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## 86445

Decision No.

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application ) of Bay Cities Warehouse Company, ) Inc. for an Increase in Rates. )

Application No. 56558 (Filed June 16, 1976)

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## OPINION AND ORDER

Applicant is a public utility warehouseman for the storage of general commodities at Hayward. The rates, rules and regulations governing applicant's operations are contained in California Warehouse Tariff Bureau Tariff Nos. 48-A, 49-A and 83-C, Cal.P.U.C. 253, 262 and 273, respectively, of Jack L. Dawson, Agent.

Applicant requests authority to increase rates by approximately 7.5 percent for storage and 15 percent for handling and other charges. The requested increase is estimated to produce an overall revenue increase of approximately 11.8 percent and has been determined by applicant without consultation or agreement with any other warehouseman. If the authority is granted the increased rates will be published in individual tariffs.

Applicant alleges that its present rates do not yield sufficient revenue to allow applicant to conduct its warehouse operations at a profit.

Applicant's rates were last adjusted pursuant to authority granted by Decision 83246 dated August 6, 1974, in Application 54589.

Applicant further alleges that additional revenue is required because of increased costs in all phases of operation, the most significant being the increased cost of plant and clerical labor.

Exhibit C, attached to the application, contains revenue and expense data for the test year ended December 31, 1975, together with adjustments to reflect the proposed increase in revenue should the application be granted. The exhibit discloses that, during the

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test year, applicant realized a profit of \$11,711 and an operating ratio of 94.4 percent. Had the sought rates been in effect during the test year, applicant would have realized a profit of \$24,607 and an operating ratio of 89.5 percent.

Notice of the proposed increase was sent to each of applicant's storers. None of the storers have registered any objection to the proposed increases. Findings

1. Applicant's rates were last adjusted by Decision 83246 dated August 6, 1974, in Application 54589.

2. Since applicant's rates were last adjusted, it has experienced increases in operating expenses, the most significant being the increased cost of plant and clerical labor.

3. Under the increase sought herein, applicant estimates it will realize additional revenue of \$36,356 and an operating ratio after taxes of 89.5 percent.

4. The proposed increases in applicant's rates and charges have been shown to be justified.

5. A public hearing is not necessary.

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. Bay Cities Warehouse Company, Inc. is authorized to establish the increased rates proposed in Application 56558. Tariff publications authorized to be made as a result of this order shall be made effective not earlier than thirty days after the effective date of this order on not less than thirty days' notice to the Commission and to the public.

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

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

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Code, or in any other proceeding, that this opinion and order 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 construct as a consent to this condition.

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

Dated at San Francisco, California, this  $\frac{28^{11}}{28^{11}}$  day of September, 1976.

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