and was transferred to applicant pursuant to Decision No. 52703, dated March 6, 1956, in Application No. 37603. In addition, applicant holds a radial highway common carrier permit which authorizes the transportation of property between points and places in California. By the instant application, applicant requests that the aforementioned certificate be canceled and that it be authorized to abandon its highway common carrier service effective December 31, 1970.

In support of the request, the application asserts as follows: Applicant's highway common carrier operations are in the automobile carrier field; it has conducted such operations under

its certificate since April 1, 1956; numerous changes have taken place in this segment of the motor carrier industry; mobile homes and similar commodities are now transported almost exclusively by highway common carriers and highway permit carriers specializing in such transportation rather than by automobile carriers; because of the high degree of coordination required between manufacturers, distributors and highway carriers in the scheduling of deliveries of new motor vehicles, this class of transportation is handled almost exclusively by permit carriers under a close arrangement with the shippers and consignees; the transportation of used motor vehicles consists primarily of either used vehicles moving from auctions to dealers or the transportation of damaged, repossessed or embezzled vehicles from point of pickup back to the dealer; in most instances, the latter class of used vehicle transportation must be moved on a highly expeditious basis which, in order to cover the cost of performing the service and be compensatory, requires the assessment of charges in excess of those prescribed in either applicant's tariff or the applicable minimum rate tariff; applicant can better serve the special needs of its shippers as a highway permit carrier rather than as a highway common carrier; as a highway permit carrier, all such services can be performed at compensatory rate levels; applicant has reviewed its present and proposed operations and concludes from such review that said operations in the future will not constitute operations as a highway common carrier.

After consideration, the Commission finds that public convenience and necessity no longer require applicant's service as a highway common carrier. A public hearing is not necessary. The Commission concludes that the application should be granted.

IT IS ORDERED that:



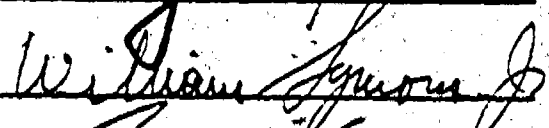
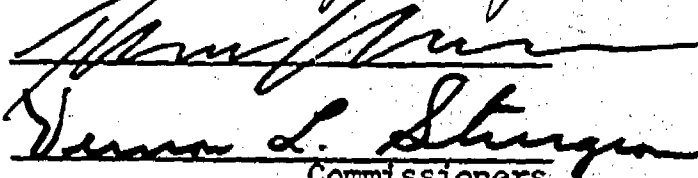
1. The certificate of public convenience and necessity to operate as a highway common carrier granted by Decision No. 45990, dated July 24, 1951, in Application No. 30741, as acquired by Automobile Transport Company of California, a California corporation, by Decision No. 52703, dated March 6, 1956, in Application No. 37603, is hereby revoked.

2. R. A. Redmond, Agent, is authorized and directed to cancel the participation of Automobile Transport Company of California, a California corporation, from his tariffs on file with the Commission, such cancellation to be made within ninety days after the effective date of this order on not less than ten days' notice to the Commission and the public.

The Secretary of the Commission is directed to mail a copy of this order to R. A. Redmond, Agent.

The effective date of this order shall be December 31, 1970.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 15<sup>th</sup> day of DECEMBER, 1970.

  
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Chairman  
  
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Commissioners