

ORIGINAL

Decision No. 79618

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 Imperial Truck)	Tariff Docket
Lines, Inc. provisions resulting in)	Application No. 52927
increases because of proposed can-)	(Filed October 15, 1971)
cellation and increases of certain)	
rates on Agricultural Commodities.)	

OPINION AND ORDER

By this application, Western Motor Tariff Bureau, Inc., seeks authority, for and on behalf of Imperial Truck Lines, Inc. (Imperial), to increase truckload commodity rates on various agricultural commodities which are exempt from the minimum rates in Minimum Rate Tariff No. 2. Specifically, it is proposed to increase the truckload commodity rates on shipments originating in the Imperial Valley and Coachella Valley territories destined to points in the Los Angeles Basin Territory and to cancel the truckload commodity rates in the reverse direction.¹

Applicant asserts that its objectives in the proposed publication are to cancel southbound truckload commodity rates under which little or no traffic is presently moving and to increase northbound truckload commodity rates to a level which will return a reasonable profit to Imperial. Applicant avers that (1) the cancellation of the southbound rates will have little effect on the shipping public inasmuch as little or no traffic moves under

¹ The commodity rates are published in Item No. 4645 of Western Motor Tariff Bureau, Inc., Agent, Local, Joint and Proportional Freight and Express Tariff No. 111, Cal.P.U.C. No. 15, herein-after referred to as Tariff No. 111.

the commodity rates, (2) what little traffic is moving does not merit a reduced truckload commodity rate, and (3) there are already published for the account of Imperial reduced truckload ratings as exceptions to the classification ratings for most of the commodities listed in Item No. 4645 of Tariff No. 111.² Applicant alleges that Imperial has determined that the truckload commodity rates for shipments moving northbound are noncompensatory. It states that Item No. 4645 has been published for the account of Imperial since the original publication of Tariff No. 111 became effective in 1963 and prior to that time a like item was published for the account of Imperial by a predecessor tariff agent. Applicant points out that the rates have remained at a more or less stationary level over the years except for recent Commission decisions which authorized increases in the so-called exempt commodity rates.

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

The application was listed on the Commission's Daily Calendar of October 18, 1971. No objection to the granting of the application has been received.

Commission staff analysis discloses that the proposed rates are still well below the class rates otherwise published for the account of Imperial and applicable for the commodities involved. The proposed increases are preponderantly technical in nature inasmuch as there has been no truckload movement, in recent years, of the great majority of the involved commodities between the points in question. The staff recommends that the application be granted by ex parte order.

² Items 1970 and 2010 of Western Motor Tariff Bureau, Inc., Agent, Exception Sheet No. 1-A, Cal.P.U.C. No. 18.

In the circumstances, it appears, and the Commission finds, that applicant's proposal is reasonable. To the extent that the proposal results in increases, they are in the lower zone of reasonableness and are consistent with the Federal Government's economic stabilization program and are justified. A public hearing is not necessary. The Commission concludes that the application should be granted.

IT IS ORDERED that:

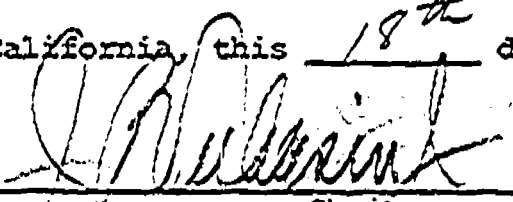
1. Western Motor Tariff Bureau, Inc., Agent, is hereby authorized to publish on behalf of Imperial Truck Lines, Inc., increased rates in its Local, Joint and Proportional Freight and Express Tariff No. 111, Cal.P.U.C. No. 15, as specifically proposed in the application.

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.

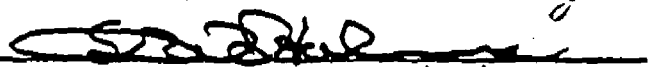
Dated at San Francisco, California, this 18th day of January, 1972.



Chairman



Commissioners



Commissioners