

Decision No. 52022

**ORIGINAL**

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application  
of C. B. Green, doing business as  
the Chico-Paradise Stage Line, to  
increase certain rates and fares  
for the transportation of passengers  
to and from Chico and Paradise.

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Application No. 41114

O P I N I O N

C. B. Green, doing business as Chico-Paradise Stage Line, operates as a passenger stage corporation between Chico and Paradise.<sup>1</sup> By this application, he seeks authority to increase his one-way fare from 50 cents to 60 cents, and his round-trip fare from 95 cents to \$1.10. ✓

According to the application, the present fares have been in effect at least since 1952. The fare increases herein sought are made necessary, it is asserted, by increases in operating costs which have been experienced during the past several years. The carrier's book records for the year 1958 show gross operating revenues of \$4,752 and operating expenses of \$4,159, indicating a profit of \$592. However, it appears that no provision was made by applicant in his expense records for his own services as a part-time bus driver.

The Commission's staff has made a study of applicant's operations. The results of that study are set forth in a document which is hereby incorporated in the record herein as Exhibit No. 1. The operating results under present and proposed fares, as estimated

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<sup>1</sup> Chico and Paradise are located in Butte County. The distance between the two points is approximately 15 miles. Applicant also owns and operates the Chico Transit Lines, which provides local service in the vicinity of Chico.

by the staff for a rate year ending August 31, 1960, are summarized as follows:

Estimated Results of Operations  
for Rate Year Ending August 31, 1960

	<u>Present Fares</u>	<u>Proposed Fares</u>
<u>Operating Revenues</u>		
Passenger	\$2,550	\$3,140
School	1,170	1,170
Express	1,250	1,250
Total Operating Revenues	<u>\$4,970</u>	<u>\$5,560</u>
 Operating Expenses	 \$7,810	 \$7,010
Operating Loss	\$2,040	\$1,450
 Operating Ratio	 141.0%	 126.0%

In developing its estimate of operating expenses for the rate year, the staff included an allowance for the time the owner spends driving the bus.

The public has been adequately informed of the proposed fare increases. Copies of the application were served on local authorities and public notice was given by announcements posted in applicant's vehicles and terminals. No one has opposed the granting of the application.

It is clear from the record that even under the proposed increased fares applicant's operations here in issue will be conducted at a loss when due effect is given to the value of his services as a part-time driver. After consideration, the Commission is of the opinion, and so finds, that the proposed fare increases have been justified. The application will be granted. A public hearing is not necessary.

In view of applicant's urgent need for increased revenues, the order which follows will be made effective ten days from the date of its issuance and applicant will be authorized to establish the proposed fares on less than statutory notice.

O R D E R

Based upon the evidence of record and upon the findings and conclusions set forth in the preceding opinion,

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. C. B. Green, doing business as Chico-Paradise Stage Line, be and he is hereby authorized to establish, on not less than five days' notice to the Commission and to the public, increased passenger fares as follows: In lieu of the present fares of 50 cents, one way, and 95 cents, round trip, publish fares of 60 cents, one way, and \$1.10, round trip, between Chico and Paradise.

2. In addition to the required posting and filing of tariffs, applicant shall give notice to the public by posting in his buses and terminals a printed explanation of his fares. Such notice shall be posted not less than five days before the effective date of the fare changes, and shall be posted for a period of not less than thirty days.

3. The authority herein granted shall expire unless exercised within sixty days after the effective date of this order.

This order shall become effective ten days after the date hereof.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 1st day of September, 1959.

Ernest R. [Signature]  
President  
[Signature]  
[Signature]  
[Signature]  
Theodore [Signature]  
Commissioners