

Case 1888  
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- BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF UTAH -

Case No. 1888

In the Matter of the Application of  
UTAH LIGHT AND TRACTION COMPANY for  
permission to remove certain unused  
tracks of its street car system in  
Salt Lake City, Utah. (Routes 1, 2,  
and 3.)

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Submitted: August 21, 1936

Decided: August 22, 1936

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Appearances:

A. C. Inman, Attorney,  
Gerald Irvine, "  
Harold B. Lee, Commis-  
sioner,

for the Applicant  
" Salt Lake City  
" Salt Lake City Street  
Department.

REPORT OF THE COMMISSION

By the Commission:

The above entitled application of the Utah Light & Traction Company was filed with the Commission on August 1, 1936. Said application came on regularly for hearing before the Commission at its office in Salt Lake City, Utah on August 21, 1936 after due and legal notice given to interested parties. Proof of publication of notice of hearing was filed with the Commission and accepted as part of the record. There were no protests entered at the hearing against granting of the application, but on the contrary the City authorities of Salt Lake City joined with the Traction Company in asking for the removal of its unused tracks on certain streets in Salt Lake City, Utah.

From the testimony introduced and the record and files in the case, the Commission now finds:

That applicant, Utah Light & Traction Company, is a corporation in the State of Utah, with its principal place of business at Salt Lake City, Utah. A copy of applicant's Articles of Incorporation are on file in the office of the Commission.

That applicant operates an electric street railway, trolley coach, and motor bus system in Salt Lake City, and also in Salt Lake

and Davis Counties. As a part of applicant's street railway system, applicant owns certain street railway tracks, together with poles, overhead wires, and other equipment in connection therewith on certain streets in Salt Lake City as hereinafter more specifically described. Said tracks and equipment were formerly used by Petitioner for the operation of street cars on its Routes Nos. 1 and 2, as a part of Petitioner's street railway system in Salt Lake City; but Petitioner alleges said tracks and equipment are no longer used by Petitioner or are useful in the rendering of Petitioner's transportation service to the public, for the reason that street car service over said tracks, and all of them, has heretofore been abandoned and automobile bus service instituted by Petitioner in lieu thereof and Petitioner alleges that all the localities formerly served by street cars operating over said tracks hereinafter described are now served by automobile bus lines of Petitioner, and that said tracks are no longer used by or useful to the Petitioner for any purpose. The tracks hereinabove referred to are more specifically described as follows:

"All of Petitioner's tracks, overhead wires and other equipment beginning at the intersection of State Street and First Avenue, thence East along First Avenue to B Street, thence North along B Street to the terminus of said tracks at Ninth Avenue; also, beginning at the intersection of B Street and Sixth Avenue, thence East along Sixth Avenue to the terminus of said tracks at N Street, all in Salt Lake City, Utah."

The tracks hereinabove described, and authority for the removal of which is now requested, are shown on "Exhibit A" attached to Petitioner's application and hereby referred to and made a part hereof.

Petitioner seeks authority to remove all of its tracks, poles, overhead wires, and other equipment hereinabove described for the following reasons:

(a) Salt Lake City Corporation has requested Petitioner to remove said tracks so that the present track zone can be resurfaced and improved.

(b) Said street railway tracks and equipment which Petitioner desires to remove are no longer necessary in the service of the pub-



lic, and are not used by or in any way useful to Petitioner in rendering its present transportation service as a public utility.

(c) Said proposed removal of track and equipment will not require any change whatever in the present street railway, trolley coach or gasoline motor bus service now being rendered by Petitioner in Salt Lake City, Utah.

(d) The gasoline motor bus lines now being operated by Petitioner on its said Routes Nos. 1 and 2 satisfy all needs of the public, and of the localities adjacent to said lines, and neither the public convenience or necessity requires the retention by Petitioner of said tracks and equipment hereinabove described.

In connection with applicant's request to remove its tracks and other equipment on its Routes Nos. 1 and 2, specifically described above, it is shown that under the date of August 3, 1935 this Commission issued its order authorizing Petitioner, among other things, to substitute gasoline motor bus service in lieu of street car service on Petitioner's Ninth Avenue line, Route No. 1, and Sixth Avenue line, Route No. 2; and to remove its tracks and equipment from that portion of its Ninth Avenue line from B Street to K Street, in Salt Lake City, Utah. Pursuant to said order Petitioner has substituted and is now operating automobile bus service on said Routes Nos. 1 and 2; and has removed its tracks and equipment from that portion of its Route No. 1 formerly located on Ninth Avenue, said track removal being as shown in dotted red lines on "Exhibit A" attached to the application in this petition and hereby referred to and made a part hereof.

From the record and files in the case, the Commission now finds that public convenience and necessity no longer requires the use and maintenance of said tracks and equipment with which the application deals. The Commission finds further that the elimination of tracks and equipment from these particular streets in Salt Lake City will improve such streets and will be to the advantage of vehicular travel. The elimination of said tracks and other equipment will not jeopardize the transportation now being afforded to the residents of Salt Lake

City, but on the other hand should result in easier and more satisfactory operation of motor buses over these streets. That the reasons set forth above and referred to as (a), (b), (c), and (d) in the application of the Petitioner are correct as stated.

NOW THEREFORE, by reason of the premises and record and files in the case, all of which are hereby expressly referred to and made a part hereof, the Commission concludes and decides that the application of the Utah Light & Traction Company to remove certain of its unused tracks and equipment from the streets hereinabove described in Salt Lake City, should be granted.

An appropriate order will follow:

Attest:

Wendell A. Larson

Secretary

Thomas E. McKay  
Joe D. [unclear]  
Commissioners.