

ORIGINAL

Decision No. 92688 FEB 4 1981

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Application of James F. Hauser,)
 Vice-President and Tariff Publish-)
 ing Officer of Pacific Coast Tariff)
 Bureau, for and on behalf of Spear)
 Enterprises, Inc., doing business)
 as United Truck Line by virtue of)
 Power of Attorney to said Pacific)
 Coast Tariff Bureau, for an order)
 authorizing an emergency increase)
 in rates and charges to the extent)
 outlined herein, as published in)
 Pacific Coast Tariff Bureau Cal.)
 P.U.C. No. 1, now designated as)
 Local, Joint and Proportional)
 Freight Tariff ICC PCT 301. And)
 authority to issue a Supplement to)
 said tariff to establish proposed)
 increases.)

Application No. 60215
 (Filed January 27, 1981)

-AND-

For authority to depart from the)
 terms of Sections 454 and 491 of)
 the Public Utilities Code when)
 accomplishing proposed publication.)

OPINION AND ORDER

By this application, the Pacific Coast Tariff Bureau is seeking to publish an increase in its Local, Joint and Proportional Freight Tariff - ICC PCT 301, Cal. P.U.C. No. 1 (PCT 301). The application is filed for the account of Spear Enterprises, Inc., a corporation doing business as United Truck Line (UTL), a participant in the tariff.

UTL alleges that the increase for its account is needed to offset direct expense increases which it has been experiencing. The application lists increases in labor (cost-of-living increase October 1, 1980), fuel, tires, maintenance and FICA (Social Security increase January 1, 1981).

UTL seeks to have published a surcharge supplement for increases of 2 and 4 percent in PCT-301 applicable only on its traffic. UTL estimates that the increase if authorized will yield approximately \$110,000 in additional revenues. UTL's operating ratio for the third quarter of 1980 was 97 percent. The direct labor increase which UTL experienced October 1, 1980 is not recognized in this third quarter results of operations ratio.

Notice of the filing of the application appeared on the Commission's Daily Calendar of January 29, 1981. No objection to the granting of the application has been received.

Findings of Fact:

1. Pacific Coast Tariff Bureau operates as a rate bureau pursuant to Public Utilities Code Section 496.
2. James F. Hauser, Tariff Publishing Officer, seeks to publish increases in Pacific Coast Tariff Bureau Tariff No. ICC PCT 301, Cal. P.U.C. No. 1, Local, Joint and Proportional Freight Tariff.

3. The surcharge increase will apply only to Spear Enterprises, Inc., dba United Truck Line, a participant in the tariff.

4. PCT 301's present level of rates is equal to the Transition Tariff 2 level.

5. UTL has experienced continuing increases in direct costs in conducting its operations.

6. The increases of 2 and 4 percent are needed to absorb the increased costs of operations. The sought increase has not been covered by any previous rate increase application.

7. Financial data submitted by UTL substantiates the financial need of UTL.

8. The increase sought is justified.

9. Since UTL is already experiencing the increased operating costs, the order which follows should be made effective on the date of signature. The tariff pages should be made effective no sooner than the fifteenth day after the effective date of this order.

10. Limited authority to depart from the provisions of Section 461.5 of the Public Utilities Code should be granted.

11. Limited authority to depart from the terms and rules of General Order 80-Series should be granted.

12. The following order has no foreseeable impact on the energy efficiency of highway carriers.

Conclusion of Law

The proposed rates are just and reasonable, and the application should be granted to the extent set forth in the ensuing order.

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. Pacific Coast Tariff Bureau is authorized to publish a 2 and 4 percent surcharge increase in its Local, Joint and Proportional Freight Tariff ICC PCT 301, Cal. P.U.C. No. 1.

2. The surcharge increase will be applicable for the account of Spear Enterprises, Inc., a corporation doing business as United Truck Line, a participant in the tariff.

3. The tariff publications authorized to be made as a result of the order herein shall be filed not earlier than the effective date of this order and may be made effective not earlier than fifteen days after the effective date of this order on not less than five days' notice to the Commission and to the public.

4. Pacific Coast Tariff Bureau in establishing and maintaining the rates authorized by this order, is authorized to depart from the provisions of Section 461.5 of the Public Utilities Code to the extent necessary 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.

5. Pacific Coast Tariff Bureau is authorized to depart from the Commission's tariff circular requirements only to the extent necessary in establishing the surcharge supplements authorized by this order.

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

The effective date of this order is the date hereof.

Dated FEB 4 1981, at San Francisco, California.

Jul E. Bryan
President
Richard C. Howell
Samuel W. Dennis

Commissioners