

ORIGINAL

Decision No. 38978

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of)	
ANTELOPE VALLEY TRANSIT COMPANY for)	
a temporary order of suspension of)	
operations of stage service as a)	Application No. 25487
common carrier between Lancaster,)	1st Supplemental
California and United States Army)	
Air Base, Muroc, California.)	

O P I N I O N

By Decision No. 36176, dated February 16, 1943, P. G. Ashton and Esther Ashton, doing business as Antelope Valley Transit Company, were authorized to establish and operate a passenger stage service for the transportation of persons, baggage and express between Lancaster and Muroc and intermediate points, as a wartime service for military and civilian personnel located at bombing school and practice grounds at Muroc.

Applicants request permission to suspend said service because traffic has materially decreased, resulting in such a drop in revenue that the operation can no longer be conducted profitably.

In September, 1945, applicant, operating approximately four round-trip schedules per day, carried 1,777 passengers or a daily average of 59.2 passengers. Gross revenues were \$965.20 and expenses \$1,152.97*, resulting in a loss of \$187.77. In the quarter ending December 31, 1945, applicant had gross revenues of \$1,338.10 and expenses of \$3,223.26*, or a loss of \$1,885.16. In February, 1946, operating two round-trips per day,

* Includes taxes.

applicant carried 287 passengers or an average of 10.2 passengers. Revenues for this month were \$146.30 and expenses \$643.88,* resulting in a loss of \$497.58.

The transportation officer of the Muroc Army Air Field has informed applicant in writing, as follows: "In view of the present conditions and your request to the Railroad Commission, it seems advisable that this transportation facility be suspended until there is a greater demand by Muroc." Military authorities are converting said base to other purposes and the change-over will not require continuation of the passenger stage service as it is not proposed to increase present military or civilian personnel.

Applicant states that information concerning the future use to which said base is to be put and the personnel to be stationed there should be available by September 1, 1946. Applicant requests a suspension of the operating right until then and represents that if a transportation need develops prior to September, 1946, request will be made to this Commission for permission to reestablish the service.

The matter having been fully considered and it appearing that a suspension of said operating right is justified, the application will be granted. A public hearing is not necessary.

FIRST SUPPLEMENTAL ORDER

Application having been made in the above-entitled matter, and the Commission being fully advised in the premises,

* Includes taxes

IT IS ORDERED that P. G. Ashton and Esther Ashton, doing business as Antelope Valley Transit Company, be, and they hereby are, authorized to suspend, until September 1, 1946, the operation of passenger stage service as authorized by Decision No. 36176, provided that at any time prior to said date, applicants may resume the operation of said service if required by public convenience and necessity.

In the exercise of the authority herein granted, applicants shall observe the following service regulations:

- (1) Applicants shall notify the public of the suspension of service as authorized by posting notice thereof at all stations and in all stages operating between the points involved not less than 5 days before such suspension.
- (2) Applicants shall immediately supplement their tariffs and time tables to indicate the suspension of service herein authorized.
- (3) The service herein authorized to be suspended may be resumed by applicants at any time upon notice to the Commission and the public which shall be given not less than one day prior to the expiration of the suspension period herein above specified, or of such extension thereof as may be granted by further order.

The effective date of this order shall be the date hereof.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 14th day of May, 1946.

Harold Anderson
Justus J. Cramer
Ernest Lawrence
Harold Hule
 COMMISSIONERS