

Decision No. 86624

ORIGINAL

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application)
of HASLETT COMPANY for an In-)
crease in Rates.)

Application No. 56723
(Filed September 1, 1976)

OPINION AND ORDER

Applicant is a public utility warehouseman for the storage of general commodities at San Francisco and Oakland. The rates, rules and regulations governing applicant's operations are contained in its Warehouse Tariffs Nos. 13 and 14, Cal.P.U.C. Nos. 25 and 26, respectively.

Applicant requests authority to increase rates and charges by 13.5 percent for the storage and handling of property at Oakland. The requested rate increase 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 an individual tariff.

Applicant alleges that present rates are no longer compensatory due to increased costs of labor, power, taxes and other operating costs, and the increased rates are necessary to enable it to provide efficient service to the public.

Applicant's rates were last adjusted pursuant to authority granted by Decision 85597 dated March 23, 1976, in Application 56048.

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 test year, applicant sustained a loss of \$9,093 and an operating ratio of 100.7 percent. Had the sought rates been in effect during

the test year, together with expenses revised to reflect current costs, applicant would have realized a profit of \$66,344 and an operating ratio after taxes of 96.1 percent.

Notice of the proposed increase was sent to each of applicant's storers. No objection to the granting of the application has been received.

Findings

1. Applicant's rates were last adjusted by Decision 85597 dated March 23, 1976, in Application 56048.

2. Since applicant's rates were last adjusted, it has experienced increases in rent, labor, power, taxes and other operating costs.

3. Under the increase sought herein, applicant estimates it will realize additional revenue of \$349,727 and an operating ratio after taxes of 96.1 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:

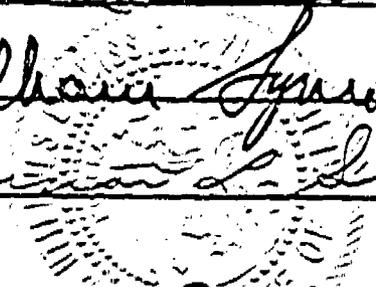
1. Haslett Company is authorized to establish the increased rates proposed in Application 56723. Tariff publications authorized to be made as a result of this order shall be made effective not earlier than five days after the effective date of this order on not less than five days' notice to the Commission and to the public.

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 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 construed 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 9th day of November, 1976.


[Signature] President
William S. Gann
Vernon L. Sturgeon
[Signature] Commissioners

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