Decision No. <u>81439</u>

HK.

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application) of THOMPSON TRANSPORT SYSTEMS, INC.,) a corporation, for authority to) depart from the rates, rules and) regulations of Minimum Rate Tariff) No. 2 in connection with certain) transportation of ice to be performed for Central California) Ice Company, Inc. under the provisions of Section 3666 of the Public Utilities Code.

Application No. 54039 (Filed May 17, 1973)

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INTERIM OPINION AND ORDER

Thompson Transport Systems, Inc., a corporation, operates as a radial highway common carrier and a highway contract carrier. By this application, it seeks authority to deviate from the minimum rates in Minimum Rate Tariff 2 (MRT 2) in connection with the transportation of ice, loose or in packages, or in absorbent material, as described in Item 101600 of the National Motor Freight Classification A-13, for the account of Central California Ice Company, Inc. (Central).

Applicant states that minimum rates for the transportation involved are currently derived from class rates set forth in Section 2 of MRT 2 predicated on a Class 35 truckload rating and minimum weight of 40,000 pounds. Applicant declares that the transportation proposed will be from, to or between Bakersfield, Delano and Fresno, on the one hand, and points and places located within a 200 mile radius of the aforementioned points, on the other hand.

Applicant points out that the proposed transportation service will be performed on a regular daily basis and that the heavy volume of shipments will take place during June through September when an estimated 600 tons or 30 truckloads per day

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will be transported from the plants of Central located at Bakersfield, Delano and Fresno to various consignees located at rail yard facilities for icing rail cars and produce packing plants for icing perishable commodities.

Applicant has determined that class rates and charges as provided in MRT 2 at a Class 35.4 level based upon a 45,000 pound minimum weight per unit of equipment will be compensatory for the proposed transportation; that the shipper will assume the cost involved in the loading and unloading of shipments; that many shipments will be transported in shipper owned trailers to supplement applicant's fleet which will provide economy of operation; and that applicant generally will be furnishing tractor and driver only to pick up loaded trailers for transportation to destination points where the loaded trailer will be spotted for unloading and an empty trailer will be picked up and returned to initial shipping point for further loading.

Applicant requests ex parte action in this matter or interim authority pending hearing as it is about to commence heavy movements of ice on June 1, 1973.

The certificate of service shows that copies of the application were mailed to California Trucking Association and Central California Ice Company on May 17, 1973. The application was listed on the Commission's Daily Calendar of May 18, 1973. No objection to the granting of the application has been received.

Subject to further review upon consideration of evidence which may be adduced at a public hearing, the Commission finds that the proposed rates are reasonable. The Commission concludes that applicant should be granted interim authority for a period of six months. A future hearing will be scheduled in this proceeding.

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IT IS ORDERED that:

1. Thompson Transport Systems, Inc., a corporation, is authorized to depart from the minimum rates and rules set forth in Minimum Rate Tariff 2 for the transportation of ice for Central California Ice Company, as more specifically set forth in Appendix A attached hereto and by this reference made a part hereof.

2. The authority herein granted 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 30th day of May, 1973.

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Commissioners

APPENDIX A

SCHEDULE OF MINIMUM RATES FOR THE TRANSPORTATION OF ICE, LOOSE OR IN PACKAGES OR IN ABSORBENT MATERIAL FOR CENTRAL CALIFORNIA ICE COMPANY, INC.

Section 1

Item 10 - Application of Rates

A Class 35.4 Exception Rating will be applicable on a 45,000 pound minimum weight per truckload or unit of equipment subject to minimum rates and rules set forth in Minimum Rate Tariff 2 on shipments of ice transported by Thompson Transport Systems, Inc. for account of Central California Ice Company, except as provided in Section 2 herein.

Section 2

Item 20 - Application

Rates in Section 1 above apply only on shipments moving from, to or between Bakersfield, Delano and Fresno, California on the one hand and points and places in California located within a 200 mile radius of the above named points on the other hand, subject to Notes 1 through 4 below.

- Note 1. All shipments must be loaded by shipper and unloaded by consignee at no expense to Thompson Transport Systems, Inc.
- Note 2. The provisions of this item apply only on prepaid shipments, the transportation charges for which are paid by Central California Ice Company.
- Note 3. The minimum weight applies to each unit of equipment in which the shipment is transported.
- Note 4. The rates are not subject to the provisions of Item 85 - Shipments transported in multiple lots; Item 160 - split pickup; or Item 170 - split delivery as published in Minimum Rate Tariff 2.

(END OF APPENDIX A)