Decision No. 85354

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the matter of the Application ) of YUBA CITY REFRIGERATING COMPANY) for an order authorizing a revi- ) sion in rules covering leasing of ) space, hours of service, charges ) for labor and equipment, loading ) of cars, loading and unloading of ) trucks, unloading of cars, storage) of merchandise in unrefrigerated ) rooms and cancellation of two ) tariffs no longer in use. )

Application No. 55940 (Filed September 17, 1975)

## OPINION AND ORDER

Yuba City Refrigerating Company (Yuba City), a corporation, operates as a public utility warehouseman at Yuba City. By this application, it seeks to increase certain rates concerning the leasing of space, special labor, loading and unloading of railroad cars and trucks and storage of merchandise in unrefrigerated rooms.<sup>1</sup> Applicant also requests authority to cancel its rates for the storage and handling of inorganic fertilizer.

Applicant avers that the rates in question were last increased on December 15, 1968, and the sought adjustments are necessary to offset increased operating costs which have occurred since that date. Applicant contends that the increases in cost for the sevenyear period approximate 43 percent for hourly labor; 25 percent for  $\checkmark$  superintendent's wages; 24 percent for payroll expense and taxes; 38 percent for administrative salaries; 58 percent for office salaries; 82 percent for insurance; 24 percent for supplies and

These rates are named in Yuba City's Warehouse Tariff Cal.P.U.C. No. 9. The proposed rates are set forth in detail in the application.

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repairs; and 14 percent for property taxes. According to the application, a revenue increase of \$2,900 (less than one percent of Yuba City's gross revenue of \$385,000 for the fiscal year ending April 30, 1975) would be realized under the proposed rates. Applicant alleges that an operating ratio of 96.1 and a rate of return of 7.5 percent would be experienced in the ensuing year under its proposal. Applicant declares that the rates proposed to be canceled involve. a commodity which has not been stored for several years.

Applicant's storers have been informed of the sought relief. The application was listed on the Commission's Daily Calendar of September 19, 1975. No objection to the granting of the application has been received.

In the circumstances, the Commission finds that the applicant's proposal is reasonable and justified. A public hearing is not necessary. The Commission concludes that the application should be granted.

## IT IS ORDERED that:

1. Yuba City Refrigerating Company is authorized to publish rates and charges in its Warehouse Tariff Cal.P.U.C. No. 9 as specifically proposed in Application No. 55940.

2. Tariff publications authorized to be made 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 five days after the effective date of this order on not less than five days' notice to the Commission and to the public.

3. The authority granted by this order is subject to the express condition that applicant will never urge before this Commission in any proceeding under Section 734 of the Public Utilities Code, or in any other proceeding, that the opinion and order herein

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constitute a finding of fact of the reasonableness of any particular rate or charge. The filing of rates and charges pursuant to this order will be construed as a consent to this condition.

4. The authority herein granted shall expire unless exercised within ninety days after the effective date of this order.

The effective date of this order shall be twenty days after the date hereof.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this <u>20th</u> day of January, 1976.

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Commissioners

Commissioner Leonard Ross. being necessarily absent. did not participate in the disposition of this proceeding.