Decision No. 59858

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of (CONTINENTAL PACIFIC LINES for authority)

in the Matter of the Application of )
CONTINENTAL PACIFIC LINES for authority )
to establish charges to recover amounts )
paid for bridge tolls on the Carquinez )
Bridge.

Application No. 41915

## OPINION AND ORDER

Applicant is a passenger stage corporation engaged in the transportation of passengers, baggage and express between certain points in the State of California. By this application, filed February 3, 1960, it seeks authority to add three miles to the distances used in computing all one-way fares on its route operating over the Carquinez Bridge, located on U. S. Highway No. 40, to recover the cost of bridge tolls on that bridge.

The application shows that for some years prior to 1959, chere was no bridge toll for travel across the Carquinez Bridge, but that in 1958, a new parallel bridge over Carquinez Straits was completed and bridge tolls were established on both the old and new bridges at \$1.00 for two-axle buses and \$1.25 for three-axle buses.

Applicant asserts that it operates daily schedules over this bridge, and that the bridge tolls incurred from maintaining these schedules will be substantial; that establishment of charges to cover these tolls would be consistent with arrangements for similar transportation over the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge. Applicant also alleges that the increase proposed here is the same as was authorized The Greyhound Corporation by Decision No. 57650, dated November 25, 1958, in Application No. 40532.

In connection with Application No. 40532, supra, an investigation made by the Commission's staff disclosed that in conjunction with the opening of the new parallel bridge a new freeway between San Pablo and the bridge had been constructed which reduced the actual highway miles by 2.6 miles as compared to the old route. The staff recommended, and Decision No. 57650 authorized The Greyhound Corporation to add 1.5 miles to the distance used in computing the one-way fares in question instead of three miles as proposed. The situation with respect to applicant herein is no different than that with respect to Greyhound. Similar authority should be granted here. The application, modified as stated above, will be granted. A public hearing is not necessary.

> Therefore, good cause appearing, IT IS ORDERED:

- That Continental Pacific Lines be and it is hereby authorized, on not less than five days' notice to the Commission and to the public, to establish increased one-way and round-trip fares between points which involve travel over the Carquinez Bridge by adding not to exceed one and one-half miles to the mileage used as the basis for computing such fares.
- (2) That the authority herein granted shall expire unless exercised within ninety days after the effective date hereof.

The effective date of this order shall be twenty days after

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