

Decision No. 58038 JAN 30 1979.

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. 58496
(Filed December 4, 1978)

OPINION AND ORDER

Applicant is a public utility warehouseman for the storage of general commodities at Oakland. The rates, rules and regulations governing applicant's operations are contained in its Warehouse Tariffs Nos. 13 and 15, Cal. P.U.C. Nos. 25 and 27, respectively.

Applicant requests authority to increase its rates to yield a 5.5 percent increase in revenue. 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 reasonable profit.

Applicant's rates were last adjusted pursuant to authority granted by Decision 86624 dated November 9, 1976 in Application 56723.

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 August 31, 1978 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 \$20,877 before taxes and an operating ratio of 98.6 percent. Had the sought rates been in effect during the test year applicant would have realized a profit of \$103,129 before taxes and an operating ratio of 93.5 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 86624 dated November 9, 1976, in Application 56723.
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 \$82,252 and an operating ratio of 93.5 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. Haslett Company is authorized to establish the increased rates proposed in Application 58496. 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 one day after the effective date of this order on not less than one day's 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 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.

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

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 30 day of JANUARY, 1979.

Richard D. Givelle
President

Seymour L. Sturgeon
Clare J. DeWitt

Commissioners

Commissioner John E. Bryson
present but not participating.

Commissioner Leonard M. Grimes Jr.
present but not participating.