

Decision No. 80687**ORIGINAL**

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of)
 ROLAND F. MASON, INC., a California)
 corporation, doing business as)
 VALLEY TRANSPORTATION CO., for)
 authority to deviate from minimum)
 rates pursuant to Section 3666 of)
 the Public Utilities Code, for)
 Southwestern Portland Cement)
 Company.)

Application No. 53604
 (Filed September 22, 1972)

INTERIM OPINION AND ORDER

Roland F. Mason, Inc., a corporation, doing business as Valley Transportation Co., operates as a highway permit carrier. By this application it seeks authority to charge less than the minimum rates for the transportation of crude gypsum rock for Southwestern Portland Cement Company from Plaster City to Victorville. Applicant seeks authority to assess a rate of 28.7 cents per 100 pounds, minimum weight 52,000 pounds, compared to the applicable minimum rate of 39.9 cents per 100 pounds.

Applicant states that the proposed rate is the same as the current rail rate, except that the rail rate is subject to a minimum weight of 80,000 pounds, and that a recent change in Minimum Rate Tariff 7 requires multiple lots to be picked up in one day instead of two. This change would require applicant to deadhead a second unit of equipment. Applicant transports the gypsum as a backhaul in connection with the transportation of cement for the same shipper from Victorville to El Centro. Taken together, the application shows that the combined transportation of cement and gypsum is profitable. It appears that the authority should be granted on a temporary basis pending a hearing.

The verified application shows that a copy was mailed to the California Trucking Association on or about September 22,

1972. The application was listed on the Commission's Daily Calendar of September 26, 1972.

Subject to further review upon consideration of evidence which may be adduced at a public hearing, it appears, and the Commission finds, that the proposed rate is reasonable. In view of the existing conditions, the Commission concludes that applicant should be granted interim authority for a period of six months to the extent hereinafter indicated. A hearing will be scheduled in this proceeding.

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. Roland F. Mason, Inc., a corporation, doing business as Valley Transportation Company, is authorized to transport gypsum rock, crude, not further processed than broken or crushed, in bulk, in dump truck equipment from the plant of the U. S. Gypsum Co. at Plaster City, to the plant of Southwestern Portland Cement Company at Victorville, at a rate less than the applicable minimum rate, but not less than 28.7 cents per 100 pounds, minimum weight 52,000 pounds.

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

3. A public hearing shall be scheduled in this proceeding for the receipt of evidence on this application and full disposition thereof.

The effective date of this order is the date hereof.

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

Vernon L. Sturgeon
President
Virginia L. Sturgeon
Michael R. Sturgeon
John R. Sturgeon
John R. Sturgeon
Commissioners