Decision No. 90733

-AUG 28 1979

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## BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Investigation for the purpose of
considering and determining
minimum rates for transportation
of any and all commodities
statewide including, but not
limited to, those rates which
are provided in Minimum Rate
Tariff 2 and the revisions or
reissues thereof.

And Related Matters.

Case No. 5432
Petition for Modification
No. 1042
(Filed March 7, 1979)
(Amended June 15, 1979)
(Amended July 13, 1979)
(Amended August 16, 1979)

Case No. 5330 Petition for Modification No. 106 Case No. 5433 Petition for Modification No. 71 Case No. 5436 Petition for Modification No. 281 Case No. 5437 Petition for Modification No. 305 Case No. 5438 Petition for Modification No. 121 Case No. 5439 Petition for Modification No. 333 Case No. 5440 Petition for Modification No. 108 Case No. 5441 Petition for Modification No. 413 Case No. 5603 Petition for Modification No. 214 Case No. 5604 Petition for Modification No. 64 Case No. 6008 Petition for Modification No. 39 Case No. 7783 Petition for Modification No. 162 Case No. 7857 Petition for Modification No. 168 Case No. 8808 Petition for Modification No. 47 Case No. 9819
Petition for Modification No. 36 Case No. 9820 Petition for Modification No. 14 (Filed March 7, 1979) (Amended June 15, 1979) (Amended July 13, 1979) (Amended August 16, 1979)

C. 5432, Pet. 1042 et al. - tt

FOURTH INTERIM OPINION AND ORDER

By amendments to the above petitions, the California

Trucking Association (CTA) requests the Commission to direct its

staff to develop current data and formulas to reflect increases in

petroleum-derived (fossil) fuels in the various minimum rate tariffs

(MRTs).

All of the petitions were consolidated for public hearing

on a single record before Administrative Law Judge Arthur M. Mooney

in San Francisco on April 20 and 21, 1979. The proceeding was

All of the petitions were consolidated for public hearing on a single record before Administrative Law Judge Arthur M. Mooney in San Francisco on April 20 and 21, 1979. The proceeding was submitted subject to the receipt of late-filed Exhibit 7, which was received on April 30, 1979. However, because of the continuing uncertainties that exist regarding the future pricing of gasoline and diesel fuels, the submissions were set aside and the proceedings will remain open for the consideration of the effect on tariff rates and charges of any future adjustments in fuel prices that may be brought to the Commission's attention.

The only issue on which there is any controversy is the amount of fuel increase on which to base the fuel surcharge for each of the MRTs. CTA recommends that a 36 cents per gallon increase be used for all tariffs. The staff recommends that a 31 cents per gallon be used for MRTs 10 and 11-A; 33 cents per gallon increases for MRTs 8-A and 12-A; 34 cents per gallon for MRTs 1-B, 9-B, 19, 2 and 15 (per mile); 35 cents per gallon for MRTs 3-A, 6-B and 13; 36 cents per gallon for MRTs 7-A, 17-A, 20 and 18; 39 cents per gallon for MRT 14-A; and that MRT 4-B be reduced to 27 cents a gallon. The staff points out that its recommendation is based on the most current fuel price data submitted by carriers to the Commission's Data Bank.

The only matter requiring comment is the amount of fuel increases to be reflected in the various MRTs. As to the other issues, the evidence clearly established that substantial increases in fuel prices have occurred in recent months and that these increases are not included in the costs on which the minimum rates

C. 5432, Pet. 1042, et al. - tt are based. We will adopt the staff formula for the purposes of this decision, and will apply the amount of fuel increases recommended by the staff. While the proposal by the CTA to the amount of increase to apply may have some merit, it is based on rather limited surveys; whereas, the staff proposal on this issue is based on the current information in its Data Bank which is a summation of a continual survey of prices paid by truckers. As stated in our Resolution No. M-4704 dated January 30, 1979, "rate increases, such as for energy...shall be exempt" from wage and price standards. This, therefore, is not a consideration in this proceeding. It is estimated that the additional increases authorized herein will generate several million dollars of additional revenue for all carriers operating under the MRTs. However, as is evident, this additional revenue merely offsets the additional fuel costs carriers are paying. Because the increased fuel costs are already being paid by carriers, the order which follows will be made effective on the date it is issued, and the order will provide that the tariff supplements will be effective on September 16, 1979 and that required or authorized tariff publications may be made on one day's notice. Findings of Fact Due to the existing nationwide energy crisis and the resulting fuel shortages and accelerating costs, the for-hire highway carriers operating intrastate within California have experienced substantial increases in their fuel costs in the last several months. The increases in fuel costs referred to in Finding 1 are not now reflected in the historical cost data underlying the level of rates in the Commission's various MRTs. 3. As a result of the existing energy crisis, the highway carriers governed by the Commission's MRTs have experienced fuel increases of such magnitude as to justify fuel cost offset adjustments in the MRTs when such cost increases occur, or within a reasonable or short time thereafter.

C. 5432, Pet. 1042 et al. - tt \*\* The staff's fuel cost surcharge computations have been shown to be an appropriate basis for adjusting the various MRTs to reflect the substantial increases in fuel costs that have been occurring in recent months. The staff recommended 31 cents per gallon increase be used 5. for MRTs 10 and 11-A, 33 cents per gallon increase for MRTs 8-A and 12-A; 34 cents per gallon for MRTs 1-B, 9-B, 19, 2 and 15 (per mile); 35 cents per gallon for MRTs 3-A, 6-B and 13; 36 cents per gallon for MRTs 7-A, 17-A, 20 and 18; 39 cents per gallon for MRT 14-A and the reduction to 27 cents per gallon are reasonable bases for for adjusting the MRTs in this interim decision. The fuel offset surcharges reflect the fuel increases referred to in Finding 5 are reasonable and justified and should be adopted on an interim basis pending any further adjustment that may be justified in the future. As stated in Commission Resolution No. M-4704 dated 7. January 30, 1979, "rate increases, such as for energy...shall be exempt" from wage and price standards. The fuel offset surcharges authorized herein are within this category. Conclusions of Law The amendments to the petitions of CTA in Case No. 5432 l. (Petition 1042), et al. should be granted to the extent provided in the following order. The interim cost offset increases authorized herein should be put into effect through the application of surcharges. Since carriers are already paying the increased fuel costs, the order which follows should be made effective on the date hereof, and the surcharge supplements to the various MRTs should be made effective September 16, 1979. 4. For purposes of tariff distribution, the immediate surcharge amendments to MRTs 1-B, 2, 9-B, 15 and 19 will be provided in the ensuing order and like tariff amendments to the other MRTs will be grouped according to general types of service in supplemental orders.

C. 5432, Pet. 1042, et al. - tt\* This proceeding should remain open to consider further interim decisions and orders as the circumstances may require. IT IS ORDERED that: Minimum Rate Tariff 2 (Appendix D to Decision No. 31606, as amended) is further amended by incorporating therein, to become effective September 16, 1979, Supplement 148 attached hereto and by this reference made a part hereof. 2. Minimum Rate Tariff 1-B (Appendix B to Decision No. 65834, as amended) is further amended by incorporating therein, to become effective September 16, 1979, Supplement 38 attached hereto and by this reference made a part hereof. Minimum Rate Tariff 9-B (Appendix A to Decision No. 67766, as amended) is further amended by incorporating therein, to become effective September 16, 1979, Supplement 33 attached hereto and by this reference made a part hereof. Minimum Rate Tariff 15 (Appendix D to Decision No. 65072, as amended) is further amended by incorporating therein, to become effective September 16, 1979, Supplement 30 attached hereto and by this reference made a part hereof. Minimum Rate Tariff 19 (Appendix A to Decision No. 41363, as amended) is further amended by incorporating therein, to become effective September 16, 1979, Supplement 47 attached hereto and by this reference made a part hereof. 6. Common carriers subject to the Public Utilities Act, to the extent that they are subject also to Decisions Nos. 31606, 65834, 67766, 65072, and 41363, as amended, are directed to establish in their tariffs the increases necessary to conform with the further adjustments ordered by this decision. Common carriers maintaining rates on a level other than the minimum rates for transportation for which rates are prescribed in Minimum Rate Tariffs 2, 1-B, 9-B, 15, and 19 are authorized to increase such rates by the same amounts authorized by this decision for the respective tariffs. -5C. 5432, Pet. 1042, et al. - tt Common carriers maintaining rates on the same level as Minimum Rate Tariffs 2, 1-B, 9-B, 15, and 19 rates for the transportation of commodities and/or for transportation not subject to these tariffs are authorized to increase such rates by the same amounts authorized by this decision for the respective tariff rates. Common carriers maintaining rates at levels other than the minimum rates for the transportation of commodities and/or for transportation of commodities and/or for transportation not subject to Minimum Rate Tariffs 2, 1-B, 9-B, 15, and 19 are authorized to increase such rates by the same amounts authorized by this decision for the respective tariff rates. Any provisions currently maintained in common carrier 10. tariffs which are more restrictive than, or which produce charges greater than, those contained in Minimum Rate Tariffs 2, 1-B, 9-B, 15, and 19 are authorized to be maintained in connection with the increased rates and charges directed to be established by Ordering Paragraph 6 hereof. Common carriers maintaining rates not otherwise specifically referred to in other ordering paragraphs of this decision are authorized to increase such rates by the amount of the applicable fuel surcharge granted herein. Tariff publications required to be made by common carriers: 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 the effective date of the supplements attached hereto on not less than five days' notice to the Commission and to the public; as to tariff publications as are authorized, but not required, the authority shall expire unless exercised within sixty days after the effective date of this order. 13. Common carriers, in establishing and maintaining the rates authorized by this order, are authorized to depart from the provisions of Section 461.5 of the Public Utilities Code to the extent -6necessary 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 rates published under this authority shall make reference to the prior orders authorizing long- and short-haul departures and to this order.

- 14. Common carriers are authorized to depart from the Commission's tariff circular requirements only to the extent necessary in establishing the surcharge supplements authorized by this order.
- 15. In all other respects, Decisions Nos. 31606, 65834, 67766, 65072, and 41363, as amended, shall remain in full force and effect.
- 16. This proceeding shall remain open to consider future decisions and orders by the Commission as the existing circumstances surrounding the present fuel emergency may require.
- 17. The Executive Director shall serve a copy of this decision on every common carrier, or such carriers' authorized tariff publishing agents, performing transportation services subject to Minimum Rate Tariffs 2, 1-B, 9-B, 15, and 19.
- 18. The Executive Director shall serve a copy of each of the tariff amendments on each subscriber to Minimum Rate Tariffs 2, 1-B, 9-B, 15, and 19.

The effective date of this order is the date hereof.

Dated AUG 28 1979 , at San Francisco, California.

President

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

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#### SUPPLEMENT 148

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(Supplements 73, 77, 87, 124, 139 and 148 Contain All Changes)

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#### APPLICATION OF SURCHARGE

Except as otherwise provided, compute the amount of charges in accordance with the provisions of this tariff, and increase the amount so computed as follows:

- By nine and three-quarters (9%) percent on charges computed at rates provided in Items 640, 643, 646;
- 2. Except as provided in paragraphs 1 and 2, by eleven and one-half (114) percent on charges computed at rates subject to minimum weights of 5,000 pounds or more; Transfer provide the provided by the state of 5,000 pounds or more;
- 3. By three and one-half (34) percent on rates in Item 631 and Note 10 of Item 633;
- 04. By ten and one-half (10%) percent on all other rates and charges.

For purposes of disposing of fractions under provisions hereof, fractions of less than one-half (h) cent shall be dropped, and fractions of one-half (h) cent or greater shall be increased to the next higher whole cent.

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- 5. The surcharges herein shall not apply to:
  - 1. Supplement 139;
  - 2. Item 110 Deductions:
  - Item 124 Charges for Escort Service Stated in Cents per Mile in Paragraph (2), and charges in Paragraphs (b) and (c);
  - 4. Item 128 Charges for Permit Shipments;
  - 5. Item 141 Storage and Reloading Charges;
  - 6. Itam 143 Demurrage Charges magnetic
  - 7. Item 145 Accessorial Charges in Subparagraph (b);
  - 8. Item 147 Advertising on Equipment;
  - 9. Item 181-1 Special C-O-D Services
  - 10. Item 182 Collect on Delivery (C.O.D.) Shipments;
  - 11. Items 185-1 through 187-3 Temperature Control Service;
  - 12. Items 200 through 230 (Railhead-to-railhead Charges Only).

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#### SURCHARGE SUPPLEMENT

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## OAPPLICATION OF SURCHARGE

Except as otherwise provided, compute the amount of charges in accordance with the provisions of this tariff, and increase the amount asomeomyuted as follows:

- By eleven (11) percent on charges computed to minimum weights of 4,000 pounds or more.
- 2. By twelve (12) percent on all other rates and charges.

For purposes of disposing of fractions under provisions hereof, fractions of less than one-half (b) cent shall be dropped, and fractions of one-half (b) cent or greater shall be increased to the next higher whole cent.

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EXCEPTION: The surcharges herein shall not apply to:

- Item 130 Alternative Application of Common Carrier Rates (Railhead-to-railhead portion only);
- 2. Item 152 Collect on Delivery Shipments;
- 3. Item 153 Special C.O.D. Service;
- 4. Item 160 Charges for Escort Service;
- 5. Item 170 Charges for Permit Shipments;
- 6. Item 180 Failure to Accomplish Delivery;
- 7. Item 210 = Export Freight Clearances North
- 8. Item 250 Loss and/ox-Damage, Claims:
- 9. Item 200 Marking or Tagging of Packages.

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C. 5439, Pet. 333\* SURCHARGE SUPPLEMENT

#### SUPPLEMENT 33

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Except as otherwise provided, compute the amount of charges in accordance with the provisions of this tariff, and increase the amount so computed as follows:

- By eleven (11) percent on charges computed at rates subject to minimum weights of:4,000; pounds or more.
- 2. By twelve (12) percent on all other rates and charges.

For purposes of disposing of fractions under provisions hereof, fractions of less than one-half (h) cent shall be dropped, and fractions of one-half (h) cent or greater shall be increased to the next higher whole cent.

EXCEPTION: The surcharges herein shall not apply to to your

- 1. Item 110 Alternative Application of Common Carrier Rates (Railhead-to-railhead portion only);
- 2. Item 150 Charges for Escort Service;
- 3. Item 160 Charges for Permit Shipments;
- 4. Item 167 Failure to Accomplish Delivery;
- 5. Item 181-1 Special C.O.D. Servicen in grants
- 6. Item 182 Collection Delivery: Shipments ::

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#### OAPPLICATION OF SURCHARGE

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ol. Compute the amount of charges in-accordance with rates and rules in this tariff, and increase the amount so computed by eight (8) percent. (See Exception)

EXCEPTION: The surcharge shall not apply to charges computed at Mileage Rates in Items 120 (Par. a, a mileage charge), 500 and 510 (Mileage Rates) and/or Temperature Control Service rates in Item 560,

2. Compute the amount of charges in accordance with the provisions of this tariff, including any surcharges applicable thereto under Paragraph 1 of this Supplement, and increase the applicable mileage rates and charges in Items 120 (Par. a, a mileage charge), 500 and 510 (Mileage Rates) as follows:

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### OAPPLICATION, OF SURCHARGE

Except as otherwise provided, compute the amount of charges in accordance with the provisions of this tariff, including any surcharges applicable thereto under other supplements of this tariff, and increase the amount so computed by ten and one-half (10%) percent.

For purposes of disposing of fractions under provisions hereof, fractions of less than one-half (h) cent shall be dropped, and fractions, of one-half (h) cent or greater shall be increased to the next higher whole cent.

EXCEPTION: The surcharge herein shall not apply to:

- 1. Item 104 Charges for Escort Service;
- Item 106 Charges for Permit Shipments;
- Item 111-1 Special C.O.D. Service Parks
- Item 112 Collect;on,Delivery;Shipments;
- Item 130 Collection of Loss and/or Damage Claims;
- Item 140 Delays, in Delivery) on and word
- Item 160 Export Freight Clearances;
- Item 190 Marking of Packages;
- Item 265 Alternative Application of Common Carrier Rates Rates (Railhead-to-railhead portion only).

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