

Decision No. 90467

JUN 19 1979

**ORIGINAL**

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application )  
of Cristina Warehouse Co., Inc. )  
for an Increase in Rates. )

Application No. 58841  
(Filed May 4, 1979)

OPINION AND ORDER

Applicant is a California corporation and a public utility warehouseman for the storage of general commodities at San Jose. The rates, rules and regulations governing applicant's operations are contained in Cristina Warehouse Co., Inc. Warehouse Tariffs No. 4, Cal. P.U.C. No. 4 and No. 5, Cal. P.U.C. No. 5.

Applicant requests authority to increase its rates and charges by approximately eleven percent for storage and for other than storage. 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 86751 dated December 14, 1976, in Application 56853.

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 period from January 1, 1978 to December 31, 1978 together with adjustments to reflect the proposed increase in revenue should the application be granted. The exhibit discloses that during that period applicant sustained a loss of \$40,053 and an operating ratio of 108 percent. Projected results for the above period with expenses revised to reflect current costs with the sought rates increase would result in an operating ratio of 99 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. The amount of increase is within the President's wage-price guidelines.

FINDINGS

1. Applicant's rates were last adjusted by Decision 86751 dated December 14, 1976, in Application 56853.
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 its profit before taxes will be \$5,909 and an operating ratio of 99 percent.
4. The proposed increase in applicant's rates and charges has been shown to be justified.
5. A public hearing is not necessary.

The Commission concludes that the application should be granted as set forth in the ensuing order.

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. Cristina Warehouse Company, Inc. is authorized to establish the increased rates proposed in Application 58841. 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 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.

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

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 19th day of JUNE, 1979.

John E. Bryson  
President  
Thomas P. Stegmann  
Robert D. Kivela  
Clair J. Daniels  
Edward M. Smith  
Commissioners