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COMMON CARRIERS, RAIL TRANSPORTATION 218.021

that any electric utility may extend its facilities through the assigned service area of another electric utility if the extension is necessary to facilitate the electric utility connecting its facilities or customers within its own assigned service area.

[1977 c 99 s 1]

216B.421 Homestead; option of electric service.

Subdivision 1. Multiple service areas; customer election. Notwithstanding the establishment of assigned service areas for electric utilities provided for in section 216B.39, when a customer requires electric service for buildings or other structures located on land constituting his homestead and the buildings or structures are located within more than one assigned service area, the customer may elect to contract for or purchase his entire electric service requirements from either of the electric utilities providing him with electric service. An electric utility may extend its facilities through the assigned service area of another electric utility if the extension is necessary to facilitate the electric utility connecting a customer who elects to purchase or contract for service from it pursuant to this section.

Subd. 2. Restriction. The provisions of subdivision 1 shall only apply to the provision of electric service to buildings and other structures that were under construction on April 11, 1974.

[1977 c 99 s 2]

216B.53 Suspension of commission orders.

The pendency of proceedings on appeal shall not of itself stay or suspend the operation of the order of the commission unless the commission so orders, but during the pendency of the proceedings the court in its discretion may stay or suspend, in whole or in part, the operation of the commission's order on terms it deems just, and in accordance with the practice of courts exercising equity jurisdiction. No stay shall be granted by the court without notice to the parties and opportunity to be heard. Any party shall have the right to secure from the court in which an appeal of an order of the commission is sought an order suspending or staying the operation of an order of the commission, pending an appeal of the order, but no commission order relating to rates or rules shall be stayed or suspended absent a finding that great or irreparable damage would otherwise result to the party seeking the stay or suspension, and any order staying or suspending a commission order shall specify the nature of the damage.

In case the order of the commission is stayed or suspended, the court shall require a bond with good and sufficient surety, conditioned that the public utility petitioning for review shall answer for all damages caused by the delay in enforcing the order of the commission, and for all compensation for whatever sums for transmission or service any person shall be compelled to pay pending review proceedings in excess of the sum the person or corporation would have been compelled to pay had the commission's order not been stayed or suspended. The court, may, in addition or in lieu of the bond require other further security for the payment of such excess damages or charges it deems proper.

[1977 c 364 s 6]

CHAPTER 218. COMMON CARRIERS, RAIL TRANSPORTATION

Sec. 218.021 Common carriers, unlawful acts.

Sec.
218.041 Duties of public service commission and commissioner.

218.021 Common carriers, unlawful acts.

[For text of subd 1, see M.S.1976]

Subd. 2. Nothing herein shall prohibit carriage, storage or handling of property free or at reduced rates for the United States, the state, or any governmental subdivision thereof, ministers of religion, sisters of charity, missionaries, students of educational institutions or inmates of charitable institutions, or for charitable pur-

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poses, or for exhibition at fairs or at expositions, or of stock for breeding purposes, or waste material for reprocessing, or issuance of excursion or commutation passenger tickets at rates equal for all; nor prohibit issuance of free tickets, passes or transportation to any officers, bona fide agents, surgeons, physicians, attorneys or employees of any common carrier or dependent members of their families, or to duly elected representatives of any railroad or motor bus labor organizations, or to children under twelve (12) years of age, ministers of religion, secretaries of Young Men's Associations, persons exclusively engaged in charitable and eleemosynary work, indigent, destitute and homeless persons and such persons, when transported by charitable societies or hospitals or by any public charity and the necessary agents employed in such transportation, inmates of national homes or state homes for disabled soldiers, inmates of soldiers' and sailors' homes including those entering and returning from such homes and transportation of managers of such homes, post office inspectors, custom and immigration inspectors, witnesses of common carriers attending any legal investigation in which the company is interested, officials and linemen of telegraph and telephone companies, ex-employees retired from service on account of age or because of disability sustained while in the service of the common carrier and dependent members of their families, or the widows or dependent children of employees killed or dying while in the service of such company, necessary caretakers of livestock, poultry, vegetables and fruit, including transportation to and from the point of delivery, employees on sleeping and express cars, railway or motor bus mail service employees, newsboys on trains or motor buses, baggage agents, persons injured in wrecks and physicians and nurses attending them; nor prohibit the interchange of passes, express and other franks for the officers, bona fide agents, surgeons, physicians, attorneys and employee and dependent members of their families of any person or company with the object of providing relief in cases of general epidemic, pestilence or calamitous visitation; nor prohibit the interchange of passenger and freight transportation and message service between railroad, motor bus and telegraph companies; nor prohibit furnishing free transportation to the commissioner, members of the commission, hearings officers. counsel or employees and agents while engaged in the performance of their duties, provided no such free transportation shall be given to any person when a member of, employed by or in any way connected with any political committee or an incumbent of any office or position under the constitution and laws of this state, except as above provided and except that free passes may be given to employees while occupying office or position other than judicial under a municipality, county or public school district, or while acting under appointment as a notary public, and may further issue free passes to any member of the legislature who has been an employee of such company for a continuous period of five (5) years prior to his election, and, provided, that such member of the legislature does not collect mileage for such travel from the state.

[1977 c 285 s 1]

218.041 Duties of public service commission and commissioner.

[For text of subds 1 and 2, see M.S.1976]

Subd. 3. The commissioner shall, upon petition:

- (1) At all points of intersection and crossings of different railroads, or where two railroads are not more than one-half mile apart, and at all terminals, prescribe ample facilities by track connection, joint use of tracks, passenger and freight platforms and depots, warehouses, docks over which general merchandise is handled and forwarded, and other necessary appliances and conveniences for the transfer, forwarding and handling of general merchandise and parcel freight between such railroads and between such railroads and such docks, warehouses and vessels at such docks.
 - (2) Determine the proportionate share of each company in the cost of provid-

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ing connecting and transfer facilities in the event the companies fail to agree.

- (3) Direct construction, maintenance and operation at any points prescribed by law of all side tracks and reasonable facilities connecting any road with any grain warehouse or mill, dock, wharf, coal yard, quarry, brick or lime kiln, sand or gravel pit, crushed rock or concrete plant, or manufactory adjacent thereto, and prescribe the terms therefor.
- (4) Direct the discontinuance of any regularly scheduled intrastate passenger trains upon a finding that the public will not be deprived of reasonably adequate service thereby.
- (5) Prescribe rules for distribution of cars at stations for use of shippers of livestock and farm products.
- (6) Require installation of track scales at terminals, warehouses and at all other points in the state where the same are deemed necessary and prescribe reasonable regulations for the weighing of cars and of freight.
- (7) Prescribe the speed at which and the conditions under which cars of livestock shall be moved by any carrier within the state in intrastate shipments.
- (8) Prescribe the fees necessary to cover cost of supervision and weighing and the method of assessment and collection thereof.
- (9) Prescribe reasonable regulations for handling property, passenger, baggage, express and mail, partly over privately owned rights-of-way and partly over highways, so that reasonable and adequate accommodations and service may be afforded.
- (10) Prescribe the extent to which any designated carrier, upon its petition, may be relieved from the operation of the principles established by section 218.021, subdivision 1, clauses (6), (7) and (8).

Upon receipt of a petition for action pursuant to this subdivision the commissioner shall give notice to all persons known to him to have an interest in the matter and publish notice of the petition in the state register. The commissioner may grant the petition 30 days after notice has been fully made. If the commissioner receives a written objection to the petition from any person within 20 days after the notice of filing has been fully made, the exemption shall be granted or denied only after a contested case hearing has been held on the matter. The commissioner may elect to hold a contested case hearing if no objections to the petition or application are received. If a timely objection is not received and the commissioner declines to act without hearing, the petitioner may request within 30 days of receiving a notice of denial, and shall be granted, a contested case hearing on the application.

[For text of subds 4 to 6, see M.S.1976]

[1977 c 346 s 12]

CHAPTER 219. COMMON CARRIERS; RAILROADS; REGULATIONS, LIABILITIES

Sec. 219.40 Determination; order; flagmen or safety device. 219.401 Repealed. Sec. 219.741 Application for removal. 219.761 Locomotive fires; reimbursement for extinguishment. [New]

219.40 Determination; order; flagmen or safety device.

If a complaint is made under section 219.39, the commissioner shall determine whether the crossing is dangerous and may with or without a hearing require