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Decision No. 84410

ORIGINAL

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Application of General Produce Transport, Inc. for authority to deviate from the MRT 2 to transport frozen vegetables and frozen fruit for Watsonville Canning & Frozen Food Co., Green Giant Co., Crosetti Frozen Foods, Frank S. Oliver & Son, and VIP Sales between Watsonville and Castroville.

Application No. 55644
(Filed April 22, 1975)

INTERIM OPINION

General Produce Transport, Inc., a radial highway common carrier, seeks authority to deviate from the minimum rates for the transportation of frozen fruits and vegetables between Watsonville and Castroville for five shippers. Applicant urges that the authority be granted in time to accommodate the peak season which will begin early in May.

Applicant proposes a rate of 25 cents per cwt on a minimum weight of 40,000 pounds. The application includes a balance sheet as of June 30, 1974 and an income statement for the year ended June 30, 1974. The reports indicate that applicant's financial condition is sound. The application also includes estimates of projected revenue under the proposed rates and estimates of equipment and labor costs related thereto. The estimates indicate that favorable experience could be expected, but are not adequate for final determination.

The Commission's Transportation Division staff has reviewed the application and has recommended that the relief sought be granted for a limited period, during which actual operating experience may be measured.

We find that the favorable circumstances and conditions attendant to the transportation of the commodity involved in this proceeding are not generally present in the usual or ordinary transportation performed by highway carriers under the governing provision of MRT 2. Applicant should be authorized to depart from the governing minimum rates as provided in the order which follows, pending public hearing.

INTERIM ORDER

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. General Produce Transport, Inc. is authorized to depart from the minimum rates set forth in Minimum Rate Tariff 2 by charging those rates set forth in Appendix A of this decision. This authority does not include any deviation from any rates, rules, or regulations except as specifically set forth in Appendix A.
2. The authority 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 on this application at a date to be set.

The effective date of this order is the date hereof.

Dated at Los Angeles, California, this 6th day of MAY, 1975.

Verona L. Steiner
President

William S. Lyons, Jr.

Edward J. [unclear]

Leonard [unclear]

John [unclear]
Commissioners

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APPENDIX A

Commodity: Frozen fruits and frozen vegetables.

Between: Watsonville and Castroville, California.

For: Watsonville Canning & Frozen Food Co.
Green Giant Co.
Crosetti Frozen Foods.
Frank S. Oliver & Son.
VIP Sales.

Rate: 25 cents per cwt.

Minimum Weight: 40,000 pounds.