ALJ/ks

Decision

JUN 2 1981

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BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Investigation on the Commission's own motion for the purpose of determining equipment rental rates, and the basis thereof, which should be charged by the SOUTHERN PACIFIC TRANSPORTATION COMPANY for the installation of grade crossing protection devices funded through the State Grade Crossing Protection Fund.

Case 10428 (Filed September 27, 1977)

## ORDER DISCONTINUING OII

In 1953 the Legislature established a Grade Crossing Protection Fund (Fund) to help cities and counties pay their share of the installation costs of automatic protection devices at railroad-highway grade crossings. The Fund is administered by the Commission under Public Utilities Code §§ 1231 and 1232. The purpose of this OII was to investigate Southern Pacific Transportation Company's (SP) practices regarding equipment rental rates which SP uses in determining installation charges for the protection devices.

Three parties, the Commission's staff, SP, and the California Department of Transportation participated in this investigation. As a result of meetings and other discussions among the parties, there is complete agreement that the General Managers Association of Chicago<sup>1</sup> rates should be used at this time

<sup>1/</sup> The General Managers Association of Chicago is a cooperative association of 18 railroads that operate in Chicago. The Association maintains committees which, among other things, develop costs, rates, and rules for joint facility operation and equipment rental rates. The rates are widely utilized and are allowed for use by the Federal Highway Administration.

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for the billing charges involved. All three parties agree that no useful purpose would be served by continuing this matter and it should be discontinued.

Accordingly, we find that all parties involved in this proceeding are in agreement on the methods to be used in determining charges for the installation of grade crossing protection devices, and we conclude that this matter should be discontinued.

> IT IS ORDERED that Case 10428 is discontinued. This order becomes effective 30 days from today. Dated JUN 21981 , at San Francisco, Californi.

, at\_San Francisco, California.

Commissioners

Commissioner Priscilla C. Grew, being necessarily absent, did not participate in the disposition of this proceeding.