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ORIGINAL

Decision No. 78206

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Application of WESTERN AIR LINES, INC., for authority to increase certain of its intra-California passenger fares. )

Application No. 52361  
(Filed December 21, 1970;  
Amended December 28, 1970)

O P I N I O N

Western Air Lines, Inc. (Western) is a common carrier by air of passengers and property between points in the United States, Canada and Mexico, including points in California. In this application Western seeks to increase certain of its California intrastate commuter air fares. (Present and proposed fares are set forth in Appendix A.)

Applicant's present intrastate commuter air fares were established pursuant to Decision No. 76449, dated November 18, in Application No. 53198. Said decision granted increases in fares to the levels concurrently granted to Pacific Southwest Airlines (PSA) and to United Air Lines, Inc. (United). The application states that the fares sought herein are on the same levels as the fares recently granted to PSA and United by Decisions Nos. 77991 and 77990, respectively.<sup>1/</sup>

The Commission has found in prior proceedings that competition between Western and PSA or United would not permit said airlines to maintain commuter air fares substantially different from their competitors.

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<sup>1/</sup> Decisions Nos. 77991 (PSA) and 77990 (United) were issued December 1, 1970, in Applications Nos. 52153 and 52016.

The application herein alleges that Western's California service has not been profitable. Exhibits attached to the application show that Western's California service experienced an operating loss of \$7,831,000 for the twelve-month period ended September 30, 1970. Said exhibits also show that if the sought increased fares had been in effect during said period, the operating loss would have been reduced to \$7,594,000.

Western requests that this application be granted without hearing. The application was served in accordance with Commission rules. Also, notice of the filing of the application and the amendment thereto appeared on the Commission's Daily Calendar. There are no protests.

In the circumstances it appears, and the Commission finds, that the increased air fares sought herein are justified. The application should be granted. A public hearing is not necessary.

O R D E R

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. Western Air Lines, Inc. is authorized to establish the increased commuter air fares set forth in Appendix A, hereof. Tariff publications authorized to be made as a result of the order herein shall be filed not earlier than the effective date of this order and may be made effective not earlier than three days after the effective date hereof on not less than three days' notice to the Commission and to the public.

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

The effective date of this order shall be ten days after the date hereof.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 19th day of JANUARY, 1971.

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Chairman  
William Sprouss Jr.  
J. P. Vukasin Jr.  
Vernon L. Sturgeon

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Commissioners

Commissioner J. P. Vukasin, Jr., being necessarily absent, did not participate in the disposition of this proceeding.

APPENDIX AWESTERN AIRLINES, INC.PRESENT AND PROPOSED INTRASTATE COMMUTER FARES

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
<u>Between/And</u>	<u>Present Fare Excl. Tax</u>	<u>Present Fare Incl. Tax</u>	<u>Proposed Fare Excl. Tax</u>	<u>Proposed Fare Incl. Tax</u>	<u>Increase Col. 2 to Col. 4</u>
Los Angeles-Oakland	\$15.00	\$16.20	\$15.28	\$16.50	\$ .28
" " -Sacramento	16.19	17.49	16.67	18.00	.48
" " -San Francisco	15.00	16.20	15.28	16.50	.28
Long Beach-San Francisco	16.00	17.28	16.67	18.00	.67
" " -Oakland	16.00	17.28	16.67	18.00	.67
Oakland-San Diego	20.95	22.63	22.68	24.50	1.73
Sacramento-San Diego	22.86	24.69	23.15	25.00	.29
San Diego-San Francisco	20.95	22.63	22.68	24.50	1.73