

Decision No. 89301 AUG 22 1978

**ORIGINAL**

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Investiga- )  
tion for the purpose of consid- )  
ering and determining minimum )  
rates for transportation, in )  
bulk, of agricultural products )  
and related articles statewide )  
as provided in Minimum Rate )  
Tariff 14-A and the revisions or )  
reissues thereof. )

Case No. 7857  
Petition for Modification  
No. 165  
(Filed June 30, 1978)  
(Amended August 1, 1978)

INTERIM OPINION AND ORDER

California Trucking Association filed, on June 30, 1978, Petition 165 in Case 7857 seeking general adjustments in the oilseed rates and charges in Minimum Rate Tariff 14-A. Public hearings are now set beginning September 12, 1978 at which time evidence concerning these matters will be introduced.

Petitioner states that the harvest of one of the involved commodities, i.e. safflower seed, will be essentially completed by the scheduled hearing dates. The safflower harvest season is scheduled to commence by August 10, and will be virtually completed by September 15. As a result, no decision emanating from the scheduled September hearings can possibly give carriers any rate relief. Petitioner, therefore, requests relief, in the form of an interim 5 percent surcharge, for safflower seed pending full hearings.

Petitioner further states that the principal safflower carriers achieved collective operating results, before taxes and interest, of a 98 percent operating ratio for the 1977 harvest season. Since that time, carriers have incurred cost increases in all aspects of their operations. Based upon their 1977 experience and 1978 evaluation and projection, carriers can expect - in the absence of immediate rate relief - to operate at a loss for the transportation of safflower during the 1978 harvest season.

The petition and amendment were listed on the Commission's Daily Calendars of July 5, 1978 and August 4, 1978, respectively. No objection to the granting of the petition, as amended, has been received.

In the circumstances, the Commission finds that petitioner's proposal is reasonable, on an interim basis pending hearing, and the resulting rates and charges will be just, reasonable and nondiscriminatory minimum rates and charges for the transportation involved. The Commission concludes that the petition should be granted as set forth in the ensuing order and the effective date of this order should be the date hereof because there is an immediate need for this rate relief.

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. Minimum Rate Tariff 14-A (Appendix A to Decision 67397, as amended) is further amended by incorporating therein, to become effective August 24, 1978, Supplement No. 14 attached hereto and by this reference made a part hereof.
2. Common carriers subject to the Public Utilities Act, to the extent that they are subject to Decision 67397, as amended, are authorized to establish in their tariffs the amendments necessary to conform with the further adjustment ordered by this decision.
3. Tariff publications authorized to be made by common carriers as a result of this order may be made effective not earlier than August 24, 1978 and may be made effective on not less than one day's notice to the Commission and to the public.
4. Common carriers, in establishing and maintaining the amendments authorized by this order, are authorized to depart from the provisions of Section 461.5 of the Public Utilities Code to the extent necessary to adjust long- and short-haul departures now maintained under outstanding authorizations; such outstanding authorizations are hereby modified only to the extent necessary to

comply with this order; and schedules containing the amendments published under this authority shall make reference to the prior orders authorizing long- and short-haul departures and to this order.

5. In all other respects, Decision 67397, as amended, shall remain in full force and effect.

The effective date of this order is the date hereof.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 22nd  
day of AUGUST, 1978.

Robert Behrman  
President  
William S. Quinn  
James L. Sturgeon

Commissioners

Commissioner Richard D. Gravello, being necessarily absent, did not participate in the disposition of this proceeding.

Commissioner Claire T. Dodrick, being necessarily absent, did not participate in the disposition of this proceeding.

SPECIAL INCREASE SUPPLEMENT

SUPPLEMENT 14

(Cancels Supplement 13)

(Supplements 8 and 14 Contains All Changes)

TO

MINIMUM RATE TARIFF 14-A

NAMING

MINIMUM RATES AND RULES

FOR THE

TRANSPORTATION, IN BULK, OF

AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES AND

RELATED ARTICLES

NAMED HEREIN

OVER THE PUBLIC HIGHWAYS WITHIN THE

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

BY

RADIAL HIGHWAY COMMON CARRIERS

AND

HIGHWAY CONTRACT CARRIERS

AND

AGRICULTURAL CARRIERS

APPLICATION OF SURCHARGE

Compute the amount of charges for shipments of safflower seed in Item 600 in accordance with the provisions of this tariff, and increase the amount so computed by five percent (5%).

Decision No.

**89301**

EFFECTIVE

Issued by the  
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
State Building, Civic Center  
San Francisco, California 94102