Decision No. 85108

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)

OPINION

By Decision No. 84410 dated May 6, 1975, applicant General Produce Transport, Inc. was authorized to transport frozen fruits and vegetables between Watsonville and Castroville for 25 cents per cwt, subject to a minimum weight of 40,000 pounds. The reduced rate was authorized for a six-month period during which actual operating data could be collected for presentation at a public hearing.

By letter dated August 18, 1975, applicant was requested to furnish cost and operational data through September 30, 1975 in the form of a verified statement or affidavit. Applicant was instructed to furnish a copy of the statement to the California Trucking Association (CTA), the only party who had indicated an interest in the matter. The data request was made for the purpose of avoiding the necessity for a public hearing, yet fully protecting the rights of interested parties.

Applicant furnished a verified statement dated October 8, 1975 which sets forth the requested information. The CTA has not objected to ex parte disposition of applicant's requested relief. The data supplied show that operations under the reduced rates have been profitable.

After consideration we find that the favorable circumstances and conditions attendant to the transportation services 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.

Since conditions under which the service is performed may change at any time, the authority granted in the ensuing order will expire at the end of one year unless sooner canceled, modified, or extended by order of the Commission.

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 one year after the effective date of this order unless sooner canceled, modified, or extended by order of the Commission.

The effective date of this order is the date hereof.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 1274

day of NOVEMBER 1975.

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Commissioners

Commissioner Robert Batinovich, being necessarily absent, did not participate in the disposition of this proceeding.

APPENDIX A

Commodity: Frozen fruits and frozen vegetables.

Between: Watschville 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.