

EAH/FS

Decision No. 89648 NOV 9 1978

ORIGINAL

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the matter of the Application)
of Pacific Storage Company,)
seeking authority to increase)
rates for its account in Cali-)
fornia Warehouse Tariff Bureau,)
Inc., applicable for storage and)
handling in Northern California.)

Application No. 58382
(Filed September 27, 1978)

OPINION AND ORDER

Applicant is a public utility warehouseman for the storage of general commodities at Modesto and Stockton. 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.

Applicant requests authority to increase its rates by 20 percent. The requested rate increase has been determined by applicant without consultation or agreement with any other warehouseman.

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 83215, dated September 15, 1974, in Application 54916.

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 B, attached to the application, contains revenue and expense data for the test year December 31, 1977 together with adjustments to reflect the proposed increase in revenue should the application be granted. The exhibit discloses that during the

test year, applicant had a loss of \$350 and an operating ratio of 104 percent. Had the sought rates been in effect during the test year, applicant would have realized a profit of \$445 and an operating ratio of 96.0 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 83215 dated September 15, 1974 in Application 54916.

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 \$2,690 and an operating ratio of 96.0 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. California Warehouse Tariff Bureau, Inc., on behalf of Pacific Storage Company, a corporation, is authorized to establish the increased rates proposed in Application 58382. 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.

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

A. 58382 - FS

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 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 thirty days after the date hereof.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 9th day
of NOVEMBER, 1978.

Robert B. Berman
President
William J. Lyons
Vernon L. Sturgeon
Robert D. Hooper
Clare L. Desrich
Commissioners