Decision No. 82521

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of Northwestern Pacific Railroad Company for authority to discontinue agency at Cloverdale, County of Sonoma, State of California.

Application No. 54198 (Filed July 23, 1973)

Harold S. Lentz, Attorney at Law, for Northwestern Pacific Railroad Company, applicant.

Melvin R. Dykman, Attorney at Law, for State of California, Department of Transportation, interested party.

Paul A. Burket, for the Commission staff.

## OPINION

Applicant requests authority to discontinue the present agency station at Cloverdale.

A public hearing was held before Examiner Porter at Cloverdale on November 20, 1973 and the matter was submitted.

Applicant presented evidence that if the agency at Cloverdale were eliminated a toll-free call for a car would go to Healdsburg, which would result in a saving to the railroad and a benefit to the shipper in that the shipper would be notified quicker when he could expect a car. In addition, the tracing of railroad cars would be improved and the station at Healdsburg would provide more hours of service to the public. There would be no change in local train service. Estimated savings to the railroad would be approximately \$16,000 a year.

A shipper appearing on his own behalf expressed concern that the loss of the agent at Cloverdale would affect the personal service to which he has been accustomed.

Upon consideration of all the facts, the Commission finds that public convenience and necessity do not require the services

A. 54198 1mm of an agent at the Cloverdale station. The Commission concludes that the application should be granted. ORDER IT IS ORDERED that: 1. Northwestern Pacific Railroad Company is authorized to discontinue the agency at Cloverdale, Sonoma County, California. 2. Within one hundred twenty days after the effective date hereof, and on not less than ten days' notice to the Commission and to the public, Northwestern Pacific Railroad Company shall file in duplicate amendments to its tariffs showing the deletion authorized herein and shall make reference in such tariffs to this decision as authority for this change. 3. Within thirty days after the change herein authorized, applicant shall notify this Commission in writing thereof. The effective date of this order shall be twenty days after the date hereof. San Francisco California, this Dated at day of \_\_\_\_MARCH 1974 Commissioner William Symons, Jr., being necessorily absent, did not participate in the disposition of this proceeding. Commissioner Thomas Moran, being necessarily absent, did not participate in the disposition of this proceeding. -2-