

Decision No. 78737

ORIGINAL

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the matter of the application)	
of MID-VALLEY TRANSPORTATION, INC.,)	
a corporation, for authority to)	Application No. 52619
depart from minimum rates in)	(Filed May 14, 1971)
connection with certain transporta-)	
tion to be performed for Safeway)	
Stores, Inc.)	

OPINION AND ORDER

Mid-Valley Transportation, Inc., a corporation, operates as a radial highway common carrier and a highway contract carrier. By this application, it seeks authority to deviate from the Commission's established minimum rates for the transportation of watermelons, in collapsible bins on pallets, from various points to Richmond for Safeway Stores, Inc., for the forthcoming shipping season commencing with June 1, 1971.

Applicant proposes to assess rates subject to a minimum weight of 42,000 pounds per shipment for the transportation of the watermelons, which are generally higher than the Commission's established minimum rates for such shipments. Applicant also seeks to deviate from the rules governing these rates by basing the charges on the net weight of the shipment instead of the gross weight thereof and returning the collapsible bins and pallets to point of original shipment or such other point or points equidistant or less from Richmond without charge.

Applicant states that it has transported watermelons in bulk for Safeway Stores, Inc., from major producing areas in the state to Safeway's Distribution Center at Richmond for nearly

twenty years at agreed rates over those published in the Commission's Minimum Rate Tariff 8. Applicant declares that the transportation of watermelons in bulk in collapsible bins on pallets is a new method of handling such shipments and that this transportation to Safeway's Richmond Distribution Center is being tested on a trial basis. Applicant avers that, because of the advantages of unitized loading and unloading, considerable economies can be effected by it and Safeway resulting in a lower delivered cost which would benefit the public.

Exhibit E attached to the application indicates that the transportation involved may reasonably be expected to be profitable for the ensuing year.

A copy of the application was mailed to California Trucking Association on or about May 13, 1971. The application was listed on the Commission's Daily Calendar of May 18, 1971. 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.

Applicant is hereby notified that any extension of the authority involved herein must be timely filed in order that the Commission may consider the matter in accordance with its procedural rules.

In the circumstances, it appears, and the Commission finds, that the proposed deviation is reasonable. A public hearing is not necessary. The Commission concludes that the application should be granted.

IT IS ORDERED that:

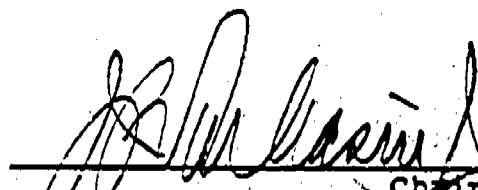
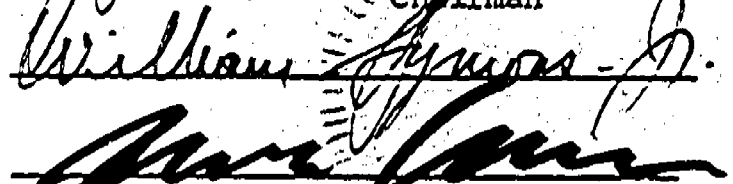
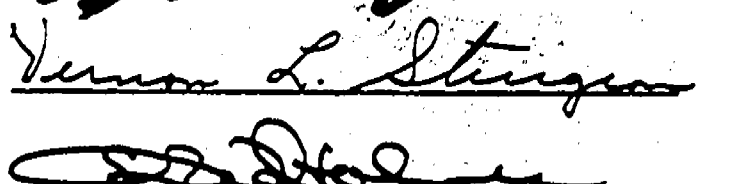
1. Mid-Valley Transportation, Inc., a corporation, is authorized to transport watermelons, in bulk, for Safeway Stores, Inc.

at rates which differ from the established minimum rates and charges otherwise applicable but which are not less than those set forth in and subject to the conditions specified in Appendix A, attached hereto and by this reference made a part hereof.

2. The authority granted herein shall expire one year after the effective date of this order unless sooner canceled, modified or extended by order of the Commission.

The effective date of this order shall be June 1, 1971.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 25th day of May, 1971.


Chairman

Vernon L. Sturgeon

Commissioners

SCHEDULE OF MINIMUM RATES FOR THE TRANSPORTATION OF
WATERMELONS TO RICHMOND, CALIFORNIA, FOR SAFEWAY STORES, INC.

Section 1

Item 10 - Application of Rates

The minimum rates and rules set forth in Minimum Rate Tariff No. 8 are applicable on all shipments of watermelons except as specifically provided in Section 2.

Section 2

Item 20 - Application

Rates in this section are subject to a minimum weight of 42,000 pounds per shipment and apply only to watermelons, in bulk in collapsible bins on pallets, to Safeway Stores, Inc., at Richmond.

Rates named apply on the net weight of the watermelons and include free return of the collapsible bins and pallets to point of original shipment or such other point or points equidistant or less from Richmond.

Rates named include two (2) hours free time for loading and two (2) hours free time for unloading. Any waiting time beyond this period resulting from any cause not the fault of and beyond the control of carrier shall be subject to an additional charge as provided in Item 150 of Minimum Rate Tariff No. 8.

Item 30 - Rates in Cents Per One Hundred Pounds

<u>MILES</u>		<u>RATE</u>
<u>Over</u>	<u>But Not Over</u>	
0	150	69½
150	250	76
250	350	94
350	-	128

(END OF APPENDIX A)