

ORIGINAL

Decision No. 82379

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Investigation)	Case No. 7857
for the purpose of considering and)	Petition for Modification
determining revisions in or reissues)	No. 85
of Minimum Rate Tariff No. 14-A.)	(Filed September 21, 1973)

OPINION AND ORDER

Minimum Rate Tariff 14-A (MRT 14-A) names minimum rates and rules for the statewide transportation of agricultural commodities and related articles in bulk by highway carriers. By the above petition, California Trucking Association seeks to have MRT 14-A amended so that the field pickup provisions, which govern the rates named therein for the transportation of grain, rice, grain products and related articles, would also apply to the transportation of cotton, flax or safflower seeds (oilseeds).

Petitioner states that, when the Commission initially established minimum rates and rules for the transportation of oilseeds pursuant to Decision No. 75044, the aforementioned field pickup provisions were not made applicable to such rates in recognition of previously prevailing practices in the industry.

Petitioner declares that shippers and carriers have long acknowledged that virtually no difference exists between the manner and method, including incurred costs, in picking up grain and oilseeds from a field. Petitioner alleges that the same harvesting and motor carrier equipment is utilized in each operation in most instances and other similarities are so striking as to make the service of field pickup practically identical regardless of commodity. Petitioner contends that, because of

these similarities, shippers have been paying carriers for the added cost of performing field pickup service but, because of the absence of any specific requirement in MRT 14-A to do so, competitive uncertainties have been promoted in the transportation and marketing of oilseeds.

Petitioner states that interested parties have given consideration to appropriate methods of recognizing current conditions through tariff modification. Petitioner asserts that its proposal gives recognition to the field pickup services provided and, since shippers have been typically reimbursing carriers for field pickup of oilseeds, the impact upon affected parties is more technical than real.

The petition was listed on the Commission's Daily Calendar of September 25, 1973. Copies of the petition were mailed to various chambers of commerce, shipper organizations and carrier representatives on or about September 21, 1973. No objection to the granting of the petition has been received.

In the circumstances, the Commission finds that petitioner's proposed tariff amendment is reasonable, the resulting minimum rates and charges will be just, reasonable, and non-discriminatory minimum rates and charges for the transportation involved and, to the extent that said amendment will result in increases, such increases are justified. A public hearing is not necessary. The Commission concludes that the petition should be granted.

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. Minimum Rate Tariff 14-A (Appendix A of Decision No. 67397, as amended) is further amended by incorporating therein, to become effective February 10, 1974, Seventh Revised Page 12 and Second Revised Page 33, attached hereto and by this reference made a part hereof.

2. Tariff publications required or authorized to be made by common carriers as a result of this order shall be filed not earlier than the effective date of this order and may be made effective not earlier than the fifth day after the effective date of this order on not less than five days' notice to the Commission and to the public; such tariff publications as are required shall be made effective not later than February 10, 1974; and as to tariff publications which are authorized but not required, the authority shall expire unless exercised within sixty days after the effective date of this order.

3. Common carriers, in establishing and maintaining the amendment authorized hereinabove, are hereby authorized to depart from the provisions of Section 460 of the Public Utilities Code to the extent necessary to adjust long- and short-haul departures now maintained under outstanding authorizations; such outstanding authorizations are hereby modified only to the extent necessary to comply with this order; and schedules containing the amendment published under this authority shall make reference to the prior orders authorizing long- and short-haul departures and to this order.

4. In all other respects Decision No. 67397, as amended, shall remain in full force and effect.

C. 7857 (Pet. 85) - HK

The effective date of this order shall be February 4,
1974.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 22nd
day of January, 1974.

Vernon L. Stenger
resident
William J. ...
H. ...
...
...
Commissioners

SECTION 1--RULES OF GENERAL APPLICATION (Continued)			ITEM
ADDITIONAL CHARGES FOR SPLIT PICKUP OR SPLIT DELIVERY SHIPMENT			
Weight of Component Part (Pounds)		Charge for Each Component Part (Cents)	170
Over	But Not Over		
0	2,000-----	650	
2,000	4,000-----	750	
4,000	10,000-----	850	
10,000	20,000-----	950	
20,000	-----	1,050	
FIELD PICKUP SHIPMENT (Items 180 and 181)			
1. Field pickup shipment means a quantity of property transported by one carrier for one debtor from a point in a single field or farm site.			
2. A "single field or farm site" is that area devoted to the production of grain, rice * or seed, or to the production of hay or related commodities. In no event shall field or farm site exceed 1 section (640 acres).			
3. The point of origin of a field pickup shipment shall be the point in a single field or farm site nearest the point of destination.			
4. Additional charges for loading a field pickup shipment shall be assessed as follows:			180
(a) For shipments subject to the rates provided in Items 300, 301 and 400, at the charges provided in said items. (See Exception)			
EXCEPTION.--No charge shall be applicable to any shipment of baled hay, fodder or straw loaded from a single stack.			
2 (b) For shipments subject to the rates provided in Item 550 *and in Section 6, add 2½ cents per 100 pounds to the rate otherwise applicable. (See Exception)			
EXCEPTION.--No charge shall be applicable to any shipment moving from a permanent storage facility with a minimum storage capacity of 52,000 pounds. As used herein, permanent storage facility means a "gin warehouse, silo, bin, tank or slab, permanently installed. It must be equipped with operable motorized loading facilities or with gravity loading devices.			
(Continued in Item 181)			
6 Change) * Addition) Decision No. 82379			
EFFECTIVE			
Correction			
ISSUED BY THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA			

SECTION C

DISTANCE COMMODITY RATES

SEEDS, VIZ.: COTTON, FLAX OR SAFFLOWER

Rates in this section are not subject to the following rules of this tariff:

110	151
120	160
130	161
140	170
141	" "
150	190

** Eliminated, Decision No.

82379

EFFECTIVE

Correction

ISSUED BY THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA,
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA.