

DC/FS

Decision No. 91168 DEC 18 1979

ORIGINAL

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the matter of the Application )  
of Shuster Enterprises, Inc., a )  
California corporation, for autho- )  
rity to depart from the minimum )  
rates, rules and regulations of )  
Minimum Rate Tariff 2, pursuant )  
to the provisions of Section 3666 )  
of the Public Utilities Code for )  
transportation for State of )  
California )

Application No. 59264  
(Filed November 9, 1979)

OPINION AND ORDER

By this application Shuster Enterprises, Inc. requests authority to deviate from the provisions of Minimum Rate Tariff 2 in connection with the transportation of wood chips, in bulk, for Masonite Corporation from Eureka to Ukiah.

Applicant proposes to transport wood chips, in bulk, from Eureka to Ukiah, the site of the Masonite plant, at a rate of \$5.50 per ton (the current minimum rate is \$8.31 per ton), minimum 25 tons per load; eight loads per day (24 hours), five days per week, in specialized equipment viz.: 42 foot high cube chip vans with screen-type tarps to prevent chips from littering the highways during transit. The circumstances and conditions surrounding this transportation are different from the usual and ordinary circumstances attendant to the transportation of wood chips, in bulk. The minimum rates for this movement are predicated on loads in one direction and empty miles on return trips, whereas under applicant's proposal, it will experience revenue loads in both directions.

Currently, applicant transports wood chips, in bulk, northbound from Branscomb to Eureka and returns empty. This is an assured haul which with the proposed movement provides applicant full utilization of its equipment and maximum load factors in both

directions. In addition, applicant's cost of empty vehicle movements will be reduced substantially, thereby promoting efficient and economical two-way operations.

Wood chips are loaded by mechanical means. The unloading operation at the Masonite plant in Ukiah involves ramps which accommodate units of equipment for tilt-up dumping of the chips into a stockpile. Loading times at Eureka range from 20 to 30 minutes per load. Unloading at Masonite is performed within 15 to 20 minutes per load. These favorable conditions enable applicant to achieve loading and unloading efficiencies not experienced elsewhere in the movement of wood chips, in bulk.

In addition to utilizing for-hire carriers, Masonite Corporation maintains a fleet of proprietary equipment which is being considered for use in the transportation considered herein should the application not be granted.

Revenue and expense data submitted by applicant indicate that the transportation involved may reasonably be expected to be profitable under the proposed rates.

The application was listed on the Commission's Daily Calendar of November 14, 1979. No objection to the granting of the application has been received.

In the circumstances, the Commission finds that applicant's proposal is reasonable. A public hearing is not necessary. The Commission concludes that the application 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.

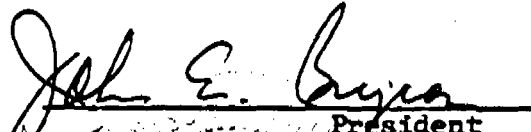




IT IS ORDERED that:

1. Shuster Enterprises, Inc. is authorized to perform the transportation shown in Appendix A attached hereto and by this reference made a part hereof at not less than the rates set forth therein.

2. The authority granted herein shall expire one year after the effective date of this order unless sooner cancelled, modified or extended by further order of the Commission.

The effective date of this order is the date hereof.

Dated DEC 18 1979, at San Francisco, California.

  
President  
  
  
  
  
Commissioners

## APPENDIX A

Carrier: Shuster Enterprises, Inc.

Shipper: Masonite Corporation

Commodity: Wood Chips, in bulk

From: Eureka

To: Ukiah

Rates: 550 cents per ton

Minimum  
Weight: 50,000 pounds

## Conditions:

1. Not subject to the provisions of Items 85, 142, 150, 160, 161, 162, 163, 170, 171, 172, 173 and 188 of Minimum Rate Tariff 2.
2. If more than one unit of carrier's equipment is used for a single shipment, transportation performed by each such unit of carrier's equipment shall be assessed charges as a separate shipment.
3. Subject to fuel offset surcharges only of Minimum Rate Tariff 2.
4. Applicant has not indicated that subhaulers will be engaged nor have any costs for subhaulers been submitted. Therefore, if subhaulers are engaged, they shall be paid no less than the rate authorized herein without any deduction for use of applicant's trailing equipment.
5. In all other respects, the rates and rules in Minimum Rate Tariff 2 shall apply.

(END OF APPENDIX A)