

ORIGINAL

Decision No. 80437

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the matter of the application of)
CENTRAL COAST TRUCK SERVICE, INC.,)
a corporation for authority to depart)
from Item 170 of Minimum Rate Tariff)
No. 8 in connection with transporta-)
tion performed for Safeway Stores, In-)
corporated.)

Application No. 53484
(Filed July 27, 1972)

O P I N I O N

Central Coast Truck Service Inc., a highway permit carrier, seeks authority to deviate from the minimum rates for transportation of fresh fruits and vegetables set forth in Minimum Rate Tariff 8 in connection with transportation performed for Safeway Stores, Incorporated. ✓

The application states that Central Coast is the primary trucker engaged by Safeway to transport fresh produce in California. Safeway maintains processing plants and refrigerated warehouse and transfer facilities at Richmond, Sacramento, and Santa Fe Springs; and produce buying offices in Bakersfield, El Centro, Indio, Richmond, Sacramento, San Diego, Santa Fe Springs, Santa Maria, Stockton, Visalia, and Watsonville.

Safeway's traffic department at Oakland performs a consolidation service for its produce buying and packaging departments. It is necessary for Safeway to issue written shipping instructions to applicant for each consolidated shipment in order to comply with documentation rules set forth in Item 170 of MRT 8. Applicant states that for the first 25 weeks of 1972, Safeway issued to it 2,854 separate written instructions covering 113,132,240 pounds of produce transported in consolidated shipments. Applicant is informed of the produce available to be shipped each day at the same time Safeway's traffic department is informed.

Applicant alleges that the present system is slow and cumbersome and requires that Safeway rent special teletype equipment to transmit daily instructions to it in time for early pickups. Applicant requests that in order to expedite and facilitate the handling of consolidated shipments for Safeway that it be authorized to depart from the documentation requirements of Item 170 of MRT 8 to the extent set forth in Appendix A hereto.

Copies of the application were served in accordance with Commission rules and notice of the filing of the application appeared on the Commission's Daily Calendar. There are no protests or requests for hearing. California Trucking Association, in a letter to the Commission dated July 28, 1972, advised that it has no objection to the issuance of an ex parte order granting the sought relief.

After consideration, the Commission finds that applicant's proposal is reasonable. A public hearing is not necessary.

O R D E R

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. Central Coast Truck Service, Inc. is authorized to depart from the provisions of Item 170 of Minimum Rate Tariff 8 in connection with transportation of fresh fruits and vegetables for Safeway Stores, Incorporated, to the extent provided in Appendix A, attached hereto and made a part hereof.

2. The authority granted herein shall expire October 31, 1973, unless sooner extended or revised.

The effective date of this order shall be twenty days after the date hereof.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 31st day of AUGUST, 1972.

Vernon L. Sturgeon
President
William Symons, Jr.

Alan W. ...
...
Commissioners

Commissioner J. P. Vukasin, Jr., being necessarily absent, did not participate in the disposition of this proceeding.

APPENDIX A

Central Coast Truck Service, Inc., shall assess rates and charges not less than those provided by Minimum Rate Tariff 8 when transporting commodities subject thereto for the account of Safeway Stores, Incorporated, and shall comply with all requirements of that tariff, subject to the following exception:

Exception:

Compliance with the requirements of paragraph (b) of Item 170 for written instructions from the shipper will be satisfied when the shipping document required by Item 255 is confirmed by written notation of the shipper.

Shipper shall place such written confirmation in the U.S. mail to the carrier within 24 hours of receipt of the shipping document from the carrier.