

**ORIGINAL**Decision No. 84054

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Investiga- )  
 tion for the purpose of con- )  
 sidering and determining )  
 revisions in or reissues of )  
 Minimum Rate Tariff No. 14-A. )

Case No. 7857  
 Petition for Modification  
 No. 117  
 (Filed December 13, 1974;  
 amended December 20, 1974)

OPINION AND ORDER

By this petition, as amended, California Trucking Association seeks to increase by approximately 7 percent the minimum rates and charges in Minimum Rate Tariff 14-A (MRT 14-A) for the statewide transportation of agricultural products in bulk by highway carriers. Petitioner requests that common carriers be directed to establish in their respective tariffs such modifications as may be prescribed in the Commission's order in this proceeding including relief from the long- and short-haul provisions of Section 460 of the Public Utilities Code.

Petitioner states that, since the rates in MRT 14-A were last generally increased on May 7, 1974, the economic circumstances have changed dramatically and the inflationary spiral so often alluded to in matters of this nature has increased substantially. Petitioner alleges that increased costs considered by the Commission in recent years have been limited to labor, taxes and fuel and that certain maintenance, investment, depreciation and indirect non-labor costs have not been reflected in the minimum rates during that period.

Petitioner declares that affected shipper and carrier representatives recently met to consider these increases, to evaluate experiences of the 1974 harvests and to project needs for 1975. Petitioner contends that the principal concern of the

aforementioned parties is to assure that adequate transportation service is available and the lowest level of reasonable minimum rates is maintained. Petitioner avers that its proposal is the result of such considerations.

Exhibit B attached to the petition contains an affidavit prepared by petitioner's cost supervisor. This statement sets forth in detail the factual data and other information upon which petitioner relies in formulating its proposal.

Copies of the petition and amendment were mailed to various shippers and shipper organizations on or about December 13 and 20, 1974. The petition and amendment were listed on the Commission's Daily Calendar of December 16 and 24, 1974. California Farm Bureau Federation and Wigle and Larimore, on behalf of Ranchers Cotton Oil Co., J. G. Boswell Company, Kingsburg Cotton Oil Co., Producers Cotton Oil Co. and San Joaquin Cotton Oil Co., have informed the Commission by letters that they support petitioner's proposal. No objection to the granting of the petition has been received.

The Commission's Transportation Division staff has reviewed the petition, as amended, and determined that an increase of approximately 4.76 percent would be appropriate in this instance.

In the circumstances, the Commission finds that the petitioner's proposal, modified herein to include the staff determination, is reasonable; the resulting rates and charges will be just, reasonable and nondiscriminatory minimum rates and charges for the transportation involved; and, to the extent that increases may be involved, such increases are justified. A public hearing is not necessary. The Commission concludes that the petition, as amended, should be granted as set forth in the order which follows.

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. Minimum Rate Tariff 14-A (Appendix A to Decision No. 67397, as amended) is further amended by incorporating therein, to become effective February 16, 1975, Supplement 10, attached hereto and by this reference made a part hereof.

2. Common carriers subject to the Public Utilities Act, to the extent they are subject also to Decision No. 67397, as amended, are hereby directed to establish in their tariffs the increases necessary to conform with the further adjustments ordered herein.

3. Common carriers maintaining rates on a level other than the minimum rates for transportation for which rates are prescribed in Minimum Rate Tariff 14-A are authorized to increase such rates by the same amounts authorized for Minimum Rate Tariff 14-A rates herein.

4. Common carriers maintaining rates on the same level as Minimum Rate Tariff 14-A rates for the transportation of commodities and/or for transportation not subject to Minimum Rate Tariff 14-A are authorized to increase said rates by the same amounts authorized for Minimum Rate Tariff 14-A rates herein.

5. Common carriers maintaining rates at levels other than the minimum rates for the transportation of commodities and/or for transportation not subject to Minimum Rate Tariff 14-A are authorized to increase said rates by the same amounts authorized for Minimum Rate Tariff 14-A rates herein.

6. 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 16, 1975; 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.

7. Common carriers, in establishing and maintaining the rates authorized by this order, are 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 rates published under this authority shall make reference to the prior orders authorizing long- and short-haul departures and to this order.

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

The effective date of this order is the date hereof.

Dated at San Diego, California, this 4<sup>th</sup> day of February, 1975.

Vernon L. Sturgeon  
President  
William J. Symons, Jr.  
Edward J. [illegible]  
Leonard Rose  
Commissioners

SPECIAL INCREASE SUPPLEMENT

SUPPLEMENT 10  
(Cancels Supplement 9)  
(Supplements 8 and 10 Contain All Changes)

TO

MINIMUM RATE TARIFF 14-A

NAMING

MINIMUM RATES AND RULES

FOR THE

TRANSPORTATION, IN BULK, OF  
AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES AND  
RELATED ARTICLES

NAMED HEREIN

OVER THE PUBLIC HIGHWAYS WITHIN THE  
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

BY

RADIAL HIGHWAY COMMON CARRIERS

AND

HIGHWAY CONTRACT CARRIERS

APPLICATION OF SURCHARGE  
(See Page 2 of This Supplement)

Decision No.

**84054**

EFFECTIVE

Issued by the  
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
State Building, Civic Center  
San Francisco, California 94102

## APPLICATION OF SURCHARGE

Except as otherwise provided, compute the amount of charges in accordance with the provisions of this tariff, including any surcharges applicable thereto under other supplements to this tariff, and increase the resulting total amount by ten (10) percent.

For purposes of disposing of fractions under provisions hereof, fractions of less than one-half cent shall be dropped and fractions of one-half cent or greater shall be increased to the next higher whole cent.

EXCEPTIONS: The surcharge provided in this supplement shall not be applied to those charges determined under the following provisions of this tariff:

- (a) Item 200 - Alternative Application of Common Carrier Rates;
- (b) Item 210 - Alternative Application of Combinations With Common Carrier Rates. (Railhead to Railhead portion only); and
- (c) Item 232 - C.O.D. Shipments.

THE END