

ORIGINAL

Decision No. 81042

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Investigation }
into the rates, rules, regulations, }
charges, allowances and practices }
of all common carriers, highway }
carriers and city carriers relating }
to the transportation of any and }
all commodities between and within }
all points and places in the State }
of California (including, but not }
limited to, transportation for }
which rates are provided in Mini- }
mum Rate Tariff No. 2).

Case No. 5432
Petition for Modification
No. 735
(Filed January 12, 1973)

INTERIM OPINION AND ORDER

Yreka Western Railroad Company, a corporation, operates as a highway common carrier of general commodities between Montague, Yreka, Etna, and Orleans and intermediate points.^{1/} By Decision No. 79671 dated February 1, 1972 in Case No. 5432 (Petition for Modification No. 679), it was authorized to publish minimum per-shipment charges lower than those otherwise applicable. The authorized charges expired February 5, 1973. By this petition, it seeks to extend the authority granted by Decision No. 79671 for a further one-year period at rates approximately 20 to 50 percent higher than those presently authorized.

Petitioner has previously shown that the conditions surrounding the transportation involved are not generally applicable to other regions of the State; that petitioner has always been

^{1/} It also operates as a common carrier by railroad between Yreka and Montague.

subject to severe proprietary competition for the traffic involved; that minimum charges higher than those proposed would divert traffic and cause petitioner to realize less net revenue than it would receive at the lesser charges herein sought to be established; and that the diversion of minimum shipments from its lines would prejudice its ability to continue to provide service.

Petitioner now states that the circumstances which required granting of the authority have continued to exist and now exist and require that the authority be granted for another year. Petitioner further states that the sought charges are reasonable charges as applied to its traffic.

Revenue and expense data submitted by petitioner indicate that the transportation involved has been provided by petitioner at a loss.

Petitioner alleges that the increased charges proposed for the coming year are reasonable and just charges and reasonably may be expected to result in profitable operations during the coming year.

Subject to further review at a public hearing, it appears, and the Commission finds, that the proposed rates are reasonable. The Commission concludes that the petition should be granted for a period of six months.

Since the authority granted by Decision No. 79671 expired February 5, 1973, the order which follows will be made effective on the date hereof.

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. Yreka Western Railroad Company is hereby authorized to publish, on not less than one day's notice to the Commission and to the public, the following minimum charges for its highway common carrier operations:

MINIMUM CHARGES IN CENTS PER SHIPMENT BETWEEN MONTAGUE,
YREKA, ETNA, AND ORLEANS AND INTERMEDIATE POINTS

<u>Weight of Shipment</u>	<u>Distance in Miles</u>		
	<u>Under 40</u>	<u>40 to 3ut Not Including 80</u>	<u>80 to 150, Inclusive</u>
Less than 26 pounds	150	225	250
26 pounds & less than 51	200	250	275
51 pounds & less than 101	225	275	300

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

3. A public hearing shall be scheduled in this proceeding for the receipt of evidence.

The effective date of this order is the date hereof.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 14th
day of FEBRUARY, 1973.

Samuel L. Stevenson
President
William J. Quinn
CPT-William J. Quinn
Alfred L. Brown
Commissioners