

ORIGINAL

Decision No. 78136

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 its participat-)	Tariff Docket
ing carriers in Bureau Tariff No. 111)	Application No. 52231
amendments to Item No. 460 which will)	(Filed October 6, 1970)
result in increases to provisions)	(Amended December 15, 1970)
over those presently applicable.)	

OPINION AND ORDER

By this application, Western Motor Tariff Bureau, Inc. seeks authority, on behalf of all carriers participating in one of its tariffs, to increase minimum charges for shipments transported in excess of 300 miles by approximately one percent.¹

Applicant states that the involved carriers were authorized by the Commission to maintain a level of minimum charges for small shipment service, which was 10 percent above the level of the established minimum charges for this transportation.² Applicant avers that the Commission subsequently authorized general increases in the rates and charges in Minimum Rate Tariff No. 2 and directed common carriers to increase their rates and charges by corresponding amounts.³ As a result thereof, applicant contends that the common carriers involved herein no longer maintain the 10 percent differential in the minimum charges for the aforementioned small shipment service.

¹ The present charges are set forth in Paragraph (b) 3 of Item No. 460 of Local, Joint and Proportional Freight and Express Tariff No. 111, Cal. P.U.C. No. 15.

² Decision No. 76718 dated January 27, 1970 in Application No. 51433.

³ Decision No. 77441 dated June 30, 1970, in Case No. 5432 (Petition for Modification No. 581).

Applicant alleges that the Commission's minimum charges for transporting small shipments 500 miles or less only provide for two terminal handlings but that a substantial amount of this traffic is accorded three terminal handlings by the carriers in question. Applicant declares that labor productivity is less for long-haul than for short-haul transportation of small shipments due to union jurisdictional problems involved in the use of several classes of employees. Applicant avers that the 10 percent differential in the minimum charges for the transportation of small shipments in excess of 300 miles is required to offset the added costs experienced by the carriers involved.

Applicant states that the proposed minimum charges were formally considered at a meeting of its General Commodity Standing Rate Committee on September 9, 1970, under Docket No. 2389. Applicant declares that the proposed tariff revision was circulated to interested parties and that no opposition to its proposal has been received.

Applicant asserts that increases resulting from the proposal herein would not increase by as much as one percent the California intrastate gross revenue derived by any of the carriers involved.

The application and amendment thereto were listed on the Commission's Daily Calendar of October 7 and December 16, 1970. No objection to the granting of the application, as amended, has been received.

Commission staff analysis discloses that the 10 percent differential authorized by the Commission between the minimum charges published by applicant and those established in the Commission's Minimum Rate Tariff 2 has been decreased by approximately one percent as a result of authority granted to common carriers by Decision No. 77441. The sought increases in the minimum charges would reestablish the 10 percent differential. The staff recommends that the application, as amended, be granted by ex parte order.

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

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. Western Motor Tariff Bureau, Inc., is hereby authorized, on behalf of all carriers participating in its Local, Joint and Proportional Freight and Express Tariff No. 111, Cal.P.U.C. No. 15, to publish increased minimum charges as specifically proposed in the application, as amended.

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 of this order on not less than two days' notice to the Commission and to the public.

The authority granted herein shall expire unless exercised within ninety days after the effective date of this order.

This order shall become effective on December 28, 1970.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 22nd day of December, 1970.

I dissent
In the absence of
leaving, I cannot
sign this order
J. Robinson Jr.
Chairman

Chairman
Augusta

William J. ...

John ...

Vernon L. Sturgeon
Commissioners