Decision No. 7.501

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

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In the Matter of the Application of the Fairfax Incline Railroad Company, a corporation, for permission to increase its charge for books containing one hundred fares.

APPLICATION NO.5544

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Thomas W. Rivers, for applicant.

LOVELAND, Commissioner -

<u>O P I M I O M</u>

The Fairfax Incline Railroad Company by this appli cation seeks authority to increase from \$2.00 to \$3.00 the charge for books containing one hundred rides between the terminals of the line. The company is operating the Incline Railroad fourteen hundred feet in length located at Fairfax.

The application sets forth that since 1914 the property has been conducted at a deficit during each year . The total for the six years being \$8,065.35 or an average deficit per year of \$1,344.22. For the year 1919 the total receipts were \$1,651.10 while the total operating expenses were \$1,866.86, making a deficit for the twelve months of 1919 of \$215.76. The operating expenses covered no overhead nor depreciation and are made up of but four items - Motorman's salary \$1,040.00, Electricity - \$463.70, Taxes - \$142.48. Repairs and incidentals \$222.68. If to the expenses were added an overhead charge and depreciation, the loss would be very much greater. The company has a capital stock issue of ten thousand shares valued at \$1.00 per share upon which no dividends have ever been paid. At the present time there are no bonds nor outstanding indebtedness. The object of the increase is to secure, if possible, sufficient revenue to make the line self sustaining.

It was shown by the testimony that during the winter months there is practically no travel. The total receipts in January, to illustrate, were \$29.20. There will be no increase in the single trip charge which is 5 cents per ride. Notice of the application having been filed with this Commission for the increase from \$2.00 to \$3.00 on the book ticket was given to the general public but no one appeared in opposition to the granting of the application.

I am of the opinion that the change in the fare of the one hundred ride book ticket from \$2.00 to \$3.00 is just and reasonable and that the present charge is too low.

I therefore submit the following form of order:

ORDER

The Fairfax Incline Railroad Company having applied for authority to increase from \$2.00 to \$3.00 the charge for one hundred trip books and a public hearing having been held and the Commission being fully apprised in the premises.

IT FINDS AS A FACT that the existing rate is unremunerative and that the rate sought to be established is just and reasonable.

Basing its order upon the foregoing finding of fact and the further findings of fact in the opnion which precedes this order.

IT IS HEREBY FURTHER ORDERED, that the Fairfax Incline Railroad Company be, and the same is hereby authorized within

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thirty (30) days from the date of this order to file with the Railroad Commission and thoreafter charge a rate of \$3.00 for books containing one hundred (100) rides between the terminals of the Fairfax Incline Railroad Company.

The foregoing opinion and order are hereby approved and ordered filed as the opinion and order of the Railroad Commission of the State of California.

Bated at San Francisco, California, this $\underline{30^{2n}}$ day of April, 1920.