

ORIGINAL

Decision No. 86897

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application)
of STATE CENTER WAREHOUSE for)
an Increase in Rates.)

Application No. 56882
(Filed November 18, 1976)

OPINION AND ORDER

Applicant is a public utility warehouseman for the storage of general commodities at Fresno. The rates, rules, and regulations governing applicant's operations are contained in California Warehouse Tariff Bureau Tariff No. 52, Cal. P.U.C. No. 224 of Jack L. Dawson, Agent.

Applicant requests authority to increase its rates by approximately 14 percent. The requested rate increase has been determined by applicant without consultation or agreement with any other warehouseman. If the increase is granted applicant will publish the increased rates in its own tariff.

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

Applicant's rates were last adjusted pursuant to authority granted by Decision 82093 dated November 7, 1973, in Application 53964.

Applicant further alleges that additional revenue is required because of increased costs in all phases of operations, 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 test year applicant realized a profit of \$201 and an operating ratio of 99.8 percent. Had the sought rates been in effect during the test year applicant would have realized, after taxes, a profit of \$5,991 and an operating ratio of 95.4 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 82093 dated November 7, 1973, in Application 53964.
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 \$16,167 and an operating ratio after taxes of 95.4 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. State Center Warehouse is authorized to establish the increased rates proposed in Application 56882. 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

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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 this opinion and order constitute a finding of fact of the reasonableness of any particular rate or change. 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 25th day of January, 1977.

Robert B. ...

President

William ...

James ...

...

Commissioners