

Decision No. 79346

ORIGINAL

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF:)

RIVER LINES COMPANY under the Shortened)
Procedure Tariff Docket, to make increases)
in class rates named in Section A of Local)
Freight Tariff No. 4-A, Cal.P.U.C. No. 5)
(issued in the series of THE RIVER LINES,)
INC.), as more fully set forth in EXHIBIT)
"A" attached hereto and by reference)
thereto, made a part of this Application.)

Shortened Procedure
Tariff Docket
Application No. 52762
(Filed July 21, 1971)

-AND-

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

OPINION AND ORDER

By this application, River Lines Company, a vessel common carrier, seeks authority, under Section 454 of the Public Utilities Code, to cancel class rates from its tariff.¹

Concurrently with the cancellation of the class rates in its tariff, applicant proposes to substitute therefor a modification of tariff Item No. 225 (Freight, N.O.S.) to provide for an "all freight" rate item to apply to all shipments for which specific commodity rates are not published elsewhere in the tariff. In support of its sought authority, applicant declares that no shipment moving at class rates has been tendered to it in the last ten years and that the any quantity and carload class rates currently published are "dead rates". Applicant states that it no longer operates barges in scheduled service wherein it could accept shipments in small quantities but restricts its service to shipments of 500 tons or

¹ The class rates are published in Item No. 65 and in Section A of River Lines Company Local Freight Tariff No. 4-A, Cal.P.U.C. No. 5.

greater. Applicant contends that the sought tariff adjustment will constitute a technical increase only since there has been no movement at the existing class rates. Applicant points out, however, that due to the possibility that at some future time shipments may be tendered to carrier in lots of 500 tons or more of commodities for which no specific commodity rates are published, it is essential that barge load rates ("all freight") be maintained.

The application was listed on the Commission's Daily Calendar of July 22, 1971. No objection to the granting of the application has been received.

Commission staff analysis discloses that the proposed "all freight" rate of 21 cents per 100 pounds, minimum weight 1,000,000 pounds, is lower than the currently published carload class rates. Further, since no shipments have moved at the class rates currently published in the tariff in the last ten years, such "dead rates" should be canceled. The proposed tariff amendments will have no effect on the carrier's annual gross revenue. The staff recommends that the application be granted by ex parte order.

In the circumstances, it appears, and the Commission finds, that proposed tariff provisions resulting from the proposal herein have been shown to be justified by transportation conditions. A public hearing is not necessary. The Commission concludes that the application should be granted.

IT IS ORDERED that:


1. River Lines Company is hereby authorized to publish amendments to its Local Freight Tariff No. 4-A, Cal.P.U.C. No. 5, as specifically proposed in the application.

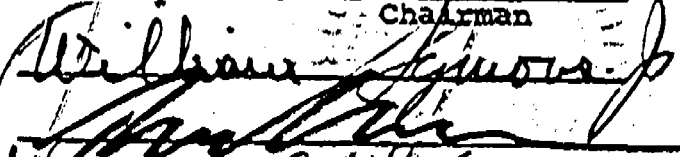
2. Tariff publications authorized to be made as a result of the order herein shall be filed not earlier than the effective date of this order and may be made effective not earlier than thirty days after the effective date of this order on not less than thirty days' notice to the Commission and to the public.


3. The authority 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 22nd day of NOVEMBER, 1971.



Chairman






Commissioners